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| COUNTRY<br><b>United States</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | REPORT NO.<br><b>AF 565266</b>                       | (LEAVE BLANK)              |
| AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                      |                            |
| SUBJECT<br><b>FLYORPT</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                      |                            |
| AREA REPORTED ON<br><b>Sherman &amp; Denison, Texas</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | FROM (Agency)<br><b>Perrin Air Force Base, Texas</b> |                            |
| DATE OF REPORT<br><b>28 July 1953</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | DATE OF INFORMATION<br><b>25 July 1953</b>           | EVALUATION<br><b>B-1</b>   |
| PREPARED BY (Officer)<br><b>Willard A. Mason, Major, USAF</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                      | SOURCE<br><b>See Below</b> |
| REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)<br><b>Air Force Letter 200-5, dtd 29 April 1952</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                      |                            |
| 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.)<br><p>Following reports of unidentified objects in the sky were given by FRED CONN Publisher, "The Denison Herald", PAUL BROOKS, civilian, ROBERT LEROY, T/Sgt, USAF, LARRY W. SKINNER, A/1C, USAF, THOMAS W. DAVIS JR., A/2C, USAF, all of Perrin AFB, Texas, who observed the objects at approximately 2139 hours, 25 July 1953. Sources are considered usually reliable. See Part II for continuation of report.</p> |                                                      |                            |
| <p style="text-align: center;">2R</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DECLASSIFIED<br/>E.O. 12065, Sec. 3-402<br/>USA memo 7/31/78<br/>By W.B. Lewis MARS, Date 7/19/79<br/>M.I</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                      |                            |
| 5 INCLS.<br>1. Statement by Mr. Fred Conn<br>2. Statement by Mr. Paul Brooks<br>3. Statement by T/Sgt Robert LeRoy<br>4. Statement by A/1C Larry W. Skinner<br>5. Statement by A/2C Thomas W. Davis, Jr.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                      |                            |
| DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                      |                            |

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### STATEMENT BY FRED CONN

Objects were sighted in the sky Saturday night July 25, 1953 commencing approximately 9:30 P. M. They were first observed by me from the second floor of the Denison Herald Building in down-town Denison and had reached a point of approximately 30 degrees upon the horizon. When first seen they were a little east of south and were strung out in almost a straight line with the point directing straight upward. The objects consisted of several large red lights however when viewed through field glasses, each unit consisted of several smaller lights at least eight or ten in number and these seemed to move slowly more or less in unison within the larger unit.

These objects gave the impression of flying in a sort of tandem formation. From the straight line first seen, the last three objects went into triangular formation and the others changed position position to form a resemblance to the Great Dipper or an inverted question mark. From that formation they stretched into a different formation consisting of triangles at either end. These would vary around in more or less a drifting pattern and finally when they reached a point directly overhead, they again were stretched out in almost a straight line.

At this time, fifteen or twenty minutes later than time objects were first sighted by me, the ones at the rear of the formation started growing dim. The last ones blinked out first and were followed a few seconds later with others disappearing in turn until they were all gone; however, some of them would blink out to appear very dim a few seconds later for a brief period, perhaps three or four seconds. Two of the objects in the middle of the string went out at the same time. These red lights were very bright, similar to warning lights on a radio tower viewed at close distance and I would estimate that these objects were 1200 to 1500 feet up in the sky. The lights traveled in a direction Southeast to Northwest. When they blinked out they were almost directly overhead a few degrees off to the West.

After they disappeared a plane appeared in the sky at approximately 10 P. M. A plane of the Texas Central Airport due out of Ardmore Oklahoma was due over Denison at that time. These objects were sighted by thousands of persons in Denison as it was a very clear night and the telephones of the Denison Herald were kept busy ringing for hours with people requesting the nature of these lights. In fact, the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, who renders service here, had to put on six extra operators to handle the calls.

*Fred Conn*

Fred Conn, Publisher  
The Denison Herald  
Denison, Texas

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(1) Seven (7) objects were observed by all the sources. Objects were spherical in shape and had a red light which appeared to be on the bottom of the objects; the formation of the objects changed from time to time however they remained in two triangular shaped formations for the longest period of time. The speed of the objects was undetermined by observers; all stayed in the same relative position during the observation. There was no indication of exhaust or any sound. The objects seemed to fade out of sight and drift upward.

(2) The objects were sighted at 2139 hours, Central Standard Time, 25 July 1953 and were observed for sixteen (16) minutes.

(3) Observation was visual from the ground.

(4) Observation of LeRoy, Skinner and Davis was from Perrin Air Force Base, Texas, 3346N 9632 W. and observation of Mr. Conn was from Denison, Texas 3350N 9631W and observation of Mr. Brooks was from Sherman, Texas, 3344N 9331W. Direction of objects from the observers at Perrin was North East; distance was approximately five (5) miles at an undetermined altitude; direction of objects from the observer in Denison was just East of the town at first sighting and appeared to be at an altitude of 1200 to 1500 feet and were directly overhead at time of disappearance; direction of objects from the observer in Sherman was North East, distance was approximately eight (8) miles at an estimated altitude of 5000 feet.

(5) With the exception of Airman Davis, none of the observers have previously experienced the observation of unidentified objects, however, all observers are considered to be reliable. Airman Davis stated he had seen similar objects in August of 1952.

(6) The sky was clear, visibility 15 miles, winds aloft 2000 to 6000 feet from SSE at fifteen (15) to sixteen (16) knots.

(7) There was no known condition, meteorological or otherwise which would have accounted for the sighting.

(8) Photographs were taken by observers in the tower at Perrin Air Force Base and have been forwarded with report submitted by 1984-4 AACS Detachment, 1984th AACS Squadron.

(9) At the time of the sighting there were no pilots available at Perrin Air Force Base therefore no interception was attempted. An attempt was made to contact the objects by BCI Radar at Perrin with negative results.

(10) An unidentified aircraft was detected by BCI Radar at Perrin shortly after the sighted objects disappeared. A plane of the Texas Central Airport due out of Ardmore, Oklahoma was due in the area at that time.

APPROVED

*Willard A. Mason Jr.*  
WILLARD A. MASON JR.  
Major, USAF  
3555th Tng Gp Ops Off

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| <p>I was sitting in my backyard and spotted these seven (7) red lights at an estimated altitude of four (4) or five (5) thousand feet at 2140 Saturday night, 25 July 1953. These stayed in sight sixteen (16) minutes. For approximately ten (10) minutes, six of these lights stayed in an identical position without raising or lowering. Occasionally some of these lights blinked but one light, approximately two (2) or three (3) thousand feet above the others seemed to blink constantly. At the end of approximately ten (10) minutes, the top light that blinked all the time began an ascent straight up in the air without any swaying from either side. It went straight up. After it reached approximately eight (8) or ten (10) thousand feet, the other six lights began to move in the same relative position to each other, straight up in the same manner in which the first light began its ascent. They ascended up to a considerable altitude at which time the lights began to go out. They seemed to pop out like they were turned out with a light switch with no blinking. Three (3) of the lower six (6) lights remained in sight for another couple of minutes. These three kept ascending in the same vertical position until gradually their lights began to fade and go out of sight as if they were going behind a cloud. When I first sighted these I made an estimate of the angle from my house to where I was looking at them and I estimated my eyelevel was on the 35° angle in relation to the earth. These objects were about a 40° heading from my house. It was difficult to determine the exact altitude. I don't believe they were balloons. They remained in a steady position and remained like that for a good while. The lights looked just like any ordinary red lights, like a light on top of radio station KRRV, but I could see KRRV so I know it wasn't that.</p> <p><i>Paul E. Brooks</i><br/>Paul E. Brooks<br/>2103 North Wood<br/>Sherman, Texas</p> |            |      |    |       |

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| <p>Statement by T/Sgt Robert LeRoy</p> <p>On the night of 25 July 1953, at 2139 hours, Tower was called by Base Operations and advised of some red light to the East. I went out on the cat walk to have a look and saw seven (7) red light to the East of the tower. I went in the tower and got the camera and took 7 pictures of the red light. I couldn't tell the altitude or how far away they were. The light seem to be going straight up.</p> <p><i>Robert LeRoy</i><br/>Robert LeRoy AF36520083<br/>T/Sgt., USAF<br/>Perrin AFB, Texas</p> |            |      |    |       |

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Statement by A/1C Larry W. Skinner

At 2139 Base Operations called us in the tower, via intercom, and asked us if we could see any lights east of the tower. At the time we were all watching the landing strip. Looking to the east we did see what appeared to be seven red lights suspended just over Danison. They looked just like any port lights of an aircraft. The only difference was that these lights seemed to be stationary until we saw that they were rising very slowly. We took pictures of them with a stereo-camera we keep in the tower for such purposes. We took about 10 pictures of different lens openings and shutter speeds. The lights kept rising slowly until about 2155 when they faded out. Throughout their ascent, they appeared to keep the same formation except for one, which was to the upper right. That one light drifted farther apart from the others. Just before fading out, each light flickered on and off. But that could have been the atmospheric condition.

Any indication of altitude was practically impossible, since we did not know the size of the lights nor the distance they were from the tower.

*Larry W. Skinner*

Larry W. Skinner, AF19494755  
A/1C, USAF  
Perrin AFB, Texas

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Statement by A/2C Thomas W. Davis Jr.

Base Operations advised us of the presence of the lights East of the field. There were seven of them. Color was red. They were fairly well grouped together. Looked like an aircraft's port wing light, but didn't flash and no other light (such as an A/C would show on the right wing) was shown though the objects were heading toward us. GCI was advised, but picked up nothing. The lights showed from 2139 to 2155. We took pictures with camera provided. Looked at them through binoculars. Only effect achieved was to make them look bigger. No object other than the light could be seen. At 2155 the objects seemed to just drift up slowly out of sight. About 2200 an unidentified aircraft was picked up by GCI on a 360° heading about 5 miles East of the Base.

*Thomas W. Davis Jr.*

Thomas W. Davis Jr. AF16383123  
A/2C, USAF  
Perrin AFB, Texas

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