CS/

ED-OSI/JEM/fmn

5D 24-21A

2 June 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE
Incident, Ambridge, Pennsylvania
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commanding General
Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXS

1. Reference is made to report of investigation by Special Agent JOHN E. MORRILL, subject and file as above, dated 12 April 1949.

2. Inclosed for your information and any action deemed necessary is report of investigation by Special Agent TONEY ZEVRAIS, 3rd OSI District, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

3. With the submission of this report, the files of this office are being closed in instant investigation.

1 Incl
R/I dtd 27 May 49
(in dup)

Cy to: Hq OSI

THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR
Captain, USAF
Acting District Commander

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL INV
KURT R. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
BY _____
3 DEC 1975
DATE

24-45-131
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 8 3 23 AM '49
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-11

DATE 19 May 1949

TITLE

AMC Project "Sign"
Elko, Nevada

REPORT MADE BY
THOMAS J. SCANLAN

REPORT MADE AT
DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

PERIOD
13 and 14 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #16, Hill AFB

STATUS
REFERRED UPON COMPLETION

CHARACTER
Special Inquiry

REFERENCE
TWX fr Dist Comdr, DO #16, Hill AF Base, Ogden, Utah to Dist Comdr, DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, Calif. relative to AMC Projects "Sign and Grudge"

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by District Commander, 16th OSI District, Hill AF Base, Ogden, Utah. MARVIN LEROY SMALL stated that from a stationary point on ground and with unaided eye he observed three (3) unidentified circular objects flying inverted vee formation in South-westerly direction five (5) miles North of Elko, Nevada on 2 May 1949. Altitude of objects fourteen (14) thousand feet; speed 250-300 miles per hour. Objects 1/4 inch across; estimated 30 foot diameter; apparent metal construction with appearance of oxidized aluminum. No signs of exhaust or vapor trail and no sound. No apparent projections on objects. Objects in sight two (2) minutes; started left turn; each object tilted at angle appearing flat and thin, then disappeared. No other witnesses. Interview indicated SMALL considered truthful and dependable and is not addicted to narcotics or alcohol. Physical examination completed 12 May 1942 indicates no abnormalities; no other physical examination available. Record and Agency checks reveal no derogatory information on SMALL.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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

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DO #5 (Action Copy) (2 Incl)	4
Hq, OSI (2 Incl)	2
DO #16 (Info)(2 Incl)	1
File (2 Incl)	2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO
Commanding General
Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson AF Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

APPROVED

JOHN G. SHOPE
Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP

24/185 130

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 8 2 39 AM '49

UNCLASSIFIED

OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
AUG 12 1949

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SMAMA—Sep 48—10M

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF

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DISTRICT COMMANDER

APPROVED

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SYNOPSIS

REFERENCE

CHARACTER

TITLE

STATUS

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

PERIOD

REPORT MADE AT

REPORT MADE BY

FILE NO.

DATE

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-11

DETAILS:

1. This investigation was requested by District Commander, 16th District OSI (IG), USAF, Hill Air Force Base, Ogden, Utah, and was predicated upon a report to the effect that MARVIN L. SMALL, Civil Aeronautics Administration Radio Operator, Elko, Nevada, had observed three (3) unidentified aerial objects in the vicinity of Elko, Nevada.

AT ELKO, NEVADA

2. Special Agent CLYDE M. EDWARDS assisted in this investigation.

3. On 13 May 1949, Mr. MARVIN LEROY SMALL, Airplane Communicator, Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada, was interviewed at his home, 789 Carlin Court, Elko, Nevada, and the following statement (Exhibit A) was obtained:

"At approximately 10:15 Pacific Standard Time on 2 May 1949 I was working on my car located in front of my house at 789 Carlin Court, Elko Nevada. I glanced at the sky North of Elko and noticed three objects in an inverted vee formation proceeding in a south-westerly direction. The objects were approximately 1/4 inch across to my naked eye; were roughly circular in shape and seemed to be made of metal with the appearance of oxidized aluminum. Based on my contact with aircraft at the Elko airport, I judged the objects to be flying about 5 miles from town at an altitude of 14000 feet. On this basis they would be approximately 30 feet in diameter and traveling at a speed of 250 or 300 miles per hour. I could see no indication of exhaust, or vapor trails and heard no sound and there were no extensions or projections on the objects. I entered my house and returned with a pair of binoculars, but before I could use them (the binoculars), the three objects seemed to veer left to a more southerly direction; all three tilted at an angle, in what seemed a precision movement and disappeared from my sight. The speed of the objects seemed to increase as they started to veer and upon tilting they seemed extremely thin and flat. I was unable to again locate the objects with either the binoculars or my naked eye. The objects were within my vision for approximately two minutes and upon their disappearance I immediately notified my superior at the Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada, by telephone."

SMALL stated that when he first noticed the objects they were on a straight line with the Elko Radio station, and when they disappeared from view they were in line with the Beacon at the Elko Airport. Throughout flight the altitude and formation of the objects remained the same and the angle of elevation above the horizon was approximately forty (40) degrees. SMALL's attention was not drawn to the objects by any special phenomena that he could recall.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DETAILS: (cont'd)

NOTE: Using SMALL's figure of five (5) miles from town in connection with the Elko Radio Station, the Airport Beacon, and SMALL's position at the time of observation, the objects would have covered a distance of approximately eight and a half (8 1/2) to nine (9) miles in two (2) minutes. Essential Elements of Information. (Exhibit B).

4. Review of Personnel Files maintained at Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada, on 13 May 1949, revealed that MARVIN L. SMALL has been employed by the CAA since 25 July 1941 when he was hired at Silver Lake, California. He was stationed at Elko, Nevada on 1 December 1942; transferred to Honolulu, Hawaii on 13 June 1944; and returned to Elko, Nevada on 13 July 1945. The only physical examination on file was completed on 12 May 1942. No physical defects were noted on the form and SMALL's vision was 20/20 for both eyes. Several letters and reports in the file revealed that SMALL's grades while attending CAA classes were well above average.

5. Mr. DAVE BURNS, Chief Aircraft Communicator, Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada; Mr. YALE D. HASKINS, Aircraft Communicator, CAA, Elko, Nevada and Mr. TED TULURE, Veteran Taxi Company, Elko, Nevada stated they have known MARVIN LEROY SMALL from three (3) to eight (8) years. All stated that SMALL is dependable and truthful; he does not drink and does not use marcotics. All vouched for SMALL's integrity and stated they would trust any statement made by him.

6. Review of files maintained by the County Sheriffs' Office, Elko County, Elko, Nevada and Elko City Police, Elko, Nevada on 13 May 1949, failed to reveal any record or information pertaining to MARVIN LEROY SMALL.

7. On 13 May 1949, a review of the files maintained at the Weather Bureau, U. S. Department of Commerce, Elko, Nevada, Latitude 40°50'N; Longitude 115°47'W, revealed the following information relative to weather conditions on 2 May 1949:

a. 0928 PST; scattered clouds at 25000 feet; visibility 30 miles; wind SSW at 8 miles per hour; temperature 63°F; Dewpoint 33°F

b. 1014 PST; scattered clouds at 25000 feet; visibility 30 miles; wind SSW at 17 miles per hour; temperature 63°F; Dewpoint 33°F

c. 1027 PST; no cloud cover; visibility 30 miles; wind W at 19 miles per hour; temperature 65°F; Dewpoint 29°F

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DETAILS: (cont'd)

d. 1103 PST; no cloud cover; visibility 30 miles; wind WSW at 20 miles per hour; temperature 65°F; Dewpoint 29°F

e. Winds aloft

10,000 feet - 220° at 25 knots
12,000 feet - 230° at 38 knots
14,000 feet - 230° at 44 knots
16,000 feet - 230° at 51 knots
18,000 feet - 230° at 53 knots

8. Review of communication files maintained at Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada, on 13 May 1949, revealed that the following aircraft were in the vicinity of Elko at time indicated on 2 May 1949:

a. AF 8893 enroute to McClellan AFB - 0921 PST

b. United Airlines Flight 102 - 1045 PST

c. TWA Flight 36 enroute San Francisco to Chicago - 1049 PST

d. Cesna 45V enroute Oakland to Salt Lake City - 1057 PST

All aircraft except AF 8893 had been contacted by radio and personnel had denied observing any unusual aircraft or activity in the vicinity.

9. Investigation in and around Elko, Nevada, revealed no active Air Force, Army or Navy Installation, proving grounds, or research facilities, other than one National Guard Anti-Aircraft Company with Headquarters at Elko, Nevada.

10. On 13 May 1949, WILLIAM A. BIANCANI, 1st Lt, O-1047441, Commanding Officer, National Guard Armory, Elko, Nevada, stated that the National Guard Company at Elko, Nevada have no targets or equipment and have held no maneuvers of any kind since the formation of the Company.

11. Discreet investigation in Elko, Nevada, failed to reveal any other persons who had observed unusual aircraft in the vicinity of Elko.

INCLOSURES:

FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, AMC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, DAYTON, OHIO

1. Carbon Copy of signed statement by MARVIN LEROY SMALL dated 13 May 1949 at Elko, Nevada.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-11

DETAILS: (Cont'd)

2. Carbon Copy of Essential Elements of Information pertaining to 19th District OSI 24-11.

FOR HEADQUARTERS, OSI

1. Carbon Copy of signed statement by MARVIN LEROY SMALL dated 13 May 1949 at Elko, Nevada.

2. Carbon Copy of Essential Elements of Information pertaining to 19th District OSI 24-11.

FOR DO #16, HILL AF BASE, OGDEN, UTAH

1. Original and Carbon Copy of signed statement by MARVIN LEROY SMALL dated 13 May 1949 at Elko, Nevada.

2. Carbon Copy of Essential Elements of Information pertaining to 19th District OSI 24-11.

FOR FILE

1. Carbon Copy of signed statement by MARVIN LEROY SMALL dated 13 May 1949 at Elko, Nevada.

2. Carbon Copy of Essential Elements of Information pertaining to 19th District OSI 24-11.

- RETURNED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

C
O
P
Y

19D OSI 24-11

Elko, Nevada
13 May 1949

At approximately 10:15 Pacific Standard Time on 2 May 1949 I was working on my car located in front of my house at 789 Carlin Court, Elko, Nevada. I glanced at the sky North of Elko and noticed three objects in an inverted vee formation proceeding in a south westerly direction. The objects were approximately 1/4 inch across to my naked eye; were roughly circular in shape and seemed to be made of metal with the appearance of oxidized aluminum. Based on my contact with aircraft at the Elko airport, I judged the objects to be flying about 5 miles from town at an altitude of 14000 feet. On this basis they would be approximately 30 feet in diameter and traveling at a speed of 250 or 300 miles per hour. I could see no indications of exhaust, or vapor trails and heard no sound and there were no extensions or projections on the objects. I entered my house and returned with a pair of binoculars, but before I could use them (the binoculars), the three objects seemed to veer left to a more southerly directions; all three tilted at an angle, in what seemed a precision movement and disappeared from my sight. The speed of the objects seemed to increase as they started to veer and upon tilting they seemed extremely thin and flat. I was unable to again locate the objects with either the binoculars or my naked eye. The objects were within my vision for approximately two minutes and upon their disappearance I immediately notified my superior at the Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada, by telephone.

I have read the foregoing statement and it is true to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

/s/ Marvin L. Small

Witness: Thomas J. Scanlan

Witness: Clyde M. Edwards

Exhibit A 3

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-11

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION

1. 1. Date of sighting - 2 May 1949

2. 2. Time of sighting - 1015 PST

3. Sighted from ground

a. Elko, Nevada

b. In the City of Elko

c. Front yard of building located on Carlin Court, Elko, Nevada

d. 40°50'N - 115°47' W

4. Three (3) objects

a. Inverted vee formation spacing about the size of each object

5. Distance of object from observer

a. Approximately six (6) miles horizontally (five (5) miles north of town)

b. 40° above horizon

c. 14000 feet

6. In sight for two (2) minutes

7. Appearance of object

a. Dull white (appearance of oxidized aluminum)

b. Circular and flat (appearance of a pancake)

c. Solid

d. Size

(1) 30 feet in diameter

(2) Approximately 1/4 inch across

Exhibit B 3

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (cont'd)

8. Direction of flight - South West veering to South South West

9. Straight flight for approximately two (2) minutes. Objects then veered left; appeared to accelerate; tilted in what seemed a precision maneuver and then disappeared from sight.

10. Evidence of exhaust - none visible

11. Effect on clouds - cloudless sky

12. Lights - none visible

13. Support - none visible

14. Propulsion - none visible

15. Control and stability - none visible

16. Air ducts - none visible

17. Speed - estimated 250-300 miles per hour

18. Sound - none heard

19. Manner of disappearance - objects tilted, seemed to disappear from view, and could not be relocated.

RELATIVE TO THE OBSERVER

1. MARVIN LEROY SMALL

2. 789 Carlin Court, Elko, Nevada

3. Airplane Communicator (Radio)

4. Employed as Airplane Communicator at Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada

5. Hobbies

a. "Ham" Radio Operator (call sign W7KOA, Elko, Nevada) Experienced Radio Operator.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (cont'd)

b. Photography - inexperienced

6. Ability to determine

a. Color - no abnormalities in perception of color. Decision of color in present case made relative to observations of aircraft and radio metals.

b. Speed - Average estimation of speed.

c. Size - Estimation of size at distance based on comparison of known aircraft wing spans. Estimation of short distances is fair.

7. Reliability of observer

a. Agency checks; neighbor and fellow employee checks; reveal no derogatory information. Observer is considered truthful and reliable.

8. Objects were noticed accidentally and attention was not drawn to them by any specific occurrence, but because of daily association with aircraft.

9. No other witnesses could be located.

10. SMALL's actions, comments and discussion of incident during interview would indicate a person above average in intelligence. This was verified by grades obtained while attending CAA classes. It was apparent that SMALL was sincere in his report, but his description of the object considered in relation to his statement of size when viewed (one quarter of an inch) seems to indicate influence of magazine articles or radio reports, although this was denied. All persons interviewed regarding SMALL stated that his character, integrity and dependability are of the highest.

GENERAL

1. Local Weather Conditions, Elko, Nevada, 2 May 1949

a. 0928 PST; scattered clouds at 25000 feet; visibility 30 miles; wind SSW at 8 miles per hour; Temperature 63° F; Dewpoint 33°F

b. 1014 PST; scattered clouds at 25000 feet; visibility 30 miles; wind SSW at 17 miles per hour; temperature 63°F; Dewpoint 33°F

c. 1027 PST: no cloud cover; visibility 30 miles; wind W at 19 miles per hour; temperature 65°F; Dewpoint 29°F

d. 1103 PST: no cloud cover; visibility 30 miles; wind WSW at 20 miles per hour; temperature 65°F; Dewpoint 29°F

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (cont'd)

2. Winds aloft, Elko, Nevada, 2 May 1949

10,000 feet - 220° at 25 knots
12,000 feet - 230° at 38 knots
14,000 feet - 230° at 44 knots
16,000 feet - 230° at 51 knots
18,000 feet - 230° at 53 knots

3. Aircraft in vicinity of Elko, Nevada, 2 May 1949

a. AF 8893 enroute to McClellan AFB - 0921 PST

b. United Airline Flight 102 - 1045 PST

c. TWA Flight 36 enroute San Francisco to Chicago - 1049 PST

d. Cessna 45V enroute Oakland to Salt Lake City - 1057 PST

4. Investigation in and around Elko, Nevada, revealed no active Air Force, Army or Navy Installations, proving grounds, or research facilities, other than one National Guard Anti-Aircraft Company with Headquarters at Elko, Nevada. On 13 May 1949, WILLIAM A. BIANCANI, 1st Lt, O-1047441, Commanding Officer, National Guard Armory, Elko, Nevada, stated that the National Guard Company at Elko, Nevada, have no targets or equipment and have held no maneuvers of any kind since the formation of the Company.

5. Not applicable

6. Not applicable

7. a. Objects appeared roughly circular

b. Surrounding terrain is hilly with hills ranging to 6000 feet; elevation of Elko, Nevada is 5067 feet

c. Not applicable

d. Objects tilted at an angle giving a very thin flat appearance

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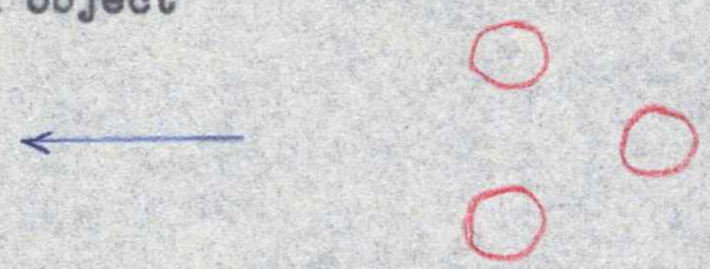
19D OSI 24-11

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (cont'd)

e. Objects were in inverted vee formation with spacing about the size of each object



8. Statement secured (Exhibit A)

9. Not applicable

10. No projections of any kind were observed

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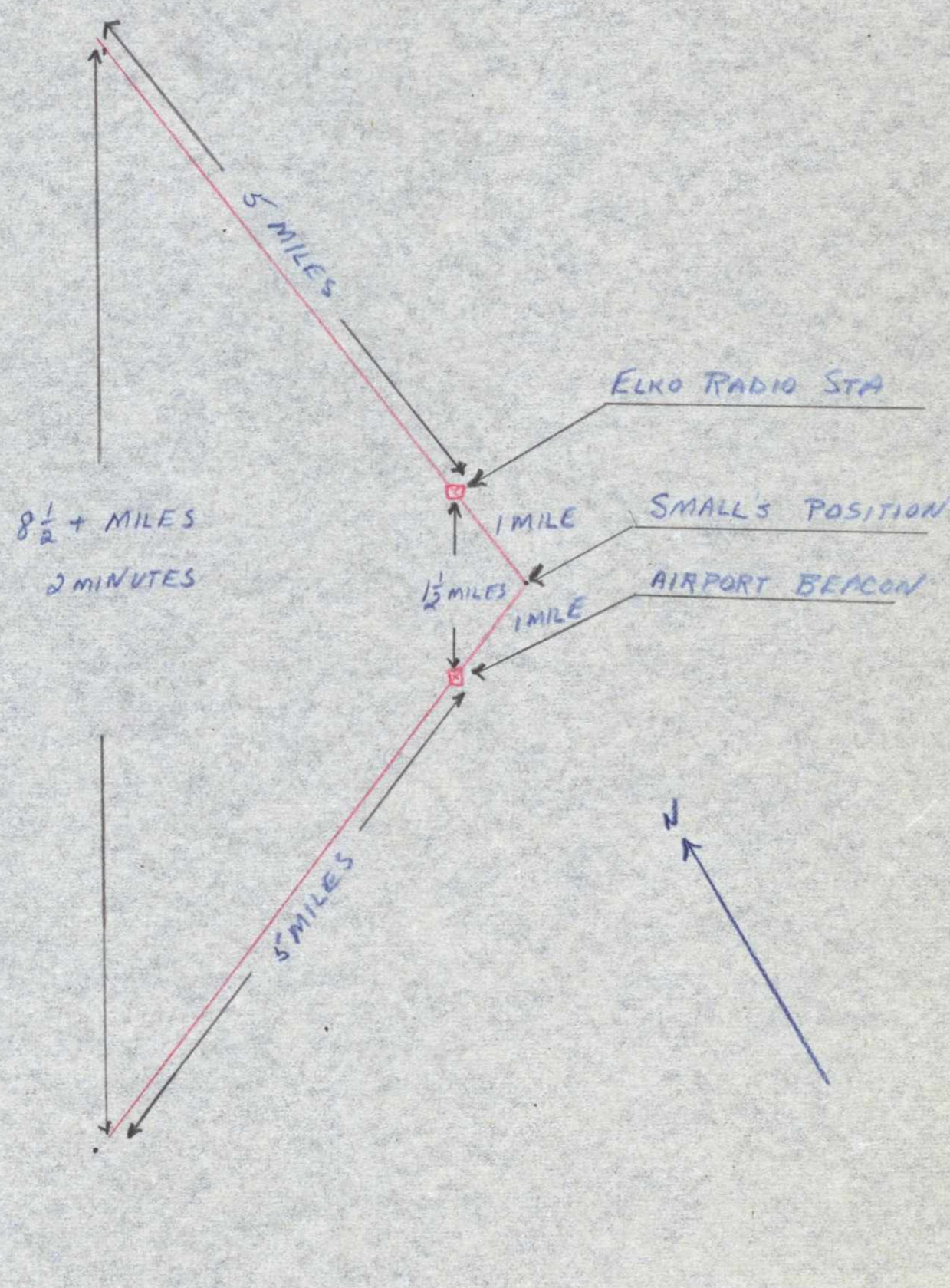
19D OSI 24-11

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (cont'd)

POSITION OF OBJECTS IN RELATION TO OBSERVER



Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-12

DATE 27 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY HARRY R. PETERSON

REPORT MADE AT DO #20, McChord AFB

PERIOD 3, 5 January 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #17, Kirtland AFB

STATUS RUC

TITLE

UNKNOWN - AERIAL PHENOMENON
Fireball sighted over Hood River, Oregon, 11 Dec 1948

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Letter from DO #17, Kirtland AFB, dated 23 December 1948, File #24-8.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation predicated upon a letter from DO #17, Subject: UNKNOWN, dated 23 December 1948, requesting an interview with GENE H. BIRD, News Editor, Hood River County Sun, Hood River, Oregon, regarding the fireball sighted on 11 December 1948 at 1930 hours. BIRD stated that he saw a flash through the window of his home, at Box #352, Hood River, Oregon. About five seconds after he saw the flash, he heard a sharp report. Although the center of the flash was white, it produced a blue impression through the fog. BIRD made several calls to people unknown to him in Odell and Parkdale, Oregon. These people advised him that they had not seen the flash. However, two women (names unknown to BIRD) that were contacted by BIRD in the Central Vale School area and in Van Horn, Oregon, advised him that they had seen the flash. Mr. and Mrs. H. H. HARRIS, Bingen, Washington, advised that they saw the reflection of the flash at about 1900 or 2000 hours. The flash seemed to them to be near Odell, Oregon.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
8 DEC 1975
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DO #17 (Action Copies) 4
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District Commander
17th District OSI
Kirtland AFB
New Mexico

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APPROVED

R. D. MELCHER
DISTRICT COMMANDER (Actg)

FILE STAMP

24-1851-129A
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 8 10 38 PM '49
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION
AUG 12 1949

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23 JULY 1948

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.

DATE

REPORT MADE BY

REPORT MADE AT

PERIOD

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

STATUS

TITLE

CHARACTER

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS:

KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

3 DEC 1973

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DISTRICT COMMANDER

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USAF

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12 JUN 1949
HQ 20TH DISTRICT
AFOSI (IG)
USAF

AFOSI FORM 1
25 JULY 1949

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

File #24-12

CONFIDENTIAL

DETAILS:

1. Investigation predicated upon a letter from DO #17, Subject: UNKNOWN, dated 23 December 1948, requesting an interview with GENE H. BIRD, News Editor, Hood River County Sun, Hood River, Oregon, regarding the fireball sighted on 11 December 1948 at 1930 hours.

AT HOOD RIVER, OREGON

2. On 3 January 1949, Mr. GENE H. BIRD, News Editor, Hood River County Sun, Hood River, Oregon, was interviewed and stated that on 11 December 1948 at approximately 1900 hours he was sitting in his home, at Box #352, Hood River, Oregon, when looking through the window (Facing towards the East Southeast), he saw a flash of light and about five seconds later he heard a sharp report. For about 40 seconds the echo rolled off the west hills with a rumbling sound. BIRD stated that after his experience as a naval officer, he is sure that the sound was not thunder. At the time of the flare, there were low clouds, fair visibility, and a cold front moving through. The shape of the flash was like a ball, and BIRD saw the complete roundness of the flash although it did not last over one second. The center of the flash was white; however, it gave off a blue impression through the fog. BIRD immediately telephoned people in the surrounding hills, and people called in Odell and Parkdale, Oregon, had not seen the flash. One woman (name unknown to BIRD) in the Central Vale School area was said to have seen the illumination. The flash seemed to be in the Central Vale School area in the lower valley. Geographical coordinates of BIRD's position at time of sighting are as follows: 45° 41' 30" North latitude and 121° 32' 46" West longitude.

3. A telephone call made by BIRD to a woman (name unknown to BIRD) at Van Horn, Oregon, revealed that the woman saw the flash due North of her home, and there seemed to be a lapse of about two seconds between the light and the explosion. BIRD does not remember who the people were that he called, as he simply called people unknown to him in the various outlying towns. All efforts to contact people referred to by BIRD failed.

AT BINGEN, WASHINGTON

4. On 5 January 1949, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. HARRIS, Bingen, Washington, were interviewed and stated that at about 1900 or 2000 hours on 11 December 1948 they heard a sharp explosion followed by a rumbling like thunder, then saw the reflection of a flash of light.

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL

File #24-12

The sound seemed due South of Hood River, Oregon, or in the hilly country to the East, possibly around Odell, Oregon. They thought something had blown up at Hood River, Oregon. The weather was cold with either rain or snow and visibility was not very good. Geographical coordinates of the observers' position are as follows: 45° 42' 56" North latitude and 121° 27' 58" West longitude.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

FILE NO. 24-13

DATE 1 June 1949

REPORT MADE BY: Special Agent LEO M. CHRISTIANSON

REPORT MADE AT: DO #16, Hill AFB, Utah

PERIOD: 25, 26 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: DO #16, Hill AFB, Utah

STATUS: CLOSED

TITLE

~~X~~ SPECIAL INQUIRY
UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Verbal request of District Commander, 16th District OSI (IG) Hill AFB, Utah.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by CAPTAIN PELHAM R. BURNETT, District Commander, 16th District, OSI (IG), Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah. CAPTAIN BURNETT received a telephone call at approximately 1130 hours from 1ST LIEUTENANT WILFRED V. GABLE, AO-2071202, in which he reported having seen two objects which appeared to be shaped like discs, flying south and a little east of Hill Air Force Base, Utah. GABEL stated that MR. O. V. GORDON, Inspector General's Department, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, saw the second object, but did not see the first object. (See attached statements of GABEL and GORDON).

- CLOSED -

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

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CG, AMC	2
DO #5	2
HQ, OSI	2
DO #16 (File)	1

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio (Thru: DO #5)

APPROVED

Pelham R. Burnett
PELHAM R. BURNETT
Captain, USAF
District Commander.

FILE STAMP

24 185 128
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 6 10 30 PM '49
AUG 12 1949
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

CONFIDENTIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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

IN
10 JUN 1949
SECURITY
DIV.
OSI

JUN - 7 1949

DATE

BY

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

DETAILS:

1. This investigation is predicated upon request by Captain PELHAM R. BURNETT, District Commander, 16th District OSI (MS), Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah. Captain BURNETT'S request was based upon a telephone call from 1st Lieutenant WILFRED V. GABLE, AO-4074202. GABEL reported that he saw an object flying at an altitude of approximately nine (9) to ten (10) thousand feet MSL, at 1400 hours, in a southeasterly direction. A few minutes later, GABEL saw a second object traveling on a parallel course to the first object, at an altitude of approximately nine (9) to ten (10) thousand feet MSL and going in a southeasterly direction. Lt. GABEL called the attention of Mr. O. V. GORDON to the first object and in so doing Mr. GORDON saw the second object. (See signed statements of GABEL and GORDON attached as Inclosures #2 and #3.) Lieutenant Colonel STUART R. PETERSEN, Inspector General, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, and Mr. J. F. SHAUGHNESSY, Administrative Inspector, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, were members of the group, but did not see either object.

2. Special Agent JAMES W. DEVALK assisted in this investigation.

3. On 25 May 1949, Lieutenant WILFRED V. GABEL, AO-2074202 (pilot), Salvage Officer, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, was interviewed and stated that he, in the company of three other gentlemen (named in details), were in the West Salvage Yard, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, about 1405 MST, when the sound of an airplane attracted his attention. When GABEL located the airplane, he said it was an F-51, traveling in a southeasterly direction, approximately eight (8) miles away and about ten (10) thousand feet MSL, high. The object GABEL saw was a little below the airplane and behind it, but traveling possibly forty (40) MPH faster because GABEL could see the object overtaking the airplane. GABEL estimated the speed of object to be three hundred (300) MPH. GABEL then turned to his companion, Mr. O. V. GORDON, (PETERSEN and SHAUGHNESSY were standing a short distance away.) and called his attention to the object. GORDON did not see either the first object or the airplane, but did see a second object, globular in shape, traveling in a southeasterly direction. GABLE further stated the airplane turned north and he then kept watching the second object which he said was traveling a parallel course to the first one, but north of it, and lower at a speed of about three hundred (300) MPH. By this time, the first object was out of sight. GABEL described the first object to be circular and disc form, a dull silver color and reflecting the sunlight. GABEL described the second object to be circular, dark blue on one side and silver on the other, reflecting the sunlight.

4. On 25 May 1949, Mr. O. V. GORDON, Assistant Air Inspector, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, was interviewed and stated that while he was talking to Lt. GABEL, in the West Salvage Yard, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, he heard an airplane quite high and looked upward to see it. While doing so, his attention was attracted to a globular object slightly east of south at approximately fourteen thousand (14,000) feet MSL, traveling about the same speed a C-47 airplane would travel. GORDON watched the object for about fifteen (15) seconds, then lost sight of it momentarily. The second view of it lasted for possibly ten (10) seconds. GORDON further stated that this was not the first object which GABEL saw. The time was established as 1407 MST for the second object, which was globular in shape, dark blue and flashing sunlight. (See signed statement of GORDON attached as Inclosure #3).

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DETAILS (Cont'd)

5. On 25 May 1949, Mr. J. F. SHAUGHNESSY, Assistant Air Inspector, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, in the company of the gentlemen named in the details of this report, looked at his watch when he heard GABEL and GORDON speaking of the second object. SHAUGHNESSY established the time as 1407 MST. SHAUGHNESSY did not see either object.

6. On 25 May 1949, Captain FLOYD M. HOGAN, Engineering Officer, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, was interviewed and stated that he was the pilot of an F-51 airplane which took off at 1400 MST on Hill Air Force Base runway #31 and made a shallow climbing turn to the left, completely around the field, then south toward Salt Lake City and back to Hill Air Force Base, landing at 1430 MST. HOGAN stated he was southeast of the Field at approximately 1407 MST and about nine thousand (9,000) feet MSL at that time, but did not see any light airplanes or other objects while making this wide circle. HOGAN stated he was particularly vigilant because it had been some time since he had flown a fast airplane.

7. Information gained from the Base Weather Station, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, revealed that a weather balloon was released at 1345 MST. (See Weather Report attached as Inclosure #1.)

8. Information obtained from Hinckley Field, Ogden, Utah, revealed that no weather balloon was released during the afternoon of 25 May 1949.

9. Information obtained from the Weather Station, Salt Lake Municipal Airport #1, revealed a white weather balloon was released at approximately 1400 hours, from their airport.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

105 49 May 25 1345
49 May 25 2045

430

RADIO DIR FINDER

				Calm	
56.6	033.1	180	270	360	06
59.2	020.9	360	610	360	05
72.1	045.1	420	1300	240	05
67.0	081.5	820	1940	280	23
56.3	081.3	1750	2620	270	22
48.1	085.9	3070	3420	260	21
44.2	081.5	4280	4160	260	19
42.4	079.3	5460	4980	250	24
40.2	078.2	6760	5710	260	22
39.2	078.9	7450	6080	260	21
38.9	079.6	7980	6430	260	18
38.5	078.7n	8550	6800	250	21
37.9	078.0	9220	7180	240	21
37.7	077.1	9790	7570	230	17
38.0	076.8	10100	7910	270	14
38.2	077.0	10540	8310	270	20
37.6	076 .6	11290	8710	250	18
38.0	076.4	11560	9030	260	17
38.1	076.2	12250	9610	260	19
38.0	076.4	12700	9930	270	16
38.0	077.4	13170	10290	280	17
38.0	077.9	13640	10650	270	19
37.7	078.5	14250	11000	280	18
37.7	079.6	14630	11300	300	17
37.6	081.0	15070	11610	300	19
37.2	082.3	15850	12010	270	30
36.2	084.0	16850	12400	270	28
36.1	084.8	17500	12760	270	27
35.5	084.3	18470	13160	270	40
34.3	084.9	19820	13520	270	40
33.7	086.0	20850	13900	270	42
32.6	086.4	22300	14280	280	48
31.7	087.4	23730	14650	270	35
31.7	086.4	24350	15030	250	24

S/Sgt L. Phelps — Sgt R. Karg — Balloon Burst

Surface Obs(

Jmel #1

1100 FT PER MINUTE — Clear 20 Miles,

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

COPY

HEADQUARTERS
OGDEN AIR MATERIEL AREA
Hill Air Force Base

Hill Field, Utah
25 May 1949

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is in relation to foreign objects I sighted in the air in the vicinity of Hill Air Force Base at approximately 1405 M on 25 May 1949.

I was at the West Salvage Yard of Hill Air Force Base, escourting Lt Colonel Peterson and party on an inspection visit and Mr. O. V. Gordon of the Air Inspectors Office and I stopped for a moment to discuss something or other. While talking with Mr. Gordon, I was watching an F-51 cruising south of the field, approximately eight miles, when I sighted a dull silver circular object which at first looked as if it were following the F-51. I thought it might be an aerial gunnery sleeve of some kind, but the object was going approximately 40 MPH faster than the F-51 and seemed to be much father away and higher. Then the F-51 started to turn to the left and the object went straight ahead until it was out of sight.

I turned to Mr. Gordon and asked him to look, and pointed to the direction I had seen it and asked him if he could see anything. He said "No, I can't see anything there, but look over there." To the north of the path of the first object and also going southeast, was another circular object. The side away from the sun looked dark blue and the other side was silver colored and flashed, as if reflecting sunlight. It looked like it was lower than the first object, traveling southeast from the field and could be seen more clearly than the first object. It was about the size of a full moon. Mr. Gordon and I watched it for maybe a minute until it disappeared from view and we wondered if it might be a weather balloon at that time of day with a perfectly clear sky except for a few scattered clouds far to the south.

We walked over to Colonel Petersen and told him what we had seen and he advised us to call the OSI and let them know so they could check on whether they were weather balloons or what they might have been.

/S/ Wilfred V. Gabel
WILFRED V. GABEL
1st Lt, USAF
AO-2074202

Incl #2.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

On the afternoon of 25 May 1949, I was in the Supply and Salvage Yard with Colonel Petersen and Mr. Shaughnessy of the Air Inspector's Office, and Lt Gable and Mr. Van Leeuwen of Base Salvage. While we were standing in the yard discussing the condition of the Salvage Yard, I heard an airplane overhead, which sounded to me to be quite high. I looked into the sky in the direction from which the sound seemed to be coming and could not discern the plane. However, in scanning the sky, I observed a globular object traveling slightly east of south, at what I estimated to be approximately the same speed that a C-47 travels. I remarked to the company in general that I saw a globular object and Lt. Gable, after asking me the general direction, stated that he saw it also. He also remarked that he saw one a while ago traveling in the same general direction. I only saw the one and did not know that he had seen one previously until I called his attention to the one I saw. We discussed the probability of its being a weather balloon.

With no basis for my judgment other than the fact that when I first saw it, I expected to see a plane, I estimated it to be at least 14,000 feet above sea level. The first view lasted possibly 15 seconds, after which I lost sight of it, then some 15 to 30 seconds later I saw it the second time for possibly 10 seconds. With north as zero, I estimate the first sight was at 4 o'clock. Mr. Shaughnessy stated that he glanced at his watch when I mentioned it and the time was 1407.

The object seemed to me to be over the west slope of the Wasatch Range and slightly south of due east of Hill Field, which if my impression of the heighth and distance was correct would indicate that the object was considerably larger than a weather balloon.

/s/ Oakley V. Gordon
OAKLEY V. GORDON, Asst
Air Inspector

Incl #3.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

AFCSI
Lt Col Hurst/dr-72231
14 June 1949

Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

24-185

SUBJECT: Investigation of "Project Grudge" Incident, Akron, Ohio, 5 February 1949
SPECIAL INQUIRY

15 JUN 1949

TO: District Commander, 5th OSI District (IG)
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

1. Perusal of report of investigation, your file number 5D 24-21J, dated 1 June 1949, subject same as above, submitted by Special Agent William J. Layman, discloses that on 18 May 1949 a Mr. HENRY H. VARNER was interviewed by Special Agents Gerald B. Drummond and Clarence A. Wilson.

2. a. Par. 2 of the report states as follows: "On 18 May 1949 Mr. HENRY H. VARNER, Room No. 2, 8 South Summit Street, Akron, Ohio, was interviewed in the Detachment Office, Room 544, Goodyear Hall, 1187 East Market Street, Akron, Ohio, in reference to Mr. VARNER's observation of an unidentified aerial phenomenon. After having been informed of his rights under the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America, Mr. VARNER executed a signed statement***."

b. It is desired that your office submit a complete explanation of the reasons why Mr. VARNER was placed under oath and warned of his constitutional rights when interviewed in connection with his observation of aerial phenomena. It is understandable that a suspect in a criminal or subversive case would be warned of his constitutional rights prior to, and at the conclusion of, an interview or the taking of a statement, however, this office cannot conceive of the necessity for taking a sworn statement, particularly from an ordinary citizen, in this type of non-criminal case.

3. The only conclusion that can be drawn by this office is that the agents concerned either lacked or failed to use mature judgement in this particular case; therefore, it is directed that this matter be immediately brought to the attention of all concerned in order that such occurrences may be precluded in the future.

AFCSI

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

24-185-126A

Wm. E. CARPENTER
Colonel, USAF
Deputy Director, Special Investigations
The Inspector General, USAF

OFFICE SYMBOL	1. AFCSI	2.	3.	4.	5.
GRADE AND SURNAME OF COORDINATING OFFICERS	Lt Col Hurst Capt Martel Wm E Carpenter				

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UNCLASSIFIED JUN 17 1949

JUN 1949 MANAGEMENT DIV. OSI

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

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Historian
3 DEC 1975
DATE

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C S1

INFORMATION COPY
From 5th District OSI
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

5D-OSI/WJL/nlb

5D 24-21J

1 June 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE
Incident, Akron, Ohio
5 February 1949

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

1. Reference is made to the report of Special Agent WILLIAM J. LAYMAN, of this office, dated 12 May 1949.

2. Forwarded for your information and any action deemed appropriate is the final report of Special Agent WILLIAM J. LAYMAN, of this office, dated 1 June 1949. With the submission of this report, all logical investigative leads have been covered and reported.

3. Mr. HENRY H. VARNER, who reported sighting an aerial phenomenon on 5 February 1949, was interviewed and executed a detailed signed statement regarding the same.

4. With the submission of this report the files of this office are being closed regarding this case.

1 Incl
Rpt of S/A WILLIAM J. LAYMAN, dtd 1 Jun 49 (in dup)

THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Acting District Commander

Copy to:

OSI HQ

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

24/185T/26
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 7 10 00 PM '49
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

File copy

JUL 20 1949

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

INFORMATION COPY
From SAF Digital OSI
Wright Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
JUN 8 1949 - 6 1949
8 JUN 1949
SECURITY DIV. ISO
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BY AUTHORITY OF
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt. USAF
BY Historian
DATE

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. 5D 24-21J

DATE 1 June 1949

REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM J. LAYMAN nlb

REPORT MADE AT DO #5, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio

PERIOD 18 May 49

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #5, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio

STATUS CLOSED

TITLE

PROJECT GRUDGE
Incident, Akron, Ohio
5 February 1949

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Rpt of S/A WILLIAM J. LAYMAN, DO #5, W/P AFB, dtd 12 May 49.

SYNOPSIS

Mr. HENRY H. VARNER was interviewed by OSI Agents GERALD B. DRUMMOND and CLARENCE A. WILSON at Akron, Ohio on 18 May 1949. A signed statement, setting forth detailed information regarding aerial phenomenon, was executed by Mr. VARNER at that time.

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

DISTRIBUTION		ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP
CG, AMC, W/P AFB (Incls)	2	Commanding General Air Materiel Command Wright-Patterson AFB Dayton, Ohio ATTN: MCIAXS	
OSI HQ (Incl)	2		
File (Incl)	2		

APPROVED
for WOJG, USAF
THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Acting DISTRICT COMMANDER

UNCLASSIFIED

24-185-126

AFCSI FORM 23 JULY 48 4

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

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

5D 24-21J
PROJECT GRUDGE

DETAILS:

1. The following phase of this investigation was conducted by GERALD B. DRUMMOND and CLARENCE A. WILSON.

AT AKRON, OHIO

2. On 18 May 1949, Mr. HENRY H. VARNER, Room No. 2, 8 South Summit Street, Akron, Ohio, was interviewed in the Detachment Office, Room 514, Goodyear Hall, 1187 East Market Street, Akron, Ohio, in reference to Mr. VARNER's observation of an unidentified aerial phenomenon. After having been informed of his rights under the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America, Mr. VARNER executed a signed statement, the gist of which is as follows:

On 5 February 1949, at approximately 0330 hours, while driving three (3) to five (5) miles south of Parkersburg, West Virginia, on U. S. Route #21, toward Elizabeth, West Virginia, an aerial phenomenon was observed that lasted from fifteen (15) to twenty (20) seconds. Mr. VARNER first noticed an intense white light, which was followed by a reddish yellow light. Against the hill which served as a bachground, Mr. VARNER saw an object approximately four (4) inches in diameter inclining toward the hill. The object had molten drops coming from its rear. Mr. VARNER could not judge whether the object disintegrated or rose over the mill.

INCLOSURES:

FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, AMC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, DAYTON, OHIO

1. The original signed statement of Mr. HENRY H. VARNER dated at Akron, Ohio, 18 May 1949 (in duplicate).

2. Sketch of the location of the sighting by Mr. VARNER.

FOR HEADQUARTERS, OSI

1. The original signed statement of Mr. HENRY H. VARNER dated at Akron, Ohio, 18 May 1949 (in duplicate).

-C L O S E D-

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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STATEMENT

I, HENRY H. VARNER, residing at Room No. 2, 8 South Summit Street, Akron, Ohio, having been duly advised of my rights under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America that I need not make any statement; that my silence in this respect will not raise any inference of guilt against me; that I may make a sworn or unsworn statement; and that any statement I care to make may be used against me in any proceeding, civil or criminal, which may arise from the facts hereinafter stated, do proceed to state as follows:

Q. What is your name?
A. HENRY H. VARNER.

Q. Where do you reside?
A. Room No. 2, 8 South Summit Street, Akron, Ohio.

Q. Where are you employed?
A. At the present time I am unemployed. Until February 1949, I was employed at the B. F. Goodrich Company, Akron, Ohio, where I was laid off because of a reduction in force.

Q. What was the date of your observation of the incident you mentioned in your letter to Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio?
A. The date was 5 February 1949, at approximately 0330 hours.

Q. Where were you at the time of the incident?
A. I was driving approximately three (3) to five (5) miles south of Parkersburg, West Virginia, on U. S. Route #21 toward Elizabeth, West Virginia.

Q. What happened?
A. The highway and roadside were suddenly illuminated with an intense white light, changing into a reddish yellow light that lit up the whole area. I was going up a grade at the time between Parkersburg, West Virginia, and Mineral Wells, West Virginia.

Q. After the flash or lighting up of the highway, did you see any objects?
A. No, I saw no objects. However, I don't believe this was a mechanical thing. It didn't appear to be mechanical. There was this white light which diminished to this reddish yellow color, and then I was in darkness again.

Q. What was the length of time of this incident?
A. I would say that it lasted for approximately fifteen (15) to twenty (20) seconds.

HHV HHV

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Q. Did you see any falling objects either during or after the flash?
A. No, I didn't. This incident occurred so quickly, I was taken by surprise. The intense white light which seemed to be directly over me faded into a reddish yellow glow, and the first thing I noticed was this reddish yellow stuff over to my right with a hill in the background. I picture it like a cast-iron cupola bursting out. The white light was so intense that I could see trees and stones along the road approximately twenty-five (25) to fifty (50) yards away from me.

Q. Did you see any moving objects prior to the flash?
A. No, I did not. There was nothing mechanical, nothing moving; it appeared to me to be soft molten stuff. The hill was in the background, and this thing was above me. Stuff seemed to be spewing out of it. I thought it was a meteor.

Q. Did this thing fall to the hillside?
A. No, it inclined to the hill and then sputtered. Whether it dissolved or not, I do know.

Q. What color was this thing you describe?
A. It was reddish yellow, like molten cast iron. It had a deep reddish yellow color, unlike molten steel which gives off a more intense and brighter light.

Q. Can you give us an idea of the size of this thing? Compare it with something in the office.
A. I actually don't know. Something was shooting out in the back of it, or the end of it. This spewing out was the principal thing in my mind. It happened so fast it was hard to grasp. I suppose it was about the size of that alarm clock on the file cabinet, but it is difficult to estimate sizes and distances, expecially after dark. (Note: The ordinary alarm clock in this office has a diameter of four (4) inches, and Mr. VARNER was a distance of approximately eighteen (18) feet away from it at the time of the above statement.)

Q. What was its altitude when it started on an incline?
A. It was a distance of two or three miles from me. It seemed quite a ways away from me.

Q. What was the altitude?
A. It was just below the hilltop. The road is surrounded by steep hills, and since the hills were the background, it couldn't have been too high.

Q. From your direction of travel, where did the object land?
A. It was southwest to my right, but whether it landed or cleared the hill, I can't say.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Q. From what direction did its travel start?
A. No specific direction, from all around. It was very surprising to me. I could see the highway very clearly. It was a very intense light, as clear as daylight.

Q. From the time of the flash and from the last you saw of the object, can you recall how long a period of time was covered?
A. Not more than fifteen (15) or twenty (20) seconds. A very fast operation, twenty-five (25) seconds at the most.

Q. Was there any sound?
A. I didn't hear anything.

Q. Was there any odor?
A. No odor. I was in the car and the windows were closed.

Q. Did you see any objects other than the previously mentioned objects?
A. No. Picture a comet with a tail. I saw sparks or lines at the rear, and then my attention was directed to the spewing of a substance similar to drops of molten metal.

Q. Were there any wings or fins?
A. No. The action of it was like pictures I have seen of Halley's Comet. It shed drops, and was similar to a cupola in a foundry.

Q. After the flash, did it make a route of travel to the southwest?
A. All I saw was the object making the incline, it was not a sharp incline, and the red drops seemed to be a constant action.

Q. Did it hit the mountain or disintegrate?
A. I don't know, I couldn't see.

Q. Could it have gone over the top of the hill?
A. Yes.

Q. You first noticed it fading away into the distance?
A. Yes. There are gas wells there but they don't act like that. There are no steel mills to my knowledge in the vicinity. I don't know whether it was the first or second ridge of the hills. The drops and the reddish yellow color are what got me. I saw the light and then looked over on this hill and saw the object.

Q. What were the weather conditions as you remember them?
A. It was clear night, the moon may have been shining. It was not too cold. The temperature was around 30° or 40°, I would say, but this can be checked with the Weather Bureau.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

weather?

Q. Did the flash of the object leave any noticeable change in the

A. I don't know, I had the car heater going and the windows up.

Q. Were you wearing glasses then?
A. Yes.

Q. How long had you been driving?
A. I worked from 6 to 12 midnight at Goodrich in Akron, and after work drove to Parkersburg, which is 170 miles. I stopped for gas once, and then stopped for more gas and had coffee and toast in Parkersburg. It was 3:05 approximately, West Virginia time. I may be off fifteen or twenty minutes. Around 3:15 or 3:30, I left Parkersburg. Then I drove three to five miles. I was tired.

Q. Was there anyone else in the area?
A. No, the highway was clear.

Q. Did you discuss the incident with anyone?
A. No, I was making the trip to see my boy and his girl. I got to Elizabeth at 4:20, and had to wait until the town woke up. My boy was in Parkersburg, so I didn't get to see him, but I saw his girl friend.

Q. Do you have any mechanical hobbies?
A. No, but I am a turret lathe operator, a grinder, and do some mechanical work.

Q. Do you have any hobbies?
A. Stamp collecting.

Q. What about your glasses, why do you wear them?
A. My eyes are in good shape. I wear glasses for eye strain, and there is only a slight correction in the lens. I don't wear them when I work.

Q. Has anyone mentioned seeing this object to you?
A. No.

Q. You were the only witness as far as you know?
A. Yes. I was alone in my car. I passed two or three cars on the way down from Parkersburg. I met another car at the junction of Routes #21 and #14. It is possible the occupants of this car could have witnessed the incident.

I further state that the foregoing statement was made by me freely and voluntarily, without promise of benefit, or threat or use of force or duress. I have read the foregoing statement consisting of 5 pages, and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Henry H. Varner.

HENRY H. VARNER

Dated 23 May 1949

We hereby certify that we were present at Room 544, Goodyear Hall, 1187 East Market Street, Akron, Ohio, when HENRY H. VARNER made the above statement and that he was fully advised of his rights as set forth above, that no promise of immunity or reward was made to him, that no force or duress was used or threatened, and that the above statement was freely and voluntarily made. We further certify that the said HENRY H. VARNER signed the above statement in our presence.

WITNESSED:

James A Wilson S/A, 5D-05/(16)

Gerald B. Drummond S/A 5D 05/ (16)

Page 6 of 6 pages.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.	DATE
5D-24-21 0	1 June 1949

REPORT MADE BY
WILLIAM D. JOHNSON meh

REPORT MADE AT
DO #5, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio

PERIOD
27 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #5, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio File 24-21 0

STATUS
PENDING

TITLE

PROJECT "GRUDGE" (Incident - Boise, Idaho, 13 May 1949)

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

None, this is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation was requested by Chief, Technical Intelligence Division, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. Information received reflects that Mr. ROBERT F. SMITH, Phone 7436, Room 442, Yates Building, Boise, Idaho, released information on 13 May 1949 that sailing objects were observed near Boise, Idaho, between 1100 and 1119 hours.

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

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Hq OSI	2
DO #20	2
File	2

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Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXS

APPROVED
JOHN E. MORRILL
WOJG USAF
THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Acting DISTRICT COMMANDER

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24-185 125-A
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 7 10 03 PM '49
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
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AFCSI FORM 23 JULY 48 4

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

TITLE	FILE NO.
	DATE
	REPORT MADE BY
	REPORT MADE AT
	PERIOD
	OFFICE OF ORIGIN
	STATUS
CHARACTER	
REFERENCE	
SYNOPSIS	

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BY KURT K. KUNTZ, Capt., USAF
HISTORIAN

DATE

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AUG 13 1949

DISTRICT COMMANDER

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF

JUN 9 1949

IN 9 JUN 1949 SECURITY DIV. OSI

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AFCSI FORM 23 JULY 48

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SU 24-21 0

PROJECT "GRUDGE" (Incident -
Boise, Idaho, 13 May 1949)

DETAILS:

1. The following investigation was predicated upon receipt of an R&R dated 23 May 1949 from W. R. CLINGERMAN, Colonel, USAF, Chief, Technical Intelligence Division (MCIAXS), Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, who received information that flying objects were seen in the vicinity of U. S. Route No. 20, near Boise, Idaho, between 1100 and 1119 hours on 13 May 1949. This information was received by letter dated 13 May 1949 from Mr. ROBERT F. SMITH, 1st Lt., Air Force Reserve, O-774795, phone 7436, Room 442, Yates Building, Boise, Idaho.

2. Information received indicates that Mr. ROBERT F. SMITH, at 1100 hours, on 13 May 1949, while driving from Caldwell to Boise, Idaho on U. S. Route No. 30, observed a silvery object in the western sky. SMITH states in his letter that the above-mentioned object had no more than disappeared when five (5) discs hove into sight, flying a "V" formation, and that the above-mentioned discs were silver and black in color. SMITH further advised that after the flying objects made two (2) let-downs, they shot upward in a southwesterly direction, actually changing from a "V" formation to an echelon to the left, then made another spiral let-down, returning to a "V" formation. SMITH said they made another shot upward and were lost from sight at 1119 hours.

INCLOSURES

1. Photostatic copy of letter from SMITH to Commanding Officer, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

FOR DO #20, McCHORD AFB:

1. Guide to Investigation, Unidentified Aerial Objects

PENDING

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

5D 24-21 0

PROJECT "CHUDOE" (Incident -
Boise, Idaho, 13 May 1949)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DISTRICT OFFICE #20, McCHORD AFB:

AT BOISE, IDAHO

Will interview Mr. ROBERT F. SMITH, phone 7436, Room 442, Yates Building, Boise, Idaho, and other person or persons having knowledge of this incident or any similar incident, using the inclosed letter for reference.

PENDING

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

COPY

TOM CUNNING & ASSOCIATES

PUBLICITY

Phone 7436 - 442 Yates Bldg. - Boise, Idaho

May 13, 1949

Commanding Officer,
Wright Army Air Field,
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Sir:

For the last two years I have scoffed at people and their alleged flying discs. This morning, however, I became a convert. Please do not consider this letter as something from a crank or a publicity stunt--I merely wish to inform you of an honest experience this morning with these nebulous flying discs:

Before I outline the facts, may I point out that I logged more than 900 hours as first pilot on a B-24 and I hold a 1st lieutenants commission in the air force reserve. My serial number, incidentally, is 0-774795. If it will add credulity, my occupation is a newspaperman, currently being a writer for the Idaho State Board of Publicity. At any rate, here are the facts:

This morning, May 13, 1949, I was driving from Caldwell to Boise, Idaho, on U. S. Highway 20. At 1100 hours my eye was attracted by a silvery object in the western sky. The object had no more disappeared when five (5) "discs" hove into sight, flying a Vee formation. The discs were apparently in a slow spiral let down, circling to the left. It was very apparent they were a silver and black color. When they were on the inside of their turn, their underside was toward me and was a black color, making the discs hard to track with the eye. When they reached the outside of their turn relative to my position, they were a bright silver, reflecting brilliantly the sunlight. The day was clear, about 80 or 85 degrees with less than 3/10th cloud covering. The terrain was level over the Boise valley area in which they were flying. After making two spiral let downs, they shot upward in a southwesterly direction, actually changing from a Vee formation to an echelon to the left. They made another spiral let down, returning to a Vee formation. They again shot upward and were lost from sight. I observed these discs from 1100 to 1119 hours. They must have been man controlled, for they moved intelligently and changed or held formation well. They size is problematical as was their altitude. I would estimate however, the altitude at 14,000 to 15,000 and their size at comparable to a B-29. They appeared relatively large and were not as high speed as previous accounts I have read except when they shot upward. Their speed I would estimate at 350 to 440 m.p.h. while in the spiral and easily double that when they climbed. They were of an eliptical shape as I will indicate in the attached rough sketch. Their distance from me was probably 5 to 9 miles, however, when they reflected the sun I'm certain I would have caught them in a camera to at least verify my observation.

As I have said, Sir, I'm no crank. I merely hope this information will be of some help to the Air Force and my country. What I saw is God's honest truth--and I'll swear to it on judgment day! If there is any other information I might have overlooked, please call on me.

Sincerely,
/s/ Robert F. Smith
1st Lt., AF Reserve, 0-774795

RFS/au

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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CSI

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 21-17

DATE MAY 27 1949

REPORT MADE BY TONEY ZEVRAIS

REPORT MADE AT DO #3, 1612 S. Cameron St, Harrisburg, Pa.

PERIOD 25, 26, 27 Apr 49

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio

STATUS RUC

TITLE

PROJECT GRUDGE
Incident, Ambridge, Pa,
31 Mar 49

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Report of S/A John E. Morrill, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio, dtd 12 Apr 49, file 21-21A

SYNOPSIS

On 30 Mar 49, at approximately 2400 hrs, at Ambridge, Pa, PETER HILDEBRAND, conductor in the Railroad Switching Yards, Spang Chalfant Corp, Ambridge, Pa, claims to have observed the ragged "V" formation of approximately 20 round, ball-shaped objects moving from east to west across sky at terrific speed and at an altitude of approximately 15,000 ft. CHARLES F. BOLES, Brakeman, co-worker of HILDEBRAND, also witnessed the phenomena. At 0030 hrs, 31 Mar 49, HILDEBRAND claimed objects reappeared. CHARLES SPADOMSKI, another co-worker of HILDEBRAND, saw objects and claims they were in formation of 3 "V" formed elements. All stated objects traveled at terrific speed, had no external projections, no sound and left no vapor trail. BOLES and HILDEBRAND described objects as ball-shaped; SPADOMSKI described objects as resembling inverted saucers. Weather reports indicate that weather conditions were not favorable.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT R. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
8 DEC 1975
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Dayton, Ohio

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MICHAEL G. FRISCH
Major, USAF
District Commander.

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 3 2 32 PM '49

OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
AUG 12 1949

UNCLASSIFIED

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

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.

DATE

MAY 27 1949

TITLE

REPORT MADE BY

REPORT MADE AT

PERIOD

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

STATUS

CHARACTER

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

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BY [illegible]

DATE

9 JUN 1949
SECURITY DIV.
OSI

AUG 12 1949

AFHQ FORM 15 JAN 49 0-208 Replaces AFOSI Form 1, 22 [illegible] which may be used until exhausted.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~Confidential~~

File No. 24-17

DETAILS:

This is a joint investigation of S/A DONALD E. SHARPE and the writer.

AT AMBRIDGE, PA.

1. On 27 April 1949, Mr. PETER HILDEBRAND, RD #2, Marion Hill, New Brighton, Pa. was interviewed in the Yardmaster's Office, Spang Chalfant Corp. Ambridge, Pa. and stated in substance that on 30 March 1949 at approximately 2400 hours, while working as conductor in the railroad switching yards of the above corporation, he happened to look up at the sky towards the east and saw what appeared to be a ragged V formation of round, ball shaped objects moving across the sky at a terrific speed, which he declined to estimate. He was unable to state at what angle or altitude the objects were, except that they were either very high, or were smaller than he thought, and that they approached from the east, passed over-head, and turned abruptly south, then disappeared. HILDEBRAND stated that when he sighted the objects, he was standing on the Diesel Switching Locomotive platform with CHARLES F. BOLES, brakeman. The locomotive was facing north on the track, and he and BOLES were at the southwest corner of the engine. Upon sighting the objects, HILDEBRAND stated he immediately called BOLES' attention to them. HILDEBRAND said that the objects were not like those he and CHARLES WERNER had sighted on 17 December 1948, but were of a rounder shape, resembling a ball. (Attention is invited to Report of Investigation, this office, file #24-9, period covered 10, 24 February 2, 3 March, 1949). HILDEBRAND stated that there appeared to be a group of 20 objects, and that he had them in sight for approximately 60 seconds. He did not notice any projections, fins, propellers, noise, vapor trails, or any light from the objects except that they were a dull white color and did not appear to be lit from the inside. Again at 0030 hours, 31 March 1949, HILDEBRAND sighted the objects which reappeared from the east, in a formation similar to that previously sighted. HILDEBRAND shouted, and drew CHARLES SRADOMSKI'S attention to the objects. This time, HILDEBRAND stated, the objects were again in his view approximately one minute before disappearing towards the south after having followed the same route as previously. HILDEBRAND stated that he has no hobbies, and is entirely occupied with his position and his family. He indicated surprise that he has seen the unidentified objects twice within a short period of time, and that no one else besides SRADOMSKI, BOLES, and WERNER had seen them. In conclusion, HILDEBRAND stated he would stake his character and integrity and swear that he saw the objects, and he regrets that he cannot describe them better, or more accurately.

2. Records of the Spang Chalfant Corp. were examined and disclosed that HILDEBRAND was given a physical examination on 6 April 1948. On the American Optical Sight-Screener test his vision was recorded as 20/30; depth perception for distance fair; and for closeness, missed completely; muscle balance good; color perception normal.

AT NEW BRIGHTON, PA.

3. Records of the New Brighton, Pa. police department were checked relative to HILDEBRAND with negative results.

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AT AMBRIDGE, PA.

4. On 27 April 1949, Mr. CHARLES F. BOLES, RD #1, Wexford, Pa. was interviewed in the Yardmaster's Office of Spang Chalfant Corp. Ambridge, Pa. and stated in substance that about midnight on 30 March 1949 he was with HILDEBRAND standing on the left rear of the platform of a Diesel switching engine on the north south spur track in the rail yards of the above corporation, when a shout from conductor HILDEBRAND attracted his attention. He turned around and saw HILDEBRAND pointing up into the sky towards the east, and noticed what appeared to be a group of approximately 20 objects about the size of an office clock in a ragged V formation. The objects appeared to be chalk white, had no glare, were perfectly round like a ball, and appeared to be at an altitude of 15,000 to 20,000 feet. When first sighted, they were about 45° above the horizon, approximately over his home town, which is Wexford, Pa. They were moving from east to west and turned to the south approximately overhead. They got smaller when they turned and abruptly disappeared out of sight. BOLES estimated the time they were in sight to be 45 seconds or less. He estimated the speed to be approximately 1500 miles per hour. The objects gave no sound, there were no unusual noises, they left no trail, such as vapor or smoke and he stated there was no luminosity. The objects had no projections such as fins, wings, rods, antennae, propellers or ducts. The objects, while they were in his sight, appeared to be weaving or fluttering and at times swerved from side to side and several crossed over each other. The objects at all times appeared to be flying above the clouds and had no effect on the clouds, cast no shadows nor did he lose sight of them in the clouds until the time they disappeared completely. BOLES stated that the weather at the time he sighted them consisted of a long narrow break in the over-cast which he estimated to be about 3 miles wide and 4 miles long. There were broken and scattered clouds and he could see the moon and the stars where the break was. The rest of the sky consisted of dark clouds which were solid in some parts. BOLES stated his occupation is a brakeman for the above corporation in the switch yards. His hobbies consist of building airplane models and raising hunting dogs. BOLES stated that in his estimation the objects could not be man-controlled as they were traveling at too terrific a speed, and maneuvered too abruptly. He was positive the objects were not reflections from search lights, reflections from the Jones & Laughlin Steel plant furnaces or any reflection upon the sky. He stated he was positive the objects were some kind of a machine moving through the sky, and that he would swear to it that he actually saw them and that they were not hallucinations on his part. He stated that if his attention had not immediately been called to them by HILDEBRAND he would not have seen them since they were moving across the sky at such a great speed. He did not see the objects when HILDEBRAND claims to have seen them the second time that night.

5. A check of the records of the Spang-Chalfant Corp. revealed that BOLES was given a physical examination 6 April 1948. On the American Optical Sight Screener Test his vision was recorded as 20/20; binocular vision; depth perception perfect; muscle balance perfect, and color perception normal.

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File No. 24-17

AT WEXFORD, PA.

6. The Police Department at Wexford, Pa. was checked relative to BOLES with negative results.

AT LEETSDALE, PA.

7. On 26 April 1949, Mr. CHARLES SRADOMSKI, 146 Broad St. Leetsdale, Pa. was interviewed at his home, and stated in substance that on 31 March 1949, at approximately 0020 hours, while working as scale-man at track eleven, freight yards, Spang Chalfant Corp., which is approximately 2 miles north of Ambridge, Pa. his attention was attracted by a shout from PETER HILDEBRAND, conductor, who pointed up into the sky and said, "There they are again". SRADOMSKI was standing on the ground on the west side of a Diesel locomotive. He looked up to the east over the locomotive and about 45° from the horizon and saw a formation of what appeared to be about 40 round objects, each of which resembled 2 saucers placed together so that the top and bottom of the objects were convex. The objects were estimated to be at approximately 15,000 to 20,000 ft. altitude and at that altitude appeared to be about the size of a wall clock (approximately 18 inches in diameter). They were golden in color and some appeared spotted darkly. All appeared to be internally lighted and there were no external projections or propellers. There were no sounds, odors, vapor trails nor traces of exhaust. The formation consisted of three V formed elements. The first element was estimated to consist of 18 or 20 objects, the second element which followed immediately after the first consisted of approximately 11 or 12 objects and the third element which followed immediately after the second, definitely consisted of 8 objects. The formation was traveling from east to west at what appeared to be tremendous speed, estimated at 1500 mph. It passed directly over the Spang Chalfant Corp. and turned south over the Jones and Laughlin plant which is directly west of Spang Chalfant Corp. across the Ohio river. The blast furnaces at Jones and Laughlin were in operation and cast a reddish glow into the sky. Over that plant the third object from the lead on the left side of the last element seemed to drop out of the formation, bank to one side at approximately a 90° angle as if to observe below. This object then resumed its place inthe formation and the formation abruptly disappeared to the south. SRADOMSKI estimated that the objects were in his sight for 10 seconds or less as they passed through a huge break in some clouds. The stars and moon were visible, and visibility was good through this break in the clouds. SRADOMSKI drew a sketch of the formation immediately after the sighting and left it in the trainmaster's office at Spang Chalfant Corp. The sketch is appended to this report and marked "Exhibit 'A'". The notations in red pencil on the sketch were written by PAUL MARTIN, yardmaster, prior to SRADOMSKI'S using the paper for the sketch and have no bearing on the sketch. It was learned from SRADOMSKI that he operates an Esso Service Station in the rear of his home during his off duty hours. SRADOMSKI stated that he had notified the Ambridge Citizen Newspaper Office of the incident on the morning of 31 March 1949 as he thought people would be interested in reading about it. SRADOMSKI stated that he held a private pilot's license in 1932, having approximately 75 hours in

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a Taylor Cub, but has not flown since that time. He has no hobbies as he is entirely occupied with his job as brakeman, and operating his service station. SRADOMSKI, in conclusion, avowed he would swear on the Bible he saw the objects regardless of what anyone thought.

AT AMBRIDGE, PA.

8. Records of the Spang-Chalfant Corp. Ambridge, Pa. disclosed that SRADOMSKI is 39 years of age, attended 9 years at Leetsdale Grammar School, and is the father of two children. He was rated as 3-A during the War by Draft Board #13, Leetsdale, Pa. and was hired on 1 May 1942 as a laborer. He quit of his own accord on 20 July 1942, and was re-employed as a brakeman on 26 March 1945. A check of the physical examinations charts disclosed that SRADOMSKI on 6 April 1948 was given a physical examination and that on the American Optical Sight-Screener test his vision was recorded as 20/20; binocular vision; depth perception perfect; muscle balance perfect; color perception normal.

AT LEETSDALE, PA.

9. Records of the Leetsdale, Pa. Police Department were checked relative to SRADOMSKI with negative results.

AT AMBRIDGE, PA.

10. On 25 April 1949, Mr. E. L. CRANE, Industrial Relations Supervisor, Spang Chalfant Corp. Ambridge, Pa. was interviewed in his office regarding PETER HILDEBRAND, CHARLES BOLES and CHARLES SRADOMSKI. CRANE stated in substance that he had already rendered an opinion on HILDEBRAND regarding his veracity, character and integrity several weeks ago to the writer and that his opinion had not changed since. At that time CRANE stated that although he never had occasion to have personal contact with HILDEBRAND he could definitely state that from the viewpoint of employer-employee relationship, his work, character and integrity were beyond reproach. HILDEBRAND has been employed in the freight yards for over 12 years and on no occasion has given cause for suspension or reprimand. He is considered a good, solid American citizen, and a typical family man of the community. Physically and mentally, he is in excellent condition, due to the nature of his work, which necessitates coordination and good eyesight as his work in the switchyards is at night. Concerning SRADOMSKI and BOLES, CRANE stated that although he never had occasion to have personal contact with either of them, he would definitely state that both were satisfactory employees whose character and integrity were above reproach. CRANE stated that SRADOMSKI is well liked by his fellow employees, that he was intelligent and that physically and mentally both SRADOMSKI and BOLES were in excellent condition and in his estimation not subject to hallucinations. He did not consider them the type to play practical jokes in view of the seriousness of the incidents.

11. On 25 April 1949, Mr. PAUL MARTIN, Yardmaster, Spang Chalfant, Ambridge, Pa. was interviewed in his office and stated that he has been personally acquainted with HILDEBRAND and SRADOMSKI for years, both as their friend

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and supervisor. His opinion of HILDEBRAND has not change since rendered several weeks ago concerning a similar incident. At that time he stated he is personally acquainted with HILDEBRAND for over 12 years, both as a friend and a supervisor. HILDEBRAND is a car conductor, responsible for the shifting and making up of freight cars, in and out of the Corporation's yards. MARTIN stated that in his estimation, HILDEBRAND is a good, sober citizen whose veracity he would never doubt, and on no occasion has he had cause to mistrust or reprimand him. BOLES is a newcomer in the plant having been there approximately a year. He is well liked and is a good worker, seems intelligent, honest, and is not the type to be a practical joker. MARTIN stated that in his estimation the trio are good, sober citizens whose veracity he would never doubt and on no occasion has he had cause to mistrust, reprimand, or suspend any one of them.

AT MCKEESPORT, PA.

12. On 26 March 1949, Mr. JOHN M. DAVIS, Chief Aircraft Communications, Allegheny County Municipal Airport, McKeesport, Pa. was interviewed concerning radio contacts made with aircraft in flight in the Pittsburgh area on the night of 30 March 1949. Radio contacts are as follows:

2306 hours, 30 March 1949, radio contact with AF 7838 reporting position as over Pittsburgh, at 7,000 feet, destination Bedford, Pa.

2308 hours, same aircraft requested instrument flight plan via green 4 to Harrisburg.

2310 hours, same aircraft received traffic control clearance from Pittsburgh radio as follows: Airways traffic control clears 7838 to Harrisburg to maintain 7000 feet until further advised. Maintain altitude until Altoona, then contact Harrisburg for further clearance beyond Harrisburg. Verify route at Altoona.

2311 hours, same aircraft reported route as green 4, red 33, red 13.

2312 hours airways traffic control cleared same aircraft via green 4, red 33, red 13 to Bedford airport at 7,000 feet, altitude to be maintained to Altoona and Harrisburg. No other flights were recorded until 0800 hours, 31 March 1949.

13. On 26 April 1949, the records of the Weather Bureau, Allegheny County Airport, McKeesport, Pa. were examined and revealed the following existing weather conditions at the times and dates indicated:

2330 hours 30 March 1949 - Measured observation; ceiling 6500 ft overcast; visibility, 3 mi w/smoke; temperature, 59°F; Dew Point, 46; Surface winds, NE @ 12 knots; Altimeter, 29.81.

0030 hours 31 March 1949 - Measured observation; ceiling 6500 ft broken, 12,000 overcast; visibility, 3 mi w/smoke; temperature, 57°F; Dew Point, 45; Surface winds, ENE @ 5 knots; Altimeter 29.81.

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File No. 24-17

AT CORAOPOLIS, PA.

14. On 26 April 1949, a check of the files of the Airways Communication Service, Greater Pittsburgh Airport, Coraopolis, Pa. for the hours of 2330, 30 March 1949 to 0030 31 March 1949 disclosed no recorded information regarding incoming and outgoing flights of military aircraft.

15. On 25 April 1949, the records of the Weather Section, Greater Pittsburgh Airport, Coraopolis, Pa. were examined and revealed the following existing weather conditions at the times and dates indicated:

2330 hours, 30 March 1949 - Special Measured observation; ceiling 6500 ft. overcast; visibility, 3 mi w/smoke; temperature 59°F; Dew Point 46; Surface winds, NNW 12 knots; Altimeter, 29.84.

0030 hours, 31 March 1949 - Measured observation; ceiling 7000 ft. overcast; visibility, 6 mi w/smoke; temperature, 57°F; Dew Point, 54; surface winds, ENE @ 5 knots; Altimeter, 29.83.

AT PITTSBURGH, PA.

16. Files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Pittsburgh, Pa. were checked relative to CHARLES SRADOMSKI, CHARLES BOLES and PETER HILDEBRAND, with negative results.

Inclosure:

FOR DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 5, WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB, DAYTON, OHIO

Exhibit "A"

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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. 5D-24-21P

DATE 27 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY VELTON COMBS mag

REPORT MADE AT DO #5, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio

PERIOD 26, 27 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #5, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio

STATUS PENDING

TITLE

PROJECT "GRUDGE"
Incident, 13 May 1949
Saint Louis, Missouri

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

None. This is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by A. J. HEMSTREET, Jr., Lt. Col., USAF, Acting Chief, Analysis Division, Intelligence Department, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, re the sighting of an unidentified aerial phenomena at St. Louis, Missouri, on 13 May 1949.

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

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Dayton, Ohio
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JOHN E. MORRILL
WOJG USAF
THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Acting DISTRICT COMMANDER

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 3 8 44 AM '49
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AFCSI FORM 23 JULY 48 4

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

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CHARACTER	
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BY [illegible]
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23 JULY 48

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

5D-24-21P
PROJECT "GRUDGE"

DETAILS:

1. This investigation is predicated upon a request from A. J. HEMSTREET, JR., Lt. Col., USAF, Acting Chief, Analysis Division, Intelligence Department, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, on 24 May 1949.

AT WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

2. Lt. Col. HEMSTREET forwarded this office a copy of a letter from Headquarters, 5th Army, addressed to Commanding General, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, in which one ROBERT VAUGHN, 5219 Alabama, St. Louis, Missouri, is reported to have observed an unidentifiable aerial object in the vicinity of St. Louis, Missouri, on 13 May 1949.

3. The referenced letter is as follows:

"HEADQUARTERS FIFTH ARMY
Office of The Commanding General
1660 East Hyde Park Boulevard
Chicago 15, Illinois

ALFGF-I 17 May 1949

SUBJECT: Sighting of Mysterious Object

TO: Commanding General
Hq Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Wright Field, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXS

1. The following item, dated 13 May, was reported to this headquarters by the Regional Office of St. Louis, Missouri:

"Long after the wave of reports of flying saucers, a south St. Louisan said that he had sighted some other mysterious object in the sky last Saturday. Robert Vaughn, 5219 Alabama, St. Louis, said the object appeared to be about the size of a light

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private airplane, but bore no resemblance to a plane and was much faster. 'It was flat, reddish brown in color and I saw a glint in the late sunlight at that height, although the sun had set where we were,' he said. 'The object seemed to have an oscillating motion and was somewhat triangular.'"

2. No further investigation is contemplated by this headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

/s/ Robert P. Bell
ROBERT P. BELL
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2"

INCLOSURE

FOR DO #12, SCOTT AFB

"Guide to Investigation" (in quin)

PENDING

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

5D-24-21P
PROJECT "GRUDGE"

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 12, SCOTT AFB

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Will interview Mr. ROBERT VAUGHN, 5219 Alabama, St. Louis, Missouri, regarding his observation of an unidentified aerial object on 13 May. Will complete the inclosed "Guide to Investigation" and return same to District Office No. 5.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CS1

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 5D 24-21N	DATE 26 May 1949
REPORT MADE BY HARRY FYVIE blk	
REPORT MADE AT DO #5, W/PAFB, Dayton, Ohio	
PERIOD 26 May 1949	
OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #5, W/PAFB, Dayton, Ohio	
STATUS PENDING	

TITLE

PROJECT "GRUDGE"
Incident, Des Moines, Iowa
7 April 1949

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE NONE. This is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by R & R from MCIAXS, Headquarters Air Materiel Command, dated 20 May 1949, to obtain detailed information from witnesses, weather and research agencies concerning the sighting of unidentified aerial phenomena at Des Moines, Iowa on 7 April 1949.

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

DISTRIBUTION

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Hq. OSI(Incls)	2
DO #13 (Incls)	2
File	2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO
Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXS

APPROVED
JOHN E. MORRILL
WOJG USAF
THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Acting DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP
24 | 18 | 122
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 3 8 45 AM '49
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AUG 12 1949

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AFCSI FORM 4
23 JULY 48

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

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

5D 24-21N
PROJECT GRUDGE

DETAILS:

1. Investigation requested by Routing & Record Sheet from MCIAXS, Headquarters Air Materiel Command, dated 20 May 1949, to obtain detailed information from witnesses, weather and research agencies concerning the sighting of unidentified aerial phenomena at Des Moines, Iowa on 7 April 1949.

AT WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

2. Files of this office contain a letter, dated 14 May 1949, from M. L. AHERN, 2900 Rutland Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa in which the writer states that he sighted an unusual and unidentified aircraft at 0415 hours, 7 April 1949.

INCLOSURES

FOR DO #13, OFFUTT AFB AND HEADQUARTERS OSI

1. Guide to Aerial Phenomena Investigation (in dup)

2. Copy, letter from M. L. AHERN (in dup)

P E N D I N G

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

5D 24-21N
PROJECT GRUDGE

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 13, OFFUTT AFB

AT DES MOINES, IOWA

Weather and research agencies will be contacted and witnesses interviewed relative to the sighting of aerial phenomena at Des Moines, Iowa on 7 April 1949. Inclosed guide will be used for reference.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Des Moines, Iowa
May 14, 1949

Technical Intelligence Division
Air Materiel Command Headquarters,
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base,
Dayton, Ohio

Gentlemen:

About 4:15 a.m. Thursday, April 7th. I was awakened by the brightest light I have ever seen.

It was not a ball of fire racing through the sky. It was moving so slow, it appeared to be standing still. The only way that I could tell it was moving was to note the space between it and the roof of my neighbor's house, 25' west of me. It passed west of that roof, going north.

There was a straight line on the back of the thing. It was divided into two apartments. The upper apartment was three times as large as the lower apartment. They were separated by a straight line. The lower apartment was divided into several different apartments, all the same size, all a different color, and all had straight sides. The whole thing was inclosed in something like glass. I did not see any opening nor did I hear any noise.

The upper apartment was a raging fire. The fire seemed to start at the point where I started the arrow, race up to the ceiling, then turn around and around. When the fire hite the ceiling it always turned toward the back and then down.

The moment I saw it I was satisfied it was man made. It was the most heinous looking thing I have ever seen. I don't think it was more than 200 feet from me. Please find enclosed a rough sketch of the thing. This thing did not resemble the "saucers". (I saw three saucers last October about 2:30 P.M. The day was perfect. They were north east, a little east of overhead, the sun was south west. The sun was shining on them. They were going north, not very fast.

At first glance they seemed to be bobing along, but I noticed they seemed to have rhythm. Then I could see that they were fastened together, by a stout crooked axis, about two feet apart. The axis was traveling end ways. They seemed to be rotating, with the axis, at a terrific speed. This speed, plus the position of the saucers on it seemed to bore through space just like an auger. I saw no tail, no wings, no light.)

This thing that I saw, April 7, moved straight, steady and very slow, It had a very thick back made of something like iron.

Yours very truly,

C
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P
Y

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M. L. AHERN
2900 Rutland Ave.

Incl 2,

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INFORMATION COPY
From 5th District OSI
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

5D-OSI/RP/blk

5D 24-21K

27 May 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT "GRUDGE"
Incident, 7 May 1949
Sidney, Ohio
SPECIAL INQUIRY

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

1. Reference is made to Routing & Record Sheet, your office, dated 10 May 1949, requesting investigation be conducted on the "flying saucer" at Sidney, Ohio.

2. Forwarded for your information are two (2) copies of the final report of Special Agent ROSCOE PAGE, of this office, dated 26 May 1949.

3. With the submission of this report, all logical investigative leads have been developed and reported.

THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Acting District Commander

Incl
Rpt of SA ROSCOE PAGE
dtd 26 May 49 (in dup)

Copy to:
Hq. OSI

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

24-185-121

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 3 8 47 AM '49

AUG 2 1949
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

INFORMATION COPY
From 5th District OSI
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 5D 24-21K

DATE 26 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY ROSCOE PAGE emb

REPORT MADE AT DO #5, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio

PERIOD 18 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #5, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio

STATUS CLOSED

TITLE

PROJECT "GRUDGE"
Incident, 7 May 1949
Sidney, Ohio

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

NONE. This is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by Colonel W. R. CLINGERMAN, Chief, Analysis Division, Intelligence Department, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, to investigate a report contained in the 7 May 1949 edition of the Dayton Daily News, Dayton, Ohio, that a "flying saucer" was seen at Sidney, Ohio on 6 May 1949. An unidentified bright silver object was observed traveling through space at a fast rate of speed on 3, 4 and 6 May 1949, by residents of Sidney, Ohio and Maplewood, Ohio.

DISTRIBUTION

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ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXS

APPROVED

JOHN E. MORRILL
WOJG USAF

THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Acting *District Commander.*

FILE STAMP

24-185-121

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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

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5D 24-21K
PROJECT "GRUDGE"

DETAILS:

1. This investigation was predicated upon receipt of a Routing and Record Sheet, dated 10 May 1949, from Colonel W. R. CLINGERMAN, Chief, Analysis Division, Intelligence Department (MCIAXS), Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, requesting an investigation be conducted of the "flying saucer" seen at Sidney, Ohio and reported by a newspaper article in the 7 May 1949 edition of the Dayton Daily News, Dayton, Ohio.

AT DAYTON, OHIO

2. Mr. HERBERT SHAW, Dayton Daily News, Dayton, Ohio, was contacted on 18 May 1949 and he stated that Miss MILDRED CROMLEY of the Sidney Daily News, Sidney, Ohio, had furnished them the information for their newspaper.

AT SIDNEY, OHIO

3. Miss MILDRED CROMLEY, Sidney Daily News, Sidney, Ohio was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and she stated that the only information that she had on the "flying saucer" was published in their paper on 3 May 1949 and 6 May 1949. Photostatic copies of the two newspaper articles attached hereto. CROMLEY stated that Mr. E. E. WIFORD, 106 W. Poplar Street, Sidney, Ohio and Mr. VOREST SPRAGUE, 807 North Ohio Street, Sidney, Ohio saw the "flying disc" on 3 May 1949. Mrs. RUSSELL WICAL, R R #1, Maplewood, Ohio saw a "flying disc" on 4 May 1949 and Mr. ROBERT STUMP, 107 North Ohio Street, Sidney, Ohio saw a "flying disc" on 6 May 1949.

4. Mr. E. E. WIFORD was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and he stated that he had observed an unidentified aerial object at approximately 0900 hours on 3 May 1949, just as he was opening his jewelry store for business. WIFORD stated that he was watching some birds on a high wire that crossed the street in front of his store when the bright shiny silver object appeared high in the sky. The object was shaped like a disc, approximately five inches in diameter and appeared to be traveling at a fast rate of speed. The object appeared at approximately eighty-five degrees overhead and was traveling northeast. WIFORD lost sight of the object when the building obstructed his view. WIFORD stated that the object wavered in flight, climbed and descended slightly and was in sight for approximately two minutes. The weather was clear, no wind was blowing and no planes were in the vicinity at the time the object was in sight. The object didn't make any sound or leave any trail. WIFORD did not take any photographs of object.

5. Mr. VOREST SPRAGUE was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and he stated that he saw the object when WIFORD called his attention to it. SPRAGUE stated that the time was between 0900 and 0915 hours on 3 May 1949. The object was oblong in shape and appeared to be about the size of a softball. The object was in sight for approximately two minutes and was traveling north in a straight line

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

leaving a grayish colored trail behind.

6. Mr. ROBERT A. STUMP, 107 North Ohio Street, Sidney, Ohio was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and he stated that he observed object at approximately 0830 hours on 6 May 1949, in front of Cook's Spot Restaurant, located at the corner of South Ohio and West Court Streets, Sidney, Ohio. The brightness of the object attracted STUMP's attention. STUMP was unable to determine the shape of the object due to its bright reflection, but appeared to be approximately five inches in diameter. The object was about a half mile west and traveling south at a great altitude. The object was in sight approximately two minutes, appeared to be traveling at a fast rate of speed and faded out in the sky. The object traveled in a straight line and was very billiant against a clear, blue sky. The object did not make any sound or leave any trail. STUMP could not see any projections as the object was too bright and too far away. STUMP is the owner of the camera store at the above address but did not take any photographs of the object.

7. Miss LADONNA QUINN, 209 South Ohio Street, Sidney, Ohio was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and she stated that she saw the object when STUMP called her attention to it. The object appeared to be five inches in diameter, one inch in thickness and was probably larger due to the great distance. The object had a flat, circular shape. QUINN stated that she lost sight of the object once but that it reappeared in the same position. The rest of QUINN's statement corresponded to that of STUMP's.

8. Mr. WILBUR HENMAN, Spot Restaurant, Sidney, Ohio stated that he saw the object but couldn't give any description other than that it was a round, bright, shiny object traveling south through space at a fast rate of speed.

AT MAPLEWOOD, OHIO

9. Mrs. RUSSELL WICAL, R R #1, Maplewood, Ohio was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and she stated that at approximately 1830 hours, 4 May 1949, while she was working in the garden of her farm which is approximately three miles northwest of Port Jefferson, Ohio and four and a half miles west of Maplewood, Ohio, she was attracted by the sudden glare of an unidentified object. The object reflected very bright light when the sun hit it and it was whirling and traveling through space at a great rate of speed. The object appeared to be six inches diameter, a bright, silver color and had a flat round or flat oblong shape. Mrs. WICAL sighted the object at a high altitude, traveling northeast. The object appeared to be between her farm and Port Jefferson. The object was in sight for less than two minutes and disappeared by fading out in the sky. The object did not make any sound or leave any trail. The weather was clear, no wind was blowing and no planes were in the vicinity at the time the object was in sight. No photographs were taken of the object.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

5D 24-21K
PROJECT "GRUDGE"

INCLOSURES:

1. Photostatic copy of newspaper article from Sidney Daily News, dated 3 May 1949.
2. Photostatic copy of newspaper article from Sidney Daily News, dated 6 May 1949.

C L O S E D

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

The Sidney Daily News

SIDNEY, OHIO, TUESDAY EVENING, MAY 3, 1949

Sidney Men See 'Flying Disc'

Two Sidney men reported seeing a "flying disc" this morning as they stood in front of Wiford's jewelry store on West Poplar street.

E. E. Wiford first noticed the speeding object as it zoomed northeastward. He called to Vorrest Sprague, Sidney Dairy delivery man, who was nearby and both observed the silvery disc until it disappeared.

Sprague said the object was about the size of a baseball.

It ascended for awhile, then resumed a straight course, according to Wiford who noticed the disc as he was watching the flight of some birds.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

The Sidney Daily News

SIDNEY, OHIO, FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 6, 1949 SINGLE C

More 'Flying Saucers' Sighted

For the first time in its history, the Spot restaurant had saucers with its coffee today.

Flying saucers, that is Just as a number of constant breakfasters entered, they heard the cry, "flying saucers!" Several caught a glimpse of a whirling silver disc as it whizzed south . . .

Mrs. Russell Wical, R. R. 1, Maplewood, joined the list of eyewitnesses to the flying saucers with the report that she spied a "shiny, floating" object at about 6:30 p. m. Wednesday.

"The flying saucer was going in a northeasterly direction," she said, "and disappeared before I could summon members of the family from the house to see it."

Mrs. Wical was working in her garden at her farm home just northwest of Port Jefferson when the object was seen.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.	DATE
24-33	20 May 49

REPORT MADE BY: William T. Heckart, Sr.

REPORT MADE AT: DO#8, Maxwell AFB

PERIOD: 16, 17, 18 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: DO#5, Wright-Patterson AFB

STATUS: RUC

TITLE

PROJECT GRUDGE
Incident, Memphis, Tennessee
7 April 1949

CHARACTER: SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE: Initial Report fr DO#5, Wright-Patterson AFB, file 5D 24-21G, dtd 29 Apr 49.

SYNOPSIS

Interviews were conducted with two persons who said they observed unidentified aerial phenomena between 0001 and 0400 hours on 7 April 1949 at Memphis, Tennessee. One person, who was quoted by a local newspaper as an observer of this phenomena, could not be located for interview. The investigation further revealed that no astronomical irregularities were observed by the Government Weather Bureau, nor were any unusual aerial operations conducted or observed by the Naval Air Station, Millington, Tennessee.

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

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File 2

2 Exhibits:
Newspaper clippings

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APPROVED

PATRICK W. HAYES
Lt. Col., USAF
District Commander.

FILE STAMP

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 3 1 25 PM '49
OFFICE OF
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AUG 12 1949
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16—57744-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.	24-33
DATE	20 May 49
REPORT MADE BY	William T. Eckert, Sr.
REPORT MADE AT	DO#8, Maxwell AFB
PERIOD	16, 17, 18 May 1949
OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DO#5, Wright-Patterson AFB
STATUS	RUC

TITLE

PROJECT GRUDGE
Incident, Memphis, Tennessee
7 April 1949

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Initial Report fr DO#5, Wright-Patterson AFB, file 5D 24-210, dtd 29 Apr 49.

SYNOPSIS

Interviews were conducted with two persons who said they observed unidentified aerial phenomena between 0001 and 0400 hours on 7 April 1949 at Memphis, Tennessee. One person, who was quoted by a local newspaper as an observer of this phenomena, could not be located for interview. The investigation further revealed that no astronomical irregularities were observed by the Government Weather Bureau, nor were any unusual aerial operations conducted or observed by the Naval Air Station, Millington, Tennessee.

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File 1

2 Exhibits:
Newspaper clippings

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W. HAYES
Col., USAF
District Commander.

IN
9 JUN 1949
SECURITY DIV.
OSI

FILE STAMP

AUG 12 1949

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16—57754-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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PROJECT GRUDGE, 24-33

DETAILS:

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE:

1. On 16 May 1949, a review of the files at the Memphis Press-Scimitar and the Memphis Commercial Appeal disclosed articles which were published on 8 April 1949 concerning the appearance of strange aerial objects during the early hours of 7 April 1949. These articles named Mrs. M. L. STEWART, Miss DOROTHY HALL, and Mrs. HELEN HOWELL, as observers of the phenomena. (Exhibits 1 and 2)

2. On 16 May 1949, an interview was conducted with Mrs. M. L. STEWART, 45 East Gage Avenue (formerly of 2009 Union Avenue), Memphis, Tennessee. STEWART is employed as Night Manager at Andy's Grill, 2172 Florida Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee. STEWART stated that she does not drink, and she appears to be conscientious, truthful, and cooperative. Local police check was negative. STEWART supplied the following information:

Date of Observation:	7 April 1949, 0200 to 0400 hours
Place of Observation:	2009 Union Ave., Memphis, Tenn. 35 Deg, 8' N; 89 Deg, 59' W.
Position of Observer:	First viewed through window of ground-floor apartment then from outdoors in back yard.
What Attracted Attention:	Neighbor, Miss DOROTHY HALL.
Number of Objects:	6 to 9, scattered and whirling.
Apparent size:	Appeared to be the size of a gallon jug.
Color of Objects:	Yellowish-White.
Shape of Objects:	Oval
Altitude:	45 degrees above horizon.
Direction from Observer:	First seen at 225 degrees; last seen at 135 degrees.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

PROJECT GRUDGE, 24-33

Distance from Observer:	Estimated at one to two miles.
Direction of Flight:	Erratic; diving, climbing, whirling.
Time in Sight:	0200 to 0400 hours, 7 April 1949.
Velocity:	Five to ten miles per hour.
Sound and Odor:	None noted.
Trail:	None noted.
Luminosity:	Medium brilliance visible by reflection.
Projections:	None noted.
Maneuvers:	Climbing and diving while whirling.
Manner of Disappearance:	Was not observed.
Effect on Clouds:	None noted.
Weather Conditions:	Clear sky, no moon.
Additional Information:	Objects appeared to avoid flight path of three or four airplanes which flew overhead at intervals during the time of observance. Observer was not wearing glasses of any kind.

3. On 18 May 1949, interview was conducted with Miss DOROTHY J. HALL, Graham Apartments, 1042 Madison Avenue (formerly of 2009 Union Avenue), Memphis, Tennessee. HALL is a housewife and registered nurse. She stated that she had nothing to drink on the night in question. She appears to be a highly emotional person. A check of the Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, was made concerning HALL with negative results. HALL supplied the following information:

Date of Observation:	7 April 1949, 0001 to 0400 hours.
Place of Observation:	2009 Union Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee. 35 Deg, 8' N; 89 Deg, 59' W.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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PROJECT GRUDGE, 24-33

Position of Observer:	First viewed through open window and then from outdoors in back yard of apartment house.
What attracted Attention:	Accidental observation.
Number of Objects:	4 to 7, whirling, diving, and climbing.
Apparent Size:	About the size of a gallon jug.
Color of Objects:	Silver.
Shape of Objects:	Oval.
Altitude:	45 degrees above horizon.
Direction from Observer:	First and last seen at 225 degrees.
Distance from Observer:	About two miles.
Direction of Flight:	Clockwise whirling movement, climbing and diving.
Time in Sight:	0001 to 0400 hours, 7 April 1949.
Velocity:	50 to 75 miles per hours.
Sound and Odor:	None noted.
Trail:	None noted.
Luminosity:	Very brilliant, visible by reflection.
Projections:	None Noted.
Maneuvers:	Clockwise turning, climbing and diving.
Manner of Disappearance:	Disappeared suddenly at 0400 hours.
Weather Conditions:	Clear sky; no moon; no rain.
Additional Information:	At approach of aircraft, objects would move out of flight path. Observer viewed objects through eye glasses.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

4. On 16 and 18 May 1949, all attempts to locate Mrs. HELEN HOWELL, 2123 Union Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, met with negative results. The address given is non-existent. Mrs. SUE G. VAN DYKE, 2023 Union Avenue, stated that she has lived in that neighborhood for over forty years, and she did not know HOWELL. Neither STEWART or HALL (paragraphs 2 and 3 above) were acquainted with HOWELL. A review of the city and telephone directories failed to disclose any information concerning HOWELL. On 19 May 1949, Mr. E. L. FERGUSON, Postal Clerk, U. S. Post Office, Memphis, Tennessee, reviewed the official records of his office which failed to disclose HOWELL's present or former address. On 19 May 1949, Mrs. MARY F. RAY, Board of Education, 317 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, reviewed the attendance records which failed to disclose any information concerning CARL HOWELL, son of Mrs. HOWELL.

NOTE:

The neighborhood in which STEWART, HALL, and HOWELL resided is one largely composed of rental property and there is a frequent turn-over of tenants.

5. On 25 May 1949, Mr. ARCHIE M. QUINN, Re-Write Desk, Commercial Appeal Newspaper, Memphis, Tennessee, stated that on 7 April 1949, he received a telephone call from a person who identified herself as Mrs. HELEN HOWELL, 2123 Union Avenue. She said that she had observed balls of light in the sky during the early hours of 7 April 1949. QUINN stated that no reporter had been detailed to interview HOWELL (or HALL and STEWART). He said that the article which appeared in the newspaper on 8 April was written on the basis of information received over the telephone. Mr. MALCOLM ADAMS, City Editor, Commercial Appeal, verified QUINN's statements.

NOTE:

QUINN stated that DOROTHY HALL has called the newspaper on several occasions seeking or offering information on various, unnewsworthy subjects. He considers her to be a minor nuisance. QUINN said that it was entirely possible that HALL had made the telephone call attributed to HOWELL.

6. On 17 May 1949, Mr. CECIL CARNEY, Chief Forecaster, U. S. Department of Commerce Weather Bureau, Memphis, Tennessee, stated that weather balloons were sent aloft at 2100 hours on 6 April 1949 and at 0300 hours on 7 April 1949. He said the balloons contained a two-volt light, that they rose at the rate of 500 feet per minute, and that the light would be visible for 10 or 15 minutes. CARNEY furnished the following weather information for 7 April 1949:

0001: Clear; visibility 15 miles; wind SSW at 15 mph.

0100: Clear; visibility 15 miles; wind WSW at 19 mph.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

PROJECT GRUDGE, 24-33

0200: Clear; visibility 15 miles; wind SW at 12 mph.

0300: Clear; visibility 15 miles; wind SW at 13 mph.

0400: Clear; visibility 12 miles; wind WNW at 12 mph.

0500: Clear; visibility 10 miles; wind W at 8 mph.

CARNEY stated that no unusual astronomical phenomena had been observed or reported by any of his subordinates during the above period.

7. On 17 May 1949, Mr. G. W. RHODES, Senior Aircraft Controller, Civil Aeronautics Administration, Airways Communication Station, Municipal Airport, Memphis, Tennessee, stated that his daily log for 7 April 1949 disclosed no report of aerial phenomena during the hours of 0001 to 0500.

AT MILLINGTON, TENNESSEE:

8. On 18 May 1949, Lt. Comdr. T. S. GAY, USN, 129670, Operations Officer, Naval Air Station, Millington, Tennessee, reviewed the official records of his office which disclosed that no ground radar units were in operation during the hours 0001 and 0400, 7 April 1949. He stated that there were no unusual operations during this period and none had been reported.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

MEMPHIS PRESS-SCIMITAR

Friday, 8 April 1949

Queer Goings-On In Sky: Oblong, Circular Lights

"Oblong circles of light whirling in the skies" attracted the attention of Mrs. M. L. Stewart, 2009 Union, as she was returning home from work about 2 a.m. yesterday.

On arrival she found that Miss Dorothy Hall of the same address, who stays with Mrs. Stewart's children while she is working at Andy's Grill, 2172 Florida, had seen the heavenly phenomenon and waked up Tommy Stewart, 11, to show him. Mr. Stewart joined them and the four sat up until 4 a.m. watching.

Mrs. Stewart says the lights looked as if they were very high and about the size of a gallon jar and whirled constantly as they went straight up and then dived "like they were going up and down hill." She added: "They would vanish, but come back."

She also said that when planes would go by, the lights looked as if they would dodge.

Dr. Robert W. Hartley, professor of astronomy at Southwestern, says that meteors travel in straight lines, not circles, and may appear in the skies at any time. However, "no swarms are due now," he says.

EXHIBIT #1

PROJECT GRUDGE, 24-33

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

MEMPHIS COMMERCIAL APPEAL
Friday, 8 April 1949

'Balls Of Light' Observed Here Are Unexplained

The Weather Bureau was without an explanation yesterday for "strange balls of light" that several Memphians reported they saw in the Western sky early yesterday morning.

Miss Dorothy Hall of 2009 Union, said she saw the oval-shaped objects in the sky about 1:45 a.m., and that they seemed to be moving upward and at an angle. Tommy Stewart, 6, residing at the same address, saw them too.

Mrs. Helen Howell of 2123 Union said she saw "oval circles like Palmer penmanship practice ovals" in the sky about 12:30 a.m., and was corroborated by her 13-year-old son, Carl Howell. They were silvery and moving backward and forward across the heavens, she said.

Cecil Carney, chief forecaster at the Airport Weather Bureau, said the objects could possibly have been small illuminated weather balloons sent up by observers, but that this was improbable as weather balloons here are sent aloft only at 3 p.m. and 9 p.m. He did not think one would have been visible late as midnight, and even if descending its tiny electric light would have been burned out long before that time.

A. L. King, head of the downtown Weather Bureau office, said he knew of no atmospheric conditions Wednesday night that might have produced a phenomenon of this kind.

EXHIBIT # 2

PROJECT GRUDGE, 24-33

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-8

DATE 31 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY LYNN C. ALDRICH

REPORT MADE AT DO # 17, Kirtland AFB

PERIOD 25 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO # 17, Kirtland AFB

STATUS PENDING

TITLE

UNKNOWN
(Aerial Phenomena)

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Report of LYNN C. ALDRICH, 26 April 1949

SYNOPSIS

Mr LES GEERY, Winslow, Arizona, sighted FIREBALL at 0145, 18 April 1949 approximately 27 miles NE of Flagstaff, Arizona, while driving Santa Fe bus on Highway 66. FIREBALL visible from 5 to 10 seconds at approximately 20 to 30 degrees above horizon at 1000 feet above terrain. FIREBALL traveled in straight course in northeasterly direction and was blue green in color. Observer unable to estimate speed, heard no sound and saw no evidence of smoke or exhaust. FIREBALL disappeared behind an obstacle. Mr GEERY has been employed by Continental Bus Systems for 5½ years and has been driving Winslow-Needles night route 4 years. Informant has no criminal record, enjoys a good reputation, is intelligent and of good character.

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DISTRICT No. 17 OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

7 JUN 1949

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DETAILS:

AT WINSLOW, ARIZONA

1. On 25 May 1949, Mr LES E. GEERY, 111 A Street, Driver for the Continental Bus System was interviewed and advised he observed the FIREBALL or meteorite at 0145 on 18 April 1949, approximately 27 miles NE of Flagstaff, Arizona, (approximate location is within the area covered by rectangle on Exhibit A). Informant was driving a Santa Fe bus, with his window closed, and was approaching the summit of Wagon Wheel hill (shown as X on Exhibit A). Interviewee observed a sudden flash of light and saw the FIREBALL from 5 to 10 seconds at approximately 20 to 30 degrees above the horizon. Only one FIREBALL was seen and it appeared to be not over 1000 feet above the terrain traveling a straight course in a northeasterly direction. The FIREBALL was blue green in color and Informant was unable to estimate its size. The speed of the FIREBALL appeared to be slightly slower than that of a falling star. Inasmuch as interviewee was inside the bus he heard no sound; saw no evidence of smoke or exhaust, and did not notice that it affected the clouds in anyway. Informant advised the FIREBALL disappeared behind an obstacle. Mr GEERY advised he has seen many falling meteors, but none were as large and brilliant as the one seen on 18 April 1949. Mr GEERY knew of no other individuals who had seen the FIREBALL.

2. Mr LES GEERY has been employed as a driver for the Continental Bus System approximately 5½ years and has been driving the Winslow, Arizona-Needles, California night route for 4 years. Subject enjoys photography and woodworking as a hobby and spend most of his off duty hours at either hobby. Informant has no difficulty determining color or speed of objects. His attention was drawn to the FIREBALL by its brilliance and closeness. Informant has no criminal record, enjoys a good reputation in the neighborhood, is intelligent and of good character.

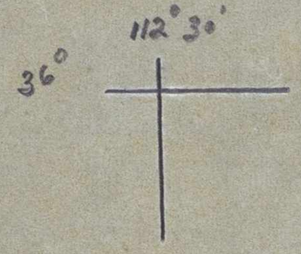
INCLOSURE

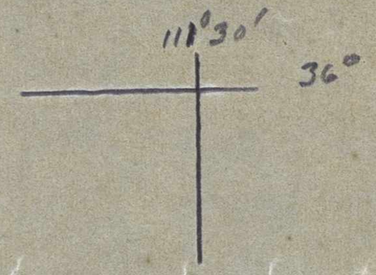
FOR DO#17, KIRTLAND AFB

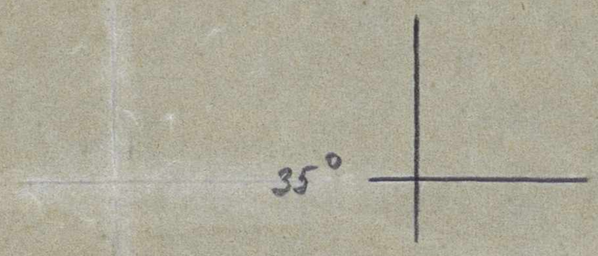
Exhibit A, the Prescott Sectional Aeronautical Chart based on the edition of September 1944, revised July 1948.

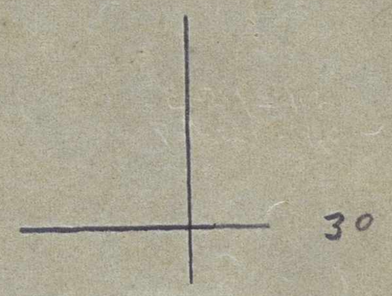
- PENDING -

Declassification Authority: NND 923007









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 31 May 1949
REPORT MADE BY	LYNN C. ALDRICH
REPORT MADE AT	DO # 17, Kirtland AFB
PERIOD	25 May 1949
OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DO # 17, Kirtland AFB
STATUS	PENDING

TITLE

UNKNOWN
(Aerial Phenomena)

24-185-3
24-185-39

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Report of LYNN C. ALDRICH, 26 April 1949

SYNOPSIS

Mr LES GEERY, Winslow, Arizona, sighted FIREBALL at 0145, 18 April 1949 approximately 27 miles NE of Flagstaff, Arizona, while driving Santa Fe bus on Highway 66. FIREBALL visible from 5 to 10 seconds at approximately 20 to 30 degrees above horizon at 1000 feet above terrain. FIREBALL traveled in straight course in northeasterly direction and was blue green in color. Observer unable to estimate speed, heard no sound and saw no evidence of smoke or exhaust. FIREBALL disappeared behind an obstacle. Mr GEERY has been employed by Continental Bus Systems for 5½ years and has been driving Winslow-Needles night route 4 years. Informant has no criminal record, enjoys a good reputation, is intelligent and of good character.

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FILE STAMP

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DISTRICT No. 17 OFFICE OF
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16 FEB 1951

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23 JULY 48

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DETAILS:

AT WINSLOW, ARIZONA

1. On 25 May 1949, Mr LES E. GEERY, 111 A Street, Driver for the Continental Bus System was interviewed and advised he observed the FIREBALL or meteorite at 0145 on 18 April 1949, approximately 27 miles NE of Flagstaff, Arizona, (approximate location is within the area covered by rectangle on Exhibit A). Informant was driving a Santa Fe bus, with his window closed, and was approaching the summit of Wagon Wheel hill (shown as X on Exhibit A). Interviewee observed a sudden flash of light and saw the FIREBALL from 5 to 10 seconds at approximately 20 to 30 degrees above the horizon. Only one FIREBALL was seen and it appeared to be not over 1000 feet above the terrain traveling a straight course in a northeasterly direction. The FIREBALL was blue green in color and Informant was unable to estimate its size. The speed of the FIREBALL appeared to be slightly slower than that of a falling star. Inasmuch as interviewee was inside the bus he heard no sound; saw no evidence of smoke or exhaust, and did not notice that it affected the clouds in anyway. Informant advised the FIREBALL disappeared behind an obstacle. Mr GEERY advised he has seen many falling meteors, but none were as large and brilliant as the one seen on 18 April 1949. Mr GEERY knew of no other individuals who had seen the FIREBALL.

Mr LES GEERY has been employed as a driver for the Continental Bus System approximately 5½ years and has been driving the Winslow, Arizona-Needles, California night route for 4 years. Subject enjoys photography and woodworking as a hobby and spend most of his off duty hours at either hobby. Informant has no difficulty determining color or speed of objects. His attention was drawn to the FIREBALL by its brilliance and closeness. Informant has no criminal record, enjoys a good reputation in the neighborhood, is intelligent and of good character.

ENCLOSURE

FOR DO#17, KIRTLAND AFB

Exhibit A, the Prescott Sectional Aeronautical Chart based on the edition of September 1944, revised July 1948.

- PENDING -

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.	DATE
24-8	19 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY
WOLTON L. DUDLEY

REPORT MADE AT
DO #17, Kirtland AFB

PERIOD
13, 16, 17, 18 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #17, Kirtland AFB

STATUS
PENDING

TITLE
UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S)
(AERIAL PHENOMENON)

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

On 9 May 1949 M/Sgt TROY L. PUTNAM, AF-18040876, 43rd Air Refueling Sq, 43rd Bomb Wg, Davis-Monthan AFB sighted two objects in the air at approximate altitude of 10,000 feet. Objects were round and flat with diameter approximately 25 feet. Objects traveled at an excessive rate of speed (750 to 1000 miles per hr.). Investigation in and around Tucson did not result in finding witnesses or possible explanation of objects.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY
BY KURT R. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
3 DEC 1975
DATE 3 DEC 1975

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JUN 29 01 AM '49
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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

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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

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CHARACTER

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

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SECURITY DIV. OSI
JUN 1949
AIR INTELLIGENCE

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DETAILS

1. Date of sighting - 9 May 1949.

2. Time of sighting - Approximately 1430 hours.

3. Where sighted:

   a. Ground

      (1) Tucson, Arizona
      (2) Approximately 3 miles from center of town
      (3) From front yard
      (4) Not applicable

4. Number of objects - Two objects maintaining distance of approximately 50 feet apart at all times during period of sighting.

5. Distance of objects from observer

   a. Directly overhead

   b. From directly overhead to approximately 60 degrees

   c. Approximately 10,000 feet.

6. Time in sight - Between six and ten seconds.

7. Appearance of object

   a. Silvery

   b. Round and flat

   c. Opaque

   d. Size

      (1) Approximately 25 feet in diameter
      (2) Similiar to wash tub

8. Direction of flight - Originally sighted coming from SW traveling NE

9. Tactics or maneuvers - Objects maintained approximately same altitude without variance, banked once to the north with abrupt left bank, traveled a mile in this direction, then banked abriptly to NE. They did not appear to be oscillating or fluttering.

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10. Evidence of exhaust - Absolutely no exhaust discernible.

11. Effect on clouds - Object did not come in contact with any clouds during sighting.

12. Lights - Object gave off reflected light especially in the process of banking.

13. Support - There was no visible support.

14. Propulsion - There was no visible means of propulsion.

15. Control and stability - No fins or stabilizers were apparent.

16. Air Ducts - No ducts or slots or openings were discernible.

17. Speed - Object traveled at a speed approximately 750 to 1000 miles per hour.

18. Sound - No sound heard.

19. Manner of disappearance - Objects faded from view.

RELATIVE TO THE OBSERVER

1. Name of observer - Troy L. Putman

2. Address - 939 Benton Blvd, Tucson, Arizona

3. Occupation - M/Sgt, USAF

4. Place of business - 43rd Air Refueling Sq, 43rd Bomb Gp, 43rd Bomb Wg, Davis-Monthan AFB.

5. Hobbies - Aircraft mechanic

6. Ability to determine color, speed and size of moving objects at a distance - Observer is able to determine color and based on his history is believed to be a fair judge of speed of moving objects and their size at a distance.

7. Reliability of observer

a. Sources

(1) A neighborhood check was accomplished in the vicinity of observer's home, but due to isolated location of his home, no neighbors were found who knew Putman. A thorough check was made.

(2) Name files of Police Department and Pima County Sheriff's Office, Tucson, Arizona revealed no record of observer.

(3) Local FBI revealed no record of Putman.

(4) The following persons were contacted at Observer's parent organization: Major DONALD F. FOSTER, Executive Officer, who stated that he has had contact with observer and has flown with observer on many occasions since observer's assignment to his unit, he has always found observer to be

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reliable. 1st Sgt M. J. WALLENIUS, has had contact with observer since assignment to his unit and has always found him to be truthful and reliable. Lt HAROLD BLACKBURN was in the same unit with observer at Spokane, Washington. Lt. BLACKBURN is now moving into a duplex apartment next to observer. He has been assigned to the same flight crew with observer for the last three months and would trust him implicitly. He is inclined to believe the statements made by the observer due to his knowledge of the observer's character and veracity.

8. Notes relative to observer on

a. Sightings in general - Observer has never sighted any other objects similar to the above described.

b. How attention was drawn to objects - Due to the fact observer was laying on his back on his front lawn and was looking directly overhead when he saw them pass.

9. Witnesses - There were no other witnesses to the occurrence.

10. Comments - The observer, upon interview, appeared to be of good character, normal intelligence and with a fairly rounded education.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Weather conditions -

a. Ceiling unlimited
b. Sky clear
c. Visibility 50 miles
d. Sea Level Pressure - 77B-1008.5 milibars
e. Temperature 91° F.
f. Dew point - 17° F.
g. Wind - SSW from 10 knots or 12 miles per hour
h. Altimeter - 990
i. Gusts of wind to 22 knots
j. Wet Bulb - 56° F
k. Relative humidity - 6%
l. Station pressure 27.190 inches

2. Winds aloft report

8,000', 230 degrees, 20 knots
10,000', 200 degrees, 15 knots
12,000', 220 degrees, 20 knots

3. Local flight schedules

a. Military - C-47 departing for Phoenix at 1412 hours
T-16 departing for Phoenix at 1447 hours
C-47 departing for Hill Field at 1453 hours

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

C-47 departing for Kelly AFB at 1503 hours
B-25 departing for Ft Worth at 1443 hours

b. Commercial - American Airlines flight to Phoenix & San Francisco 1435 hrs
flight to Phoenix & Los Angeles 1630 hrs
The 1435 flight was airborne at 1420 hours.

c. Private - No record of any aircraft in air at or about 1430 hours on 9 May 1949 in a check with Gilpin Air Service, Airzona Helicopter Service and Tucson Air Park.

4. A check with the weather bureau, Municipal Airport #2, Tucson, Arizona, discloses that weather baloons were released at 0200 hours, 0800 hours, 1400 hours, 1800 hours on May 9, 1949. A check with Base Weather, Davis-Monthan AFB disclosed that weather baloons were also released at 0200 hours, 0800 hours, 1400 hours and 2000 hours, 9 May 1949. A thorough check of all agencies in this vicinity did not disclose any other testing devices released.

5. Object did not contact earth.

6. Objects did not come near aircraft or other objects.

7. A sketch of terrain and surroundin, sight point of unidentified object is attached hereto as exhibit "A".

8. A signed statement of M/Sgt Troy L. Putman attached hereto as exhibit "B"

9. No physical evidence available.

10. No antenna or projections discernible.

INCLOSURES:

FOR EACH COPY OF REPORT

1. Exhibit "A", Sketch of Flight of objects.

2. Exhibit "B", Statement of Putman.

- PENDING -

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

18 May 1949

STATEMENT

On 9 May 1949 at approximately 1430 hours, while reclining on the front lawn of my residence at 939 Benton Blvd, Tucson, Arizona, I had occasion to notice two objects in the air overhead, these objects came into view from a southwesterly direction traveling northeast. When approximately directly overhead, the objects banked to the left and went in an approximately in a northwesterly direction, continuing in this direction for approximately one mile and then banking abruptly to the right and headed northeast towards the Catalina mountains. They continued in this northeast direction, gradually fading from view until they finally disappeared from my sight.

The size of these objects, to my estimation, was approximately 25 feet in diameter with a thickness of approximately one foot and their size in relation to a known object as they appeared to me in the air was approximately the size of a wash tub. I would place their altitude at approximately 10,000 feet. There was no discernible variation in this altitude during the time they remained in my sight. The distance between these two objects which did not vary considerably was approximately 50 feet. When I first saw them, they were directly overhead and appeared perfectly round. When they banked to the left and then to the right I was able to see both sides of them.

There was no apparent means of motivation, no vapor trail, exhaust and absolutely no sound. The surface appeared to be smooth and symetrical. They did not appear to vary in thickness toward the center from the outer edge. The color appeared silvery and very shiney when reflecting the sun. This particular day was a very clear sunshine day. The objects seemed to be traveling between 750 and 1,000 miles an hour.

I have been associated with aircraft the major portion of my life, having spent the last eight years in actual duties connected with aircraft and presently as a flight engineer on flying status. I have observed all conventional types of aircraft and jet fighter aircraft in the sky and this object seemed to be considerably faster than I have ever seen any aircraft travel. My home is located in the residential section of Tucson in the NE portion of that city. Approximate distance from my home to the Catalina Mountains in a northeast direction is six miles. From the direction I first sighted the objects come from, they would have come over a more densely populated portion of the city of Tucson, but not necessarily over the business center. Upon initially sighting these objects in the air, I called to my wife to come out of the house, but she did not get outuntil they disappeared. The whole occurrance from the time I initially sighted the objects until I lost sight of them was between 6 and 10 seconds.

J.F.P.

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To my cognizance, none of the neighbors in the vicinity of my house sighted the objects. However, I have made no inquiry of the neighbors. I did tell my nearby neighbor who were not home at the time, about this occurance.

I reported this to my Squadron Security Officer on Tuesday, 10 May 1949. I have read various comments and articles concerning objects of this nature but never put much stock in the information.

These objects appeared opaque in nature. I can think of no possible explanation as to what these objects were nor what kept them in the air or how they could travel at such an excessive rate of speed. I was fully awake when I saw them and can vision them perfectly in my mind at this time.

Troy L. Putman

TROY L. PUTMAN
AF-18040876
43rd Air Refueling Sq
43rd Bomb Gp, 43rd Bomb Wg.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-8 | DATE 23 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY JOSE Q. RODRIGUEZ

REPORT MADE AT DO # 17, Kirtland AFB

PERIOD 17 - 20 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO # 17, Kirtland AFB

STATUS PENDING

TITLE

UNKNOWN
(Aerial Phenomena)

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE Report of EDWIN L. DOOLEY, DO 17, 19 May 1949

SYNOPSIS

On 16 May 1949, at approximately 1700 hours, Pfc WALTER A. SHARPNACK, AF-19305815, 43rd Motor Vehicle Sq, 43rd Bomb Wg, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona, sighted one object in the air at approximate altitude of 5,000 feet. Object was round, solid, black, flat, and with a diameter of approximately three to four feet. Object traveled at great rate of speed (800 to 1000 miles per hour). Investigation at Davis-Monthan AFB and Tucson, Arizona, disclosed no other witnesses or possible explanation of object.

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KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
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REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

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CHARACTER

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

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3 JUN 1949
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AFHQ FORM 0-208
15 JAN 49

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DETAILS

1. Date of sighting - 16 May 1949

2. Time of sighting - Approximately 1700 hours

3. Where sighted:

   a. Ground

      (1) Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona

      (2) Approximately 8 miles from the center of the city of Tucson.

      (3) From a west window of Building #1531 at Davis-Monthan AFB

      (4) Not applicable

4. Number of objects - One

5. Distance of object from observer:

   a. Directly overhead

   b. From directly overhead to approximately 60 degrees

   c. 5000 feet.

6. Time in sight - Approximately from 8 to 10 seconds

7. Appearance of object

   a. Black

   b. Round and flat

   c. Solid

   d. Size

      (1) Approximately 3 to 4 feet in diameter

      (2) Similar to wash tub.

8. Direction of flight - Originally sighted coming from an easterly direction and traveling west.

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9. Tactics or maneuvers -

a. Object maintained approximately the same altitude during the entire period of sighting and it appeared to be fluttering as it disappeared from view. Object also seemed to be traveling in a pre-determined direction.

10. Evidence of exhaust - Absolutely no exhaust in sight.

11. Effect on clouds - Object did not come in contact with clouds during sighting.

12. Lights - Absolutely no reflection or lights in sight.

13. Support - No visible support.

14. Propulsion - No visible propulsion.

15. Control and Stability - No fins or stabilizers were apparent.

16. Air Ducts - No ducts or slots or openings were visible.

17. Speed - Object traveled at speed approximately 800 to 1000 miles per hour.

18. Sound - No sound heard.

19. Manner of disappearance - Object disappeared from view behind an aircraft hangar (Bldg #1540) which is located about three blocks directly west of building #1531 (quarters of observer).

RELATIVE TO OBSERVER

1. Name - Pfc WALTER A. SHARPNACK, AF-19305815, USAF

2. Address - 43rd Motor Vehicle Sq, 43rd Bomb Wing, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona. Quarters at Bldg #1531 at Davis-Monthan AFB.

3. Occupation - Automobile mechanic.

4. Place of business - Preventive Line Maintenance Shop, Davis-Monthan AFB.

5. Hobbies - SHARPNACK is very interested in subjects pertaining to mechanics.

6. Ability to determine - Observer is able to determine colors and based on his background is believed to be a very good judge of speed or moving objects and their size at different distances.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

7. Reliability of observer

a. Sources

(1) Neighbors - A residence and unit check was conducted in the vicinity of observer's residence and the following persons were interviewed: T/Sgt LLOYD R. STOCK, AF-39525010; M/Sgt JOHN T. SIZEMORE, AF-18043770; T/Sgt DWIGHT A. RUBLE, AF-6888513; Pfc GEORGE E. VETTER, AF-12301765 and Pfc LOUIS LUPICA, AF-12265230, 43rd Motor Vehicle Sq, 43rd Bomb Wg, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona, and all stated substantially the same. Observer has been stationed at Davis-Monthan AFB for approximately one month during which time he has been on duty as an automobile mechanic at the Preventive Line Maintenance Shop. Observer was described as very alert worker, honest, above average in intelligence, sincere, a reliable worker, quiet, an airman who is very interested in becoming a mechanic, and a reliable airman. None of the above listed persons know anything derogatory regarding SHARPNACK and they all believe that SHARPNACK was sincere when he made statements about seeing the unusual aerial object. VETTER said that he was in the barracks (Bldg. #1531) when SHARPNACK said he had seen a flying saucer, but that he was about half asleep at the time and too lazy to get up and see for himself. LUPICA said SHARPNACK is very honest and sincere about all statements he makes and that SHARPNACK is not the type of person who imagines things. SHARPNACK is a person who has a very good conception of what he sees and hears. LUPICA said he was also in the barracks the day SHARPNACK saw the aerial object and that he arrived at the window too late to see the object.

(2) Name files of the Pima County Sheriff's Office, and the Police Department, Tucson, Arizona, revealed no record of observer.

(3) Records of the FBI Office, Tucson, Arizona are maintained at Phoenix, Arizona.

(4) A check of observer's Service Record and 201 file at Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona revealed no derogatory information. SHARPNACK'S date of birth is listed as 29 April 1931 at Chicago, Illinois, and his permanent address is shown as 4318 North Figueroa St, Los Angeles, California. Observer's character and efficiency ratings are listed as "Excellent" and SHARPNACK has no time lost under AW 107 or any record of trials by Court Martial. SHARPNACK completed the 11th grade at a high school in Los Angeles, California and is a graduate of the USAF Technical Training School for Automobile Equipment Technicians. SHARPNACK'S score on his Army General Classification Test is shown as Class II - 119.

8. Notes relative to observer -

a. Observer has never seen any other objects similar to the one described above.

b. Observer was laying on back on his bed at his barracks looking directly out of a west window when he saw the object pass.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

9. Witnesses - No other witnesses

10. During the interview, observer appeared to be of good character, average intelligence, a fairly good education, and was very sincere and honest about statements made.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions;
   Ceiling - 8000 feet
   Sky - Overcast
   Visability - 50 miles
   Sea level pressure - 1003.1 milibars
   Temperature - 76 degrees F
   Dew point - 37 degrees F
   Winds - WSW 10 knots
   Altimeter - 972
   Station pressure - 27.015 inches
   Wet Bulb - 54.9
   Relative Humidity - 23 per cent
   Strato Cumulus - 10/10

2. Winds aloft report - Between 1500 and 1900, 16 May 1949

Altitude	Velocity in Knots	Degrees
2,000 ft	10	230
4,000 ft	15	220
6,000 ft	10	210
8,000 ft	10	210

3. Local Flight Schedules

   a. Commercial - American Airlines flight departing for Phoenix, Arizona and Los Angeles, California at 1650 hours.

   b. Military - C-47 departed Davis-Monthan AFB for Las Vegas, Nev at 1632 hrs
   C-45 departed Davis-Monthan AFB for Alamogordo, NM at 1653 hrs

   c. Private - A check with Gilpin Air Service, Tucson Air Park and Arizona Helicopter Service revealed no record of any aircraft in the air at or about 1700 hours on 16 May 1949 at or near Tucson, Arizona.

4. A check with the Weather Bureau, Municipal Airport #2, Tucson, Arizona, disclosed that weather balloons were released at 0200 hours, 0800 hours, 1400 hours, and 1800 hours on 16 May 1949. A check with the Base Weater Station, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona revealed that weather balloons were released at 0200 hours, 0800 hours, 1400 hours, and 2000 hours on 16 May 1949. A thorough check of all agencies in this vicinity did not disclose any other testing devices released on 16 May 1949.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

5. Object did not contact earth.

6. Object did not come near aircraft or other objects.

7. A sketch of terrain and surrounding sight point of unidentified object is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".

8. A signed statement of SHARPNACK attached hereto as exhibit "B".

9. No physical evidence available.

10. No antenna or projections visible.

Inclosures

FOR EACH COPY OF REPORT:

1. Exhibit "A", Sketch of Flight of object.

2. Exhibit "B", Statement of Pfc WALTER A. SHARPNACK.

- PENDING -

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TORTOLLITA MTS.

N

ORACLE JCT.

SANTA CATALINA MTS.

SUMMERHAVEN

SOLDIERS CAMP

CABINS AND RECREATION AREA

ARANA

S.P.R.R.

UTE 84

ILVER

RILLITO

RIVER

BELL

CORTARO

ROAD

CITRUS GROVES

INA RD.

U.S. 80

SABINO CANYON DAM AND RECREATIONAL AREA

SABINO CANYON RD.

PICTURE ROCKS

TUCSON

OUNTAIN

MTS.

PARK

ANKLAM ROAD

OLD TUCSON

TY PREVENTORIUM

GILPIN AIRLINES

CAMINO REAL

CONTAIOC RD.

BEAR CANYON RD.

CATALINA

FT. LOWELL RD.

RUIN

GRANT RD.

SPEEDWAY

BROADWAY

TANQUE VERDE RD.

CITY OF TUCSON

El. 2400

"A" MT.

ARMY AIRBASE

WILMOT ROAD

HOUGHTON RD.

SAGUARO N.M.

HDQRS.

TANQUE

RODEO GROUND

MISSION RD.

CRUZ

MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

S.P.R.R.

US 80

WASH

VAIL

ON-AJO

SAN XAVIER MISSION

SAHUARITA

MOUNTAIN VIEW

■ = Davis-Monthan AFB

■ = Path of Flight

EXHIBIT "A"

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CONFIDENTIAL

S T A T E M E N T

Davis-Monthan AFB
Tucson, Arizona
23 May 1949

On 16 May 1949, at approximately 1700 hours, I was at my barracks, Bldg #1531; Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona. I was lying on a bed looking West through one of the windows on the West side of the building, when I noticed a solid, round, flat black object in the sky which attracted my attention. The object was about the size of a wash tub, and it appeared to be about three to four feet in diameter. The object flew directly over Davis-Monthan AFB and it appeared to be traveling directly from East to West, almost directly in the direction of the sunset. Being that it was a cloudy afternoon, I can say that the object that I just described was flying about half way between the ground and the ceiling of the clouds, that is about 5,000 feet above the surface of the earth. This object was traveling at a speed which I estimate to be about from 800 to 1,000 M.P.H.

I looked at the object for approximately eight to ten seconds before it disappeared from my view behind an aircraft hangar building which is located about three blocks directly west of my barracks. This hangar is building # 1540.

The object maintained approximately the same altitude during the entire period of sighting and it appeared to be fluttering as it disappeared from my view. This object also seemed to be traveling in a pre-determined direction. There was absolutely no exhaust in sight or surrounding the object and I never heard any sounds during the time the object was in my sight. This object never came in contact with the clouds which were in the area at the time, and I never noticed any reflection or lights on the object. There were no attachments to the object but it appeared to know where it was going during the entire time it was in my sight.

When I first saw the object, I called it to the attention of some of the men in the barracks but none of them arrived at the window in time to see the object.

It is my belief that the object which I saw on 16 May 1949, is one of the objects which are commonly referred to as "flying discs".

At the present I am an automobile mechanic (MOS 914), and I work at the Preventive Line Maintenance Shop at Davis-Monthan AFB. I have been interested in any objects pertaining to mechanics for the last three years. I never have seen anything similar to the object which I described above. I am not color-blind, and I have always been able to distinguish one object from another.

WITNESSES:

Jose A. Rodriguez
JOSE A. RODRIGUEZ
Special Agent, OSI, USAF

Edwin L. Dooley
EDWIN L. DOOLEY
Special Agent, OSI, USAF

Walter A. Sharpnack
WALTER A. SHARPNACK
Pfc, AF-19305815
43rd Motor Vehicle Sq
43rd Bomb Wing

EXHIBIT "B"

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

C51

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-9

DATE 24 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY JOHN T. REILLY

REPORT MADE AT DO #20, MacDord AFB

PERIOD 19, 20, 25 April 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #20, MacDord AFB

STATUS CLOSED

TITLE

AERIAL PHENOMENON
Flying Objects over Bend, Ore.

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

None, this is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation initiated by Acting District Commander after reviewing a newspaper article in the 26 March 1949 edition of the Oregonian (a Portland, Ore., daily newspaper). Article, republished from the 25 March 1949 edition of the Bend Bulletin, Bend, Ore., set forth information pertaining to two "flying saucers" sighted over Bend on 24 March 1949. (See Exhibit #1) On 20 April 1949, Mr. VERNON LAVERETT, Mr. H. D. IRWIN, Mrs. MARION A. IRWIN, Mr. JOHN ARLNER, Mr. BERT WHITE, and Mr. ED ANTHUSER, all of Bend, were interviewed in regard to objects they had seen in the air over the city on 24 March 1949. All statements were vague in regard to size and shape. Objects were not motivated by any apparent force, and their courses were independent of each other. They followed a general North to South direction and altitude was estimated at 10,000 feet. It took half an hour for objects to cover an arc of 90°. All parties advised that objects were probably pieces of paper or some such article raised aloft by wind. Geographical coordinates were 44° 3' 33" North latitude and 121° 18' 10" West longitude. There was no flying activity at the Bend Municipal Airport on 24 March 1949. Mr. HENRY H. FOWLER, associate editor of the Bend Bulletin, charged the reporter responsible for item's publication with resorting to "sensationalism". The weather was clear according to Weather Sequence Reports of the U.S. Airways Commission, Redmond, Ore. Mr. H. S. GRAHAM, staff forecaster for the U.S. Weather Bureau, Portland, Ore., advised that Winds Aloft Chart for the time and date objects were sighted indicated a wind of ten miles per hour from the North Northeast between altitudes of 7 and 12 thousand feet above sea level.

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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 8 DEC 1975

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SECURITY DIV.
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HQ. USAF

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File #24-9

DETAILS:

1. Investigation initiated by Acting District Commander after reviewing a newspaper article in the 26 March 1949 edition of the Oregonian (a Portland, Oregon, daily newspaper). Article, republished from the 25 March 1949 edition of the Bend Bulletin, Bend, Oregon, set forth information pertaining to two "flying saucers" sighted over Bend on 24 March 1949. (See Exhibit #1)

AT BEND, OREGON

2. Mr. VERNON LEVERETT and Mr. M. D. INNIS, both employed as barbers in Harmon's Beauty Shop, 137 Oregon Avenue, Bend, Oregon, were interviewed at their place of employment and stated in substance as follows: The objects were first sighted at 1105 hours on 24 March 1949 through the barber shop window. At the time of sighting, LEVERETT remarked to INNIS: "Let's step outside and see how many people we can get to look up". The weather was clear with good visibility. The objects were two in number, of no specific shape, but were more square than round. The first object (hereinafter referred to as Object #1) appeared to be similar to bright metal on one side and of a slightly duller color on the other. The second object (hereinafter referred to as Object #2) appeared to be of a light tan color on both sides. Neither object showed any sign of speed, and they seemed to be drifting in a Southwesterly direction with Object #1 showing a greater drift toward the West. The objects were considerably smaller than a dime held at arm's length, and both men believed them to be the size of a large commercial cigarette carton in the air. Object #1 appeared to be flipping, or turning, over constantly, but Object #2 seemed to float lazily in the air. There was no sound nor exhaust trail associated with either object, and they were guessed to be about 10,000 feet above the terrain. Both objects were sighted at approximately the same time at a position 30° above the horizon at what would be a position of one o'clock clockwise from North from the observers' positions. The objects drifted to a 90° position above the horizon, or a straight overhead position, and continued past the vertical, receding toward the southern horizon. LEVERETT and INNIS lost interest at this point and did not see the objects disappear. It had taken over thirty minutes for the objects to traverse 90° of arc in regard to the horizon. Mr. LEVERETT stated that he had done no flying until after the war. He further stated that the local paper expanded to some extent on the objects sighted. Mr. LEVERETT and Mr. INNIS do not believe that the objects were any of the so-called "flying saucers", but believed them to be sheets of roofing paper or some such article raised aloft by the wind. Both stated that it is not uncommon at this season of the year for "dust devils" to develop in the open country surrounding the town and raise pieces of debris to

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great heights. The geographical coordinates of the observers' positions are as follows: 44° 3' 33" North latitude and 121° 18' 10" West longitude.

3. Mrs. MARION A. INNES, 1615 Awbrey Road, Bend, Oregon, manager of the Merchants Credit Bureau, located in the O'Donnel Bldg., 921 Wall Street, Bend, Oregon, was interviewed at her office and stated in substance as follows: She first sighted Object #1 at approximately 1130 hours on 24 March 1949 while walking in the 100 block of Oregon Avenue. The object was described as being white in color, of no regular shape, but not longer than wide. The size of the object was considerably smaller than a dime held at arm's length. There was no visible indication of speed, but the object seemed to be drifting lazily on a South Southwest heading. The object appeared to be revolving, or turning over, with no audible sound nor visible exhaust trail. Mrs. INNES had no idea of the height of the object above terrain. Object #1 was first sighted 45° above the horizon, and from the observer's position, it appeared to be at ten o'clock clockwise from North. Mrs. INNES had business at a local bank, and upon her return outdoors after a lapse of approximately ten minutes, she sighted Object #2 directly overhead. This object remained in view during her return to her office on the second floor of the O'Donnel Building, at which time she proceeded to the porch on the rear of the building and again sighted Object #2. She watched the object until her view was cut off by trees. Position of the object at this time was 60° above the horizon at eight o'clock clockwise from North. Object #2 was described as being the same as Object #1 with the exception of the maneuverability, which was said to be a slight fluttering and not the revolving action associated with Object #1. Mrs. INNES stated that she does not believe these objects were paper as the sun reflected from their surfaces as they fluttered or revolved. She does not believe that their rotation, or movement, was motivated by any force. Mrs. INNES did not see both objects at the same time. The geographical coordinates in regard to her position at the time of sighting were 44° 3' 33" North latitude and 121° 18' 10" West longitude.

4. Mr. JOHN ARCHER, 1235 Hartford Avenue, Bend, Oregon, was interviewed at his place of employment, the S&M Men's Shop, 945 Wall Street, Bend, Oregon, and stated in substance as follows: His attention was directed to the object by Mrs. INNES, who called to him from the rear of the O'Donnel Building while he was on the loading platform in the rear of the Shop. The time was approximately 1135 hours, the weather was clear with patches of cirrus clouds at great heights. The only object sighted (believed to be Object #2) was of no definite shape, but of a size comparable to an object one quarter inch in diameter held

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File #24-9

at arm's length. It appeared to be light cream in color, becoming brighter or darker as its movement caused reflection of light from the sun. Its movement was very slow, heading in a Southwesterly direction with a slight fluttering action. It maintained a steady altitude estimated at 10,000 feet above the terrain. There was no audible sound nor visible exhaust trail. It was first viewed at a position of eleven o'clock clockwise from North, and stayed in view until the eight o'clock position was reached, at which time his view of the object was cut off by some tall trees in the immediate vicinity. The object maintained a steady height of approximately 70° above the horizon. The geographical coordinates in regard to his position at the time of sighting are 44° 3' 33" North latitude and 121° 18' 10" West longitude.

5. Mr. BERT WHITE and Mr. ED LEITHEISER, owners of the Sanitary Barber Shop, 107 Oregon Avenue, Bend, Oregon, were interviewed at their place of business and stated in substance as follows: At 1115 hours on 24 March 1949 their attention was attracted to the street outside their shop by several people looking up into the sky. They stepped outside and also looked up and noticed an object which appeared to them to be tinfoil as it was only visible to them when it reflected light from the sun. The object did not appear to be motivated by any visible force, but seemed to be drifting with the air currents. Only one object was sighted, and it was passed off as a piece of paper borne aloft by the wind and air currents. No particular attention was given to the size or shape of the object because no importance was attached to it.

6. Mr. HENRY H. FOWLER, co-owner and associate editor of the Bend Bulletin, Bend, Oregon, was interviewed and advised that he was greatly incensed at the appearance of the article regarding the "flying saucers". It was learned that the writer of the article, one GLENN KILLEBREW, was a young reporter just out of school. Mr. KILLEBREW did not see the objects, but learned of them from bystanders who had seen them. According to Mr. FOWLER, when KILLEBREW showed extreme interest in the objects, the bystanders expanded on the movements of the objects, and their story was further expanded upon by KILLEBREW. Mr. FOWLER stated that he sharply criticized KILLEBREW for resorting to "sensationalism" with the end result that KILLEBREW is no longer in their employ. KILLEBREW is now working for the Ontario Argus, a weekly newspaper published in Ontario, Oregon.

7. Mr. A. J. TILSE, co-owner of the Tilse-Bowman Air Service, Bend Municipal Airport, Bend, Oregon, was contacted and advised that none of the planes based at the Bend Municipal Airport were in the air on 24 March 1949.

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File #24-9

8. Other people, who viewed the objects, were contacted. As they had passed the objects off as pieces of paper, they did not feel qualified to render any account of them.

9. Efforts to locate anyone on the outer edges of Bend, Ore., or in surrounding towns who might have sighted the objects failed.

AT REDMOND, OREGON

10. There is no weather reporting station in Bend, Oregon. However, the Hourly Sequence Reports for 1100, 1200, and 1300 hours for 24 March 1949 from the U.S. Airways Commission, Redmond Municipal Airport, Redmond, Oregon, are as follows:

1100 Hours: Sky Coverage - less than 1/10, Visibility - 80 miles, Barometric Pressure - 1018.0 millibars, Temperature - 46°F, Dew Point - 26°F, Wind from the West at 8 miles per hour, Sea level barometric pressure - 30.02 inches.

1200 Hours: Sky Coverage - less than 1/10, Visibility - 80 miles, Barometric Pressure - 1017.3 millibars, Temperature - 48°F, Dew Point - 27°F, Wind from the West at 3 miles per hour, Sea level barometric pressure - 30.00 inches.

1300 Hours: Sky Coverage - less than 1/10, Visibility - 80 miles, Barometric Pressure - 1016.9 millibars, Temperature - 51°F, Dew Point - 30°F, Wind from the West Northwest at 6 miles per hour, Sea level barometric pressure - 29.98 inches. The six hour observation, taken at 1300 hours, indicated the barometric trend to be downward, low clouds were strata cumulous not formed from cumulous clouds, no middle clouds, and filaments or strands of cirrus clouds scattered in isolated masses. These were surface observations, there being no facilities for other reports from this station.

AT PORTLAND, OREGON

11. On 25 April 1949, Mr. H. E. GRAHAM, staff forecaster and assistant meteorologist, U.S. Weather Bureau, Customs House, 220 SW 8th Street, Portland, Oregon, was contacted in his office in regards to the Upper Air Charts for the period covering 0700 to 1900 hours (PST) on 24 March 1949. The 700 millibar, or 10,000 feet from sea level charts were consulted, and with Mr. GRAHAM's assistance, it was learned from the charts that at 0700 hours (PST) on 24 March 1949 there was a wind of approximately 10 miles per hour from the North

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File #24-9

Northeast between the altitudes of 7 to 12 thousand feet above sea level. The same chart for 1900 hours (PST) indicated that the wind had shifted to the West and had increased to 20 miles per hour. GRAHAM stated that there was a wedge of cold air moving Eastward across this area and had passed the Bend, Oregon, area between 0700 and 1900 hours (PST). Mr. GRAHAM also stated that due to the lack of a weather station within 120 miles of Bend, Oregon, and the nearness of the Cascade Mountain Range, only a generalization of existing conditions could be made.

ENCLOSURE

1. Newspaper article setting forth information pertaining to "flying saucers" sighted over Bend, Oregon, on 24 March 1949.

CLOSED

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CONFIDENTIAL

Flying Saucers
Sighted at Bend

BEND, March 25 (Special)---Bend residents Friday were still talking about two "flying saucers" that cavorted in the Deschutes skies, mirrored the rays of the March sun and dipped through vernal clouds.

Scores of local residents spotted the "saucers," witnessed for more than half an hour Thursday, but few could agree on their size or heights.

One war-time aviator, Vernon Leverett, estimated their height well over 10,000 feet. Estimated size of the objects ranged from that of kites to large tubs.

First sighted from a barber shop window, the objects soon attracted a group that blocked sidewalks to traffic. Before disappearing, the objects changed courses and headed west.

A TRUE COPY:

E. D. Jameson

E. D. JAMESON
2d Lt, USAF
Summary Court

Exhibit #1

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SECRET

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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

DR/MEN/web

File No: 24-8

17 May 1949

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena)

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Office of the Inspector General USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to previous Reports of Investigation, this district, subject as above.

2. This district has established a temporary visual and photographic observation post, located northeast of Albuquerque, New Mexico, on the crest of the Sandia Mountains. At present this post is equipped with one (1) wide angle lens camera, 8 x 10 film, fitted with a spectographic grating, and manned twenty-four hours daily by 17th District personnel.

3. This post was set up in view of suggestions made by Dr Joseph Kaplan, UCLA, and a member of the Scientific Advisory Board, USAF, during his recent visit to this district headquarters. Dr Kaplan suggested that if possible, it would be advisable to establish such a photographic installation.

4. It is contemplated that in the near future, pending availability of cameras, additional cameras will be added to the installation to augment the equipment presently in use, and to give as nearly as possible complete coverage of the night sky.

Doyle Rees

DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

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Historian

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

FILE NO. 24-39	DATE 27 May 1949
REPORT MADE BY	R. R. LUMSDEN
REPORT MADE AT	DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas
PERIOD	22 April - 6 May 1949
OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas
STATUS	PENDING

TITLE

"CHANGED"
AERIAL PHENOMENA,
VICINITY CAMP HOOD, TEXAS

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Report, S/A R. R. LUMSDEN, 10th District OSI, 24-39, 29 April 1949

SYNOPSIS

Report received on 2 May 1949, from Fourth Army, regarding sightings made of unusual lights, Camp Hood, Texas, during the night of 27 April 1949.

On 5 May 1949, conference was held at Camp Hood, Texas, between representatives of Fourth Army, Camp Hood, Killeen Base, ONI, and F.B.I. Two members of OSI attended conference in the role of observers. During the conference, plans were formulated to increase accuracy and degree of observations made in Camp Hood area.

On 9 May 1949, representative of Eighth Air Force contacted at Fort Worth, Texas, by Lt. Colonels JAMES R. SMITH and R. R. LUMSDEN of OSI with reference to Eighth Air Force's participation in activities in Camp Hood area.

On 11 May 1949, report of nine (9) sightings made in the Camp Hood area during the night of 28 April 1949, received from Fourth Army.

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BY KURT K. KONZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
3 DEC 1975

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R. R. LUMSDEN
Lt. Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

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24-39

On 19 May 1949, Fourth Army furnished copy of plan for reporting phenomena which was issued 4 May 1949. Sightings using procedures outlined in new reporting plan were made on 6, 7, and 8 May 1949, and are reported in detail.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

24-39
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DETAILS:

1. The title of this report has been changed from "AERIAL PHENOMENA - PROJECT GRUDGE" to "AERIAL PHENOMENA - VICINITY CAMP HOOD, TEXAS", in order to differentiate the reports of phenomena in the vicinity of Camp Hood, Texas, from similar phenomena in other areas.

2. On 2 May 1949, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army furnished Summary of Information relative to four (4) more sightings of unusual lights in the vicinity of Camp Hood on the night of 27 April 1949. Copy of this Summary is attached as Inclosure No. 1. Detailed reports of these sightings were forwarded to AMC by Fourth Army, and copies of the detailed sighting reports are in the files of D.O. No. 10.

3. On 28 April 1949, nine (9) reports of sightings were made, summarization as follows:

a. Sighting No. 1 was made at 2030 hours from Outpost No. 3, located 914.1 - 855.5. Sighting made by Pvt. JACK BANDY, US 57203603, "C" Company, 42d AIB. There were four (4) objects. They occurred individually about five (5) minutes apart. They were in sight for approximately three to five minutes, moving very slowly from right to left, rising slightly, then falling. The objects were about the size of a tennis ball held at arms length, and the color was white turning to red and then to green.

b. Sighting No. 2 was made at 2030 hours from Outpost No. 1, located 914.8 - 856.1. Sighting made by Pvt. OLIVE CLYMER, US 57507329, "C"Company, 42d AIB. Object was in sight intermittently at five minute intervals for a period of approximately 1-1/2 hours. Direction of flight was southerly at a rate of about three miles per hour. Object moved along the horizon on a level keel. Object was described as being approximately 10" in diameter, white color in the beginning, later turning to bright red.

c. Sighting No. 3 was made at 2037 hours, from Outpost No. 1, located at 914.8 - 856.1. Sighting was made by Lieut. HOWARD KITTERMAN, O-1017267, 6th Tank Battalion; PFC LESLIE LOCHART, US 57212201; Pvt. CLEMENT DeAMICIS, US 57624346; Pvt. JOSEPH P. LANDRY, US 57448019, all of 6th Tank Battalion. There were eight or ten lights occurring at intervals of about five minutes. They were about the size of a soft ball held at arms length. They were in sight for

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approximately five minutes and moved in a southerly direction at a slow speed. They appeared to travel at the same elevation, but made a turn. The objects were first white in color, turning to red and finally green before disappearing. One of the objects appeared to have a cone shaped affair to the rear, tapering to a point.

d. Sighting No. 4 was made at 2040 hours, from Outpost No. 2, located at 915.1 - 856.0, by PFC RICHARD PLACE, US 26921294, "C" Company, 42d AIB. One object was sighted, which appeared to be about the size of a base ball held at arms length. Object was just above tree top level, moving at a slow speed, and the color was white and red blinking.

e. Sighting No. 5 was made at approximately 2100 hours, from Outpost No. 3, located at 914.1 - 855.5, made by Pvt. ROBERT BOND, US 57204829, "C" Company, 42d AIB. There were four lights observed, no particular pattern, described as being about the size of a tennis ball held at arms length, moving at a speed of about five miles per hour, in a southerly direction. The color of the first of the four was described as being first white, then red, then green. The other three observed were plain white.

f. Sighting No. 6 was made at 2110 hours, from Center of Bivouac Area, located at 914.5 - 856.0. Observation made by PFC ROBERT C. JONES, RA 38468846, "C"Company, 42d AIB. One object was observed, described as being about the size of a base ball at arms length, which was approximately 300 yards away and was in sight for approximately eight to ten minutes. Object was stationary and gave the appearance of being like a "kerosene lantern".

g. Sighting No. 7 was made at 2110 hours from Center of Bivouac Area, located at 914.5 - 856.0. Observation made by Cpl. FRANCIS JONES, RA 36993843, "C" Company, 42d AIB. The object was about the size of a base ball held at arms length, white in color, moving north from the observer and was in sight approximately two seconds, moving at a speed of approximately 75 miles an hour. It was described as being about like a 75 watt light bulb at a distance of 50 to 75 feet, with the exception that there was no glow.

h. Sighting No. 8 was made at 2130 hours from Outpost No. 1, located at 914.8 - 856.1. This sighting was made by Cpl. PERCY L. DEVINEY, RA 20812020, "C" Company, 42d AIB. This observer had the object pointed out to him by Pvt. CLYMER mentioned above. There was one object sighted, which was described as being 10" to 15"

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long and was in observation for approximately five to six minutes, moving in a southerly direction at a speed of ten to fifteen miles per hour, color changing during the time of observation from white to red to green.

i. Sighting No. 9 was made at 2130 hours, from Outpost No. 2, located 915.1 - 856.0. Observation made by PFC ESIQUIO ARRIAGA, RA 38682106, "C" Company, 42d AIB. Object was described as being one light which appeared three times for 3, 2, 1 minutes, approximately, moving in a westerly direction about five miles per hour. Object was round, about the size of a base ball held at arms length, bright white in color when first seen, later turning to red; moving in a low arc.

All of the above observations were reported on the form, "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects", which were furnished to AMC. Copies of these Guides are on file at D. O. No. 10. None of the objects had sound or odor, and no debris was located.

4. On 5 May, a conference was held at Camp Hood, Texas, at approximately 1000 hours. This conference was attended by:

O. L. Golden, F.B.I.
Williard B. Harris, C. O., 520th CIC Detachment
John M. Scioli, Capt., S-3, Killeen Base
R. L. Johnson, F.B.I., Waco
Herbert D. Hoover, Major, S-1, Killeen Base
Carol M. Harris, 1st Lieut., Acting S-2, Killeen Base
H. L. Gandy, Lieut. Colonel, C. O., Killeen Base
P. T. Smith, ONI
J. R. Smith, Lt. Colonel, 3rd Region, OSI
R. R. Lumsden, Lt. Colonel, 10th District OSI
M. P. Childs, Asst. Agent in Charge, San Antonio F.B.I.
Max H. Gooler, Colonel, G-2, 4th Army, Executive
Horace W. McCulloch, Capt., Killeen Base
R. G. Schaefer, Major, Asst. G-2, 2d Armored Div., Camp Hood
Perry H. Winn, Major, Chief, Intelligence Div., G-2, 4th Army
Duncan C. Perkins, Capt., Asst G-3, 2d Armored Div., Camp Hood

The members of OSI attended at the invitation of G-2, Fourth Army, but in the role of observers only. The principal subject discussed was

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the repetitious occurrences of the light phenomena in the area immediately adjacent to the air strip of the sensitive installation at Camp Killeen. In the discussion it was brought out that the possibility existed that the observers might mistake fireflies or other natural causes for the unknown phenomena. It was agreed that due to the lack of training on the part of the observers that such a possibility could well exist, and it was determined that a more exact and comprehensive system of observing was necessary. It was agreed that such a system would be instituted and that trained Artillery observers would be utilized. At approximately 1300 hours the entire party conducted a field trip of the area immediately adjacent to the landing strip and the sensitive installation and observed security measures in effect, and also tentatively selected sites for observation posts. During the day, all representatives of Fourth Army expressed great concern about the unknown phenomena as they believed some of the sightings to be valid, and even after all questionable sightings were discounted, that there remained a sufficient number of unknown manifestations to cause grave concern. This view was shared by the ONI representative. Representatives of the F.B.I. were non-committal. The Camp Killeen representatives gave the impression that they were not overly concerned as they felt the interior security of their installation was of the highest order, and that a logical natural explanation could be found for the strange lights. Also during the conference the question of investigative jurisdiction was raised on several occasions. The entire Camp Hood area is under the control of Fourth Army and as such that agency is charged with the security of the entire area. However, Camp Killeen itself is under the control of Armed Forces Special Weapons Project, and the interior security of that particular portion of Camp Hood rests with that agency. The F.B.I. feels that it has over-all jurisdiction of any civilian components insofar as sabotage and espionage is concerned, particularly as applied to atomic projects. All agencies agreed that since the air strip was on property which had been turned over to the supervision and control of the Eighth Air Force that investigative functions pertaining to that area should be the responsibility of OSI. The representatives of OSI did not commit themselves relative to this subject. At this point in the discussion, it was brought out that two civilian aircraft had landed on the strip during the last sixty days, and that due to lack of trained personnel, these planes were not investigated prior to take-off. Both incidents were investigated by the F.B.I and no evidence of illegal activity determined, however, it was believed that in the event of future occurrences of this nature, the Air Force should have investigative personnel available to search such aircraft and to interrogate the pilots. At the conclusion of the con-

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ference it was determined that upon institution of a more accurate observing system that should future sightings be confirmed, a request would be made to AMC at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for assistance of a technical intelligence team.

5. On 9 May 1949, Lt. Colonel JAMES R. SMITH, 3rd Region OSI and the writer contacted Lt. Colonel KIRTEN, A-2, Eighth Air Force, in an attempt to ascertain if any instance of aerial phenomena had been reported to that organization. Information was elicited that no such instance had been reported from Camp Hood area, but that they had a report of sightings made at Fort Worth of high speed aerial objects. Colonel KIRTEN stated that he would offer any cooperation and assistance, and that in his opinion OSI should conduct an investigation on this matter, particularly as applied to the area adjacent to the air strip at Camp Killeen.

6. On 19 May 1949, the plan for reporting phenomena as drawn up by Fourth Army was furnished this office. Date of this plan is 4 May 1949, and provides for a precise and comprehensive observers network in the Camp Hood area adjacent to Camp Killeen. Complete plan, with the exception of the overlay, is attached as Inclosure No. 2.

7. Using the procedure outlined in the preceding paragraph, observations were obtained on 6, 7 and 8 May 1949, by observers of the Fourth Army. The detailed reports of these sightings are attached as Inclosures No. 3, 4, 5 and 6.

8. At the joint weekly conference between representatives of Fourth Army, F.B.I., ONI, and OSI, held on 19 May 1949, representatives of the other agencies were unanimous in agreeing that the new observation system instituted by Fourth Army provided precise results and definitely indicated that the unknown phenomena in the Camp Hood area could not be attributed to natural causes. It was suggested that Technical Intelligence Division, Headquarters AMC' be requested by Fourth Army to place trained observers and technical equipment in the Camp Hood area for the purpose of determining the nature of the phenomena that had been observed in the vicinity.

INCLOSURES

FOR HEADQUARTERS OSI, WASHINGTON,D.C.

1. Summary of Information, prepared by Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, Subject: Unusual Lights - 452.1 AKADB, 28 April 1949.

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2. Training Memorandum No. 8, Headquarters Division Artillery, 2d Armored Division, Camp Hood, Texas, 4 May 1949 - ARTILLERY TRAINING FORCE. (Quadruplicate)

3. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects" - Date of Observation: 6 May 1949.

4. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects" - Date of Observation: 7 May 1949, 1940 hours.

5. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects" - Date of Observation: 7 May 1949, 2025 - 2105 hours.

6. "Guide to Investigation - Unidentified Aerial Objects" - Date of Observation: 8 May 1949, 2008-2017 hours.

PENDING

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

Date: 28 April 1949

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

Subject:

Unusual Lights
452.1 AKADB

Summary of Information

Four more unusual lights occurred at Camp Hood, Texas, on the night of 27 April 1949.

1. The first was at 2120 hours and was seen by two observers. Observers were located at 915.5 - 856.5. It was the approximate size of a 50-cent piece and was dull violet in color. When first seen it was about 6 or 7 feet high and 10 to 12 feet away from the observers. Direction of flight was west going down the road west of RJ 203. When first seen it was standing still and then took off in fast flight. It was visible for approximately 60 seconds. There was no sound, no odor, and no trail. During the flight, the light was seen to go on and off. During its flight, it passed through the branches of a tree. No projections were noted and flight was level.

2. Second sighting was at 2125 hours. It was made by four observers located at RJ 108 and RJ 206, Ivy Gap Road, 913.5 - 859.0. Light was the approximate size of a baseball and bright white in color. Object was round, had no glare, and was about 6 - 7 feet above the ground. When first seen it was about 200 yards from the observers. Direction of flight was from magnetic azimuth 40° to magnetic azimuth 220°. General course of flight was toward observers and the light went out when about 50 yards away from them. Flight was level and in a half circle. It was visible from 30 to 40 seconds and moving at an estimated speed of 60 miles per hour. There was no trail, no sound, and no odor. The light was round but had a cone-shaped apparatus extending two to four inches behind it. The point of the cone was to the rear.

3. Third sighting was at 2137 hours and was made by the same ovservers who reported the sighting in the previous paragraph. Observers were located at 913.5 - 859.0. This light was approximately the size of a silver dollar, rustless white in color. There was no glare. When first sighted it was approximately 100 feet from the observers at magnetic azimuth of 30° and going west. It was six to eight feet above the ground. It approached within 50 yards of the observers, following a zig-zag course. During flight it appeared to go on and off. There was no sound, no odor, and no trail.

4. Fourth sighting was made by observers at 913.5 - 859.0. Azimuth at time of sighting was magnetic azimuth 245°. The object was of the approximate size of a silver dollar and dull white in color. When first seen, it was 200 yards from observers and 67 feet above the ground. It moved slowly and was visible from 20 to 30 seconds. There was no sound, no odor, and no trail.

DISTRIBUTION:
C/S Fourth Army; FBI, Santex; ONI, Santex; 10th OSI, Kelly AFB; File.

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Enclosure #1

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

Subject: Unusual Lights

28 April 1949

5. None of the above lights disappeared into the horizon or behind terrain. They all seemed to "go out while in flight".

(B-2)

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HEADQUARTERS DIVISION ARTILLERY
2d ARMORED DIVISION
Camp Hood, Texas

4 May 1949

Training Memorandum

Number 8

ARTILLERY TRAINING FORCE

1. Installations and Units:

a. The units of the Division Artillery are to engage in a field exercise in conjunction with units of Killeen Base, and the Field Force.

b. The Artillery Training Force will consist of a Plotting Center, four (4) OPs and an Artillery Patrol. (Locations as shown on attached overlay.)

2. Command:

a. The Artillery Training Force is under command of Off. designated by this Hq's. (Responsible to CO Div. Arty).

b. The Artillery Patrol is under command of Artillery Training Force Commander.

3. Personnel:

a. Officers to command the Artillery Training Force and the Artillery Patrol will be obtained by roster as maintained by this headquarters. Artillery Training Force Commander will report with his Force to S-2 Division Artillery at 1500 hours of day he is go to into the field and will post said relief force personally.

b. Personnel to compose the Force will be cleared by respective S-2 sections. (Battalion)

c. Personnel to be furnished by each unit:

(1) 508th AFA - 2 NCOs, 4 EM at OP #1
2 Plotters at Plotting Center (EM)

(2) 14th AFA - 4 NCOs, 8 EM split between OP #2 and OP#3.
1 (776) Radio Operator at Plotting Center

(3) 92nd AFA - 2 NCOs, 4 EM at OP #4.
4 Plotters at Plotting Center (EM)
1 NCO, 1 Driver, 1 Radio Operator, and 1 guard.

(4) Hd. Btry -2 EM Recorders at Plotting Center
Div. Arty -1 Driver, 1 Radio Operator, and 1 guard.
1 EM Medic---atPlotting Center

(5) Detailed instructions regarding desirable MOS numbers of personnel and duties are contained in paragraphs 7 and 8 of this Memorandum.

d. Battalions will so rotate personnel to permit each relief to be at their respective installations one week. The seventh night will be a "break in" period for the succeeding relief.

e. Battalions will be responsible to provide latrine facilities, and to continually better sanitation and living conditions for the units in the field at their respective installations.

f. Units will be responsible for installations and maintenance of areas and communication as follows:

(1) 508th AFA - OP#1 and Plotting Center
(2) 14th AFA - OP #2 and OP#3
(3) 92nd AFA - OP #4
(4) Hd Btry Div Arty - Patrol tent

g. Units will mess personnel in the field, or as otherwise convenient to the unit.

h. Before going on duty, all personnel will be informed of the "Confidential" nature of their mission. Letter written by CO, Division Artillery will be read to all involved personnel before said personnel go on their scheduled relief.

i. Personnel at present on duty will be considered as the 1st relief and will be augmented by their respective units Monday, 9 May 1949 at 1830 hours. Monday night will then constitute the 2d relief's "break in" period, and the 1st relief will be physically relieved at 0630 hours, 10 May 1949.

encl. #2

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

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The 2d relief will be augmented Sunday, 15 May 1830 by the 3rd relief, etc.

4. Responsible Areas:

a. Activity within Killeen Base, as reported by Plotting Center, will be reported by radio or phone to Killeen Base and acted upon by Killeen Base.

b. Activity South of the road encompassing RJ's 202, 207 and 106, as reported by the plotting center, will be reported by radio or wire to Field Force and acted upon by Field Force.

c. Activity on and North of the Road encompassed by RJ's 202, 207 and 106, within the military reservation and excluding Highway 190, will be reported to Artillery Patrol and acted upon by Artillery Patrol.

5. Reports:

a. Reports are to be made out according to 2nd Armored Division "guide to Investigation" form (Restricted), and submitted to S-2, Division Artillery daily on preceding night's activity by Artillery Training Force Commaner. Copies of this form may be received from S-2 section, Division Artillery.

6. Coordination:

a. The activities of Field Force, Killeen Base, and Artillery Training Force within this area makes coordination during hours of darkness mandatory. All personnel must be thoroughly familiar with actual locations, routes of approach, blackout conditions, and signs and countersigns effecting artillery installations before venturing into the area. Clearance and pertinent information may be received at S-2 Division Artillery.

b. The Field Force Commander and Killeen Base will be contacted daily at 1830 hours by Commander Artillery Training Force for coordination of patrol activities.

c. The Commanders Artillery Training Force, and Artillery Patrol will contact S-2 Division Artillery for instructions at 1500 hours daily.

7. Observation and Plotting Phase:

a. General:

(1) The Artillery Training Force Commander will be stationed at the plotting center.

(2) There will be four (4) observation posts and one central plotting center.

(3) The observation and plotting sections will operate during all hours of darkness.

(4) Observation posts will occupy designated commanding terrain, the position of which will be found by inspection of the 1/25,000 scale photomap.

b. Observation Posts:

(1) Equipment for each installation:

(a) Plane table and tripod.
(b) Alidade with attachment to be furnished by Div Arty.
(c) One pair field glasses.
(d) One Battery Commander's Scope.
(e) One flash light; blacked out except for a very small hole to emit a small ray of light.
(f) A large scale of a 6400m circle, 9 inches in radius. This scale to be made on stiff paper and mounted on the plane table. (Figure 1)
(g) 3 telephones and 3 head and chest sets.
(h) One large tent, the sides of which can be rolled up.
(i) Plotting pins.
(j) Personal equipment of personnel.
(k) Sidearms and ammunition.

(2) Personnel:

(a) 1 NCO in charge and alternate; grade 4. (MOS-577)
(b) 2 teams, each team consisting of an observer and a reader. (MOS-288,645)
(c) Personnel as listed above provide 2 reliefs.
(d) Personnel will be especially alert during the hours 1830-2130.
(e) There will be a communication check daily at1830 hours.

(3) General Location:

(a) Plotting center and OP #1 -------913.390 - 858.700
(b) OP #2 913.985 - 855.330
(c) OP #3 911.900 - 854.400

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(d) OP #4

(4) Communications - See Figure 3

(5) Procedure:

(a) Upon arrival at the OP, the plane table and all observer instruments will be oriented at each OP so that the "0" (zero) of all scales is toward the red light on top of West Tank at Camp Hood. A stake will be set up at each OP approximately 20 yards from the instruments and in line with West Tank for orientation in inclement weather. Open sided tents will be erected over the plane tables where terrain permits.

(b) The telephones will be connected so that the observer has a head and chest set on circuit #1, observer circuit;the reader has a head and chest set on circuit #2, plotter circuit; the NCO has a hand set on circuit #3, administration circuit.

(c) Each circuit will be checked every 15 minutes, from 1830 hours until 0530 hours, unless a target has been sighted during the time interval.

(d) The NCO will report "ready to observe" to the Plotting Center not later than 1900 hours each evening. The NCO will operate the BC Scope.

c. Plotting Station:

(1) Equipment for the installation:

(a) Large plotting table to be constructed by Division Artillery; complete with scales and equipment necessary for operation, (Figure 2) and 1/2 track with 506 and 508 radios.

(b) Large tent capable of being blacked out.

(c) Personal equipment of men.

(d) Head and chest for each plotter and recorder. (3 extra)

(e) Two hand telephones

(f) 1 stop watch

(2) Personnel:

(a) 1 Officer---Artillery Training Force Commander

(b) Two teams each consisting of a "plotter" for each observation post being operated and a "recorder". (MOS 228,645-plotter)(MOS-645, 076 recorder)

(c) Personnel as listed above provide 2 reliefs.

(d) Officer to be on alert all night.

(e) Personnel will be especially alert during the hours 1830-2130.

(3) General Location: Plotting center - 913.390-858.700, Camp Hood Photomap, scale 1/25,000.

(4) Communications - See Figure 3.

(5) Procedure:

(a) The Artillery Training Force Commander will check into the Killeen Base and Field Force radio and wire nets daily at 1830 hours.

(b) The Artillery Training Force Commander will cause the communications of his Force's nets to be checked at 1830 hours.

(c) The plotting table will be set up in the plotting room tent. Tracing paper will be oriented over the expected target area.

(d) The OP8s and West Tank will be plotted. Scales in mils will be superimposed over each OP and oriented with the "0-3200" (zero thirty two hundred) line toward the plotted point of West Tank. Plotting strings will extend from each plotted OP to the plotter stationed on the opposite side of the table. (See Figure #2)

d. Processing a "call":

(1) Observation Posts:

(a) As soon as the observer sights a target, he will command "light" and repeat the command at intervals of 1 or 2 seconds until the target disappears, at which time he will command "dark". The observer who first sights the target will be the only one to speak on the observer circuit until his command of "dark" is heard. If at this time an observer at one of the other 3 OP's can still see the target, he will continue the command of "light" until the target disappears for him, and then he will command "dark".

(b) As soon as the command of "light" is heard, all observers will alert their readers and attempt to get on the target.

(c) All observers seeing the target will immediately line up their alidade on the target and follow it until it disappears.

(d) Reader:

As soon as the target is sighted at his post and the observer has aimed his alidade at the target, the reader will, by aid of his flash light, announce the scale reading in mils to his corresponding plotter at the Plotting Center. He will continue readings at 1 or 2 second intervals even though there is no change. When the target is out of sight,

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7. d. (1) (Continued)
for his observer, he will relay the command "dark" to his commanding plotter.

(e) NCO:

As soon as the target is sighted, he will attempt to find it with the BC Scope and place the center of his cross-hairs on it. He will follow the target as accurately as possible, observing it for description purposes. At the command "dark" by his observer, he will stop traversing his instrument and send the mil readings to the Plotting Center over the administration telephone along with a brief description. Both horizontal and vertical angles will be included in this report.

(2) Plotting Station:

(a) The recorder on the observer circuit, will be the first man to hear the command "light". He will repeat the command once, the first time it is given, and then the command "dark" when it is given, he will not repeat the command continually since the purpose of his command is to alert the Plotting Center personnel and the plotters will be receiving readings to indicate that the light is in view at their corresponding OPs.

(b) As soon as an intersection of two or more plotting strings takes place, the recorder will trace the path of the intersection, or center of the triangle, on the plotting board.

(c) When the command "dark" is heard the recorder will wait to see if any other OP takes up the command of "light", and if not, he will draw a line connecting the plotted points, an arrow to indicate direction, and a target number. See Figure 2 for an example.

(d) The Commander Artillery Training Force will be equipped with a stop watch and will record the time from "light" to "dark". He will also receive descriptions and BC Scope readings from the OPs. He will be in charge of the recorder sheets and record all information thereon.

(e) There will be a separate overlay and set of recorder sheets for each 24 hour period.

(f) Recorder will also read the coordinates of the target to the Commander for transmittal to the Patrol Sections.

(g) There will be a plotter for each OP. A string attached at one end to the plotted coordinates of the OP will be moved by the plotter around a mil scale on the plotting board. The plotter will receive readings from the OP readers at intervals and the readings will be set off.

8. Patrol Phase:

a. The Artillery Patrol will be stationed conveniently close to the Plotting Center. If the patrol is dispatched, the Patrol cmdr. will lead the patrols of one of the 1/4 ton vehicles; the remaining behicle to be led by the Asst. Patrol Commander. (NCO of 1st or 2d grade.)

b. The Patrol Commander will remain at the Plotting Center to assist in its function when not actively on patrol.

c. Equipment:

(1) 2 ;/4 ton vehicles.
(2) 1 - 510 radio per vehicle with one pre-set channel (See Div Arty Commo.)
(3) 1 calibre .45 pistol per Officer and NCO
(4) TE weapon per driver, radio operator, and guard.
(5) Ammunition--unit of fire per weapon
(6) 1 flashlight per vehicle
(7) 1 tent
(8) 1 pair of field glasses per vehicle
(9) personal equipment
(10) 1 compass (M-2 or Lensatic)

d. Personnel:

(1) 1 Officer designated as Patrol Commander.
(2) 1 NCO of 1st or 2d grade designated as Asst. Patrol Commander
(3) 2 radio operators
(4) 2 guards.
(5) 2 drivers

e. Procedure:

(1) All personnel will be awake and alert from 1830 to 2130 hours daily. From 2130 until 0530 hours the following day, there will be at least 1 man on guard for the two 1/4 ton vehicles.

(2) Upon being alerted by the Artillery Training Force Commander, the Patrol Commander will dispatch vehicles and crews to points on or North of the road running generally NW and SE, and passing approximately 750 yards to the North of Crossville Mt. (Road encompassing RJs 202, 207, and 106.)

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8. e. (2) (continued)
The Artillery Patrol will be prepared to establish road blocks as indicated by the Plotting Center. Detailed instructions will be received daily by the Patrol Officer from the Arty Training Force Commander.

(3) The Artillery Patrol will be prepared to move in blackout.

(4) The Artillery Patrol, when on patrol mission will place cartridge clips in weapons. Rounds will not be in the chambers. Members of the Patrol are functioning as Military Police in that they are armed and may have to apprehend individuals. Weapons are not to be used except in self defense. Personnel apprehended are to be handled in a courteous manner; in so far as the situation permits and are to be held until the AC of S (G-2) or his authorized representative, 2d Armored Division, can arrive at the scene.

(5) Patrol activity will not interfere with traffic on Highway 190, nor with traffic on Clear Creed County Road.

(6) Signs and countersigns for the day will be given all personnel by the Arty Trng Force Cmdr.

9. An Example Problem: ("Call")

a. Observer #1 sees a target. He sights his alidade on the target and commands "light, light, light"------(at 1 or 2 second intervals)

b. Reader #1 reads 5010, 5000, 4990, 4980-----(at 1 or 2 second intervals) to plotter #1.

c. Observers 2, 3 and 4 all try to find the target. Number 2 sees it and sights his alidade on it. His reader reads, 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 40 40,----(1 or 2 second intervals)

d. Plotter #1 sets off 5010, 5000, 4990, 4980----successively on his scale by pulling his string tight from the plotted OP.

e. As soon as plotter #2 receives readings, he pulls his string tight and follows the readings received on his scale. This will give an intersection between #1 and #2.

f. Recorder says "light" as soon as the command is received, and when #1 and #2 intersect, he plots the intersection on the grid sheet.

g. Plotters #3 and #4 give approximate readings from the plotted OP to the intersection to try to orient Observers #3 and #4.

h. When Observer #1 gives the command "dark", recorder repeats the command. If in this case OP#3 has now picked up the target and it is still visible to him, he will say "light" (1 or 2 second interval) and continue the commands previously given by OP #1 until the target disappears from him, and then he will command "dark".

i. Recorder will repeat the first "light" command in all series and all "dark" commands.

j. At the command "dark", each person on the BC Scope will send his reading to the Plotting Center together with a brief description of the target.

k. The Arty Trng Force Cmdr will alert the Patrols as to the location of the target and action to be taken.

l. All recorded data will be turned in daily at 0630 hours.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL BROWN:

3 Incl
#1 Plotting Center & OP Sketch
#2 Commo. Sketch
#3 Position Overlay

A. S. POWERS
Capt FA
Adjutant

Distribution
"A"

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No._____

1. Date of Observation 6 May 1949 Date of Interview_____

2. Exact time of observation (local) 2040-2130

3. Place of Observation: Camp Hood Area
(Map Coordinates)
9099-8573

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

OP- Grossville No.1-2-3-4

5. What attracted attention to object:

Brillant 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):

Half dollar diminishing to short quartersize

8. Color of object:

Alternating pinkish to green

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

Round

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

Approximate 1200ft dropping to 440ft.

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

5200 mils

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

4000yds

13. Direction of flight of object (s):

West and Morth 300 or 400 yds back and forth

14. Time of sight:

50min

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

Very slow

Incl

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Historian
8 DEC 1975
DATE

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Incl 1 Rpt. #3
1186 OSI

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16. Sound and odor:

None

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.)

None

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

Very brillant brighter than ant star visible

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

N o

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

Slow lowering of altitude

21. Manner of disappearance:

Faded from sight grew smaller

22. Effect on clouds:

Not observed

23. Additional information concerning object:

Seemed as if it were constantly spinning alternating red green and white

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:

clear visibility unlimited

Name and address of observer:

Lt. Mardell E. Ward Hq. 14th A.F.A. Bn.

Occupation and hobbies:

Task Force Commander

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (Check neighbors, police dept., FBI records, employer, etc.):

Object was viewed with naked eye field glasses and BC Scope

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

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No._____

1. Date of Observation 7 May 49 Date of Interview_____

2. Exact time of observation (local) 1940 (57 sec)

3. Place of Observation:
(Map Coordinates) 917500-855200

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

Arty OP's

5. What attracted attention to object:

Brilliant object

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):

width 3 mils

8. Color of object:

Reddish- Greenish - White

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

Diamond shape

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

1000 ft

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

North East

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

5000 yds

13. Direction of flight of object(s):

North East

14. Time of sight:

57 sec

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

Covered 20 mils horiz in 57 sec

Incl

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16. Sound and odor:

None

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.)

None

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

Appears incadescence very brilliant

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

None

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

None slow moves North and Lowers in altitude

21. Manner of disappearance:

Seems dim and go out

22. Effect on clouds:

None observed

23. Additional information concerning object:

Two station got reading proving intersection

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:

Good

Name and address of observer:

Lt Mardell W. Ward
Hq 14th AFA Bn

Occupation and hobbies:

Artillery Force Comd

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (Check neighbors, police dept., FBI records, employer, etc.):

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

BC and observers scope

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No._____

1. Date of Observation 7 May 49 Date of Interview_____

2. Exact time of observation (local) 2025 - 2105

3. Place of Observation:
(Map Coordinates) 912000 - 851350

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

Arty OP's

5. What attracted attention to object:

Brilliant 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):

3 mils width

8. Color of object:

Red -Green -White

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

Diamond shape

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

1300 ft

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

Approx 4800 mils

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

8000 yds

13. Direction of flight of object (s):

SE

14. Time of sight:

40 min

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

Covered 15 mils in 40 mins horiz

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Incl 3

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16. Sound and odor:
None

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

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance):
Incadescence very brilliant (compared to bright stars)

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

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

21. Manner of disappearance:
Dims and then goes out

22. Effect on clouds:
Not observed

23. Additional information concerning object:
Four stations reported reading, ~~translation~~ TRIANGULATION error approx 200 yd

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:
Good

Name and address of observer:
Lt Mardell E. Ward
Hq 14th AFA Bn

Occupation and hobbies:
Arty Task Force Comd

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (Check neighbors, police dept., FBI records, employer, etc.):

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

3c and observers Scope

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No._____

1. Date of Observation 8 May 1949 Date of Interview_____

2. Exact time of observation (local) 2008-2017

3. Place of Observation: 906000- 851000- Approx.
(Map Coordinates)

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location of - give details):
Arty Op's

5. What attracted attention to object:
Brillant 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):
2 mils in width

8. Color of object:
Red, Green, White varigated

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

10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0 degrees at horizon, 90 degrees overhead):
1600 ft.

11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from North):
West Approx. 4700 M

12. Distance from observer (Distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be):
8000yds

13. Direction of flight of object (s):
North & East

14. Time of sight:
9 Min.

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15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance):
10 M in 9 min

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16. Sound and odor:

None

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.)

None

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

Incandescent very brillant

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

None

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

Slowly decressed on altitude.

21. Manner of disappearance:

Dimmed and went out

22. Effect on clouds:

Not Observed

23. Additional information concerning object:

Error of triangulation was Approx. looyds.
Three stations reporting.

Force able reported verybad radop omterferrence during targetwas in sight, After end of target good communications was reported.

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:

Good and clear monnlight bright

Name and address of observer:

Lt. Mardell E. Ward Hq. 14bh. A. F.A. Bn.

Occupation and hobbies:

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (Check neighbors, police dept., FBI records, employer, etc.):

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

BC and Observers Scope.

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1186 8 MAY 2008-2017

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HEADQUARTERS 3RD REGION (IG), USAF
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS

JRS:epb

24 May 1949

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena

TO: Director, Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General
Department of the Air Force
HQ USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

ATTENTION: Colonel W. E. Carpenter

1. I have this date dispatched a wire to the 17th District Office, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, requesting complete compilation of all available data on aerial phenomena in that area. A complete report will be forwarded to you direct.

2. Lt. Colonel R. R. Lumsden, 10th District, Kelly AFB, Texas, is at the present time compiling a similar report of all information in this District. Colonel Lumsden's report should be in your office not later than Tuesday, 31 May 1949; the report from the 17th District should reach your headquarters within two or three days thereafter. I will follow up on this matter in regard to the report from the 17th District at the earliest possible date.

James R. Smith
JAMES R. SMITH
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Deputy Director OSI
3rd Region (IG)

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
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OFFICE OF
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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
District Office No. 7
MacDill Air Force Base, Florida

LJS/az

DO7

25 May 1949

SUBJECT: Project "SIGN"

TO: Director, Special Investigations
Office of The Inspector General, USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. On 11 March 1949, Mr. Howard E. Benson, Chief of Police, Safety Harbor, Florida was interviewed regarding Case DO7-24-3, Project "Sign". During the interview Chief Benson advised that he had received a letter from two men who claimed to be authors of a Washington news column. These men requested full information regarding the sighting of an unidentified flying object on 31 January 1949.

2. A photostatic copy of this letter is forwarded herewith for your information and any action you deem advisable.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

Louis J Schiavo
LOUIS J. SCHIAVO
Captain, USAF
OIC Investigative Operations

1 Incl:
Photo copy Lonny
Stagg & Stan Allen
2 Feb 49

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24-185-112

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
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Lonny Stagg AND Stan Allen

1562 Fort Dupont St. S. E. 4011 E Street S. E.

Washington 20, D. C.

February 2, 1949

Mr. H. E. Benson
Safety Harbor
Police Department
Clearwater, Florida

My dear Chief Benson:

As the authors of a Washington news column, we are quite curious about the "flying grindstone" which, according to the United Press, you and a Mr. Wilson were quoted as seeing recently. Our interest is intensified because we have been making a special survey recently of the various types of aerial phenomena reported by the daily press and we have received little satisfaction from the U.S. Air Force other than that they are making a continuing study of the subject, too.

Doubtless you will receive numerous letters from people around the country as a result of the wide circulation given your story by the news service--and some of these will probably be poking fun at you. I say this because we are interested in getting a first-hand report from you and Mr. Wilson of exactly what you saw and we don't want you to think that we are intent on treating the matter as something silly or funny. On the contrary, we regard the whole question as one of the utmost seriousness. We are trying to get at the true facts.

If you can find the time to sit down and write to us describing exactly in detail what you saw, how it looked, what finally happened to it and the weather conditions at the moment we shall feel both obliged and privileged; and I can further assure you that in any news stories we may write your observations will be treated with seriousness and respect.

You can address me at the E Street address listed above at the right on the letterhead. Looking forward to hearing from you and thanking you for your co-operation, I am

Yours most sincerely,

Stan Allen

Stan Allen

24-185-112

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

5D-OSI/HML/fmn

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, USAF
5TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, DAYTON, OHIO

IN REPLY REFER TO: 5D 24-21H

23 May 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE, Incident, Caballo Dam, New Mexico
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Office of The Inspector General
United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to report of Special Agent HARRY M. LEE of this office, subject as above, dated 5 May 1949.

2. Attached hereto is a copy of a letter from the 17th District Office of Special Investigations, Kirtland AFB, dated 13 May 1949, and a copy of letter sent to the Commanding General, AMC, from this office, this date.

3. With the submission of this letter, subject case is being closed by this office.

2 Incls
1. Cy ltr dtd 13 May 49
2. Cy ltr dtd 23 May 49

THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR
Captain USAF
Acting District Commander

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Historian
DEC 1975
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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
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MAY 31 06 PM '49

OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS AUG 12 1948

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TO: Director of Special Investigations
Office of The Inspector General
United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to report of Special Agent [illegible] dated 5 May 1949.

2. Attached hereto is a copy of a letter from the 17th District Office of Special Investigations, Richland AFB, dated 19 May 1949, and a copy of letter sent to the Commanding General, ADC, from this office, this date.

3. Upon the submission of this letter, subject case is being closed by this office.

THOMAS P. [illegible], JR.
Captain USAF
Acting District Commander

2 Incls
1. Cy ltr dtd 19 May 49
2. Cy ltr dtd 23 May 49

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INDEX
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FILE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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

JEL/MEN/web

File No: 24-8

13 May 1949

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena)

TO: District Commander
5th District OSI (IG) USAF
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

1. Reference is made to your file 5D-24-21H, Report of Investigation by Special Agent Harry M. Lee, dated 5 May 1949, subject as above.

2. This investigation was activated on 25 April 1949 by our Holloman AFB Detachment, with this office as Office of Origin, investigation of incidents of this nature having been originally opened during December 1948.

3. A supplemental report on the Caballo Dam, New Mexico, incident was forwarded to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, through the Commanding Officer, Kirtland Air Force Base, on 5 May 1949.

FOR THE DISTRICT COMMANDER:

JACK E. LUNDY
Operations Officer

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
20 MAY 1949
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
5TH DISTRICT
ROUTE TO | FILE

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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

DR/JLB/web

File No: 24-8

18 May 1949

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena)

Object Seen in New Mexico-West Texas Area

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Office of the Inspector General USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

Transmitted herewith is a Summary of Information relative to the aerial phenomena which have been observed in the New Mexico -- West Texas area.

DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl
Summary of Information (dup)

DISTRIBUTION OF SUMMARY:

2 - Hq OSI
1 - 3d OSI Region
1 - CG, AMC
1 - CO, Kirtland AFB
1 - CO, 636th Acft Control & Warning Sq
1 - AF Guided Missile Project
1 - AF Field Office for Atomic Energy
3 - Atomic Energy Security Service
1 - CG, Sandia Base
1 - CG, Fourth Army
1 - BIO, Ft Bliss, Texas
1 - FBI, Albuquerque
1 - Dr Lincoln LaPaz, UNM
12 - File

24-185-110A

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

JUN 1 10 09 AM '49

OFFICE OF
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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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 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

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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

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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 2	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° 0' 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 miles 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 conventional flares).

NOTE 1

SECRET

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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

LINCOLN LaPAZ

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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 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

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~SECRET~~

COPY

INCLOSURE #6

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 57m (plus or minus 30s). On the basis of corresponding observations made from one 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' W, traversing an almost horizontal path, at an elevation of about 10 miles above 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 observations 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 will be apparent from the original accounts of the observations made by AESS Inspectors William D. Wilson, Buford G. Truett, Clifford E. Strang, and Physical 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. Nee 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' .7 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 from the December 20 observations deserves considerably less weight than that obtained from the December 12 observations.

NOTE 3

~~SECRET~~

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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 long, 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 visible path and the other peculiarities observed by Messrs. Wilson, Truett, Strang, and Skipper was not a falling meteorite.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

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 Woleslegce and Cpl. Wilson, and according to Pfc. Everitt, neither of the other men saw the object. Everitt explained that he called to Sgt. Woleslegce, 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 had 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

SECRET

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE

Institute 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 alerted 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 1st, 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 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 Mex.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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 eyewitnesses by personal interviews, by telephone conversations 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 rated 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 only the anomalous green fireballs of December 12th and 20th, 1948), the meteoritic detonations and long continued rumblings which without exception accompany large meteorite falls were not 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 at the same time 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, etc) 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 the 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 supporting 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.

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

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

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 attitudes of flight and changes of position caused no change in 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.

NOTE 6

SECRET

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

INCIDENT OF 8 MARCH 1949:

This incident was reported by an AESS Inspector on duty at Los Alamos. The object appeared to be an eliptical, rather stubby, aluminum body surrounded or covered with billowy flame. There may have been projections similar to stubby control surfaces 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.

NOTE 7

SECRET

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SI
Gould/lse/72231
Wrtn 24 May 49

Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

24-185

24-~~195~~

27 MAY 1949

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: District Commander
17th OSI District, IG
Kirtland Air Force Base
Albuquerque, New Mexico

1. This refers to your letter of 12 May 1949, concerning the conference held on 27 and 28 April 1949 for the purpose of reviewing the circumstances surrounding the unidentified aerial phenomena that have been observed in the New Mexico area during the past five months.

2. The report appears to be complete and is certainly clear. However, for your information the Air Materiel Command is monitoring this program and should be informed of any future meetings, so that a representative of the Director of Technical Intelligence may be present. A copy of the report has been submitted to the Air Materiel Command and to the Director of Intelligence, USAF.

3. Any future sightings of these phenomena should be reported to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, attention of the Director of Technical Intelligence. One information copy each should be forwarded to the Director of Intelligence, USAF, and to OSI Headquarters.

4. Attached for your information is copy of Air Intelligence Requirements Memorandum No. 4 which sets forth the procedure to be followed in reporting these incidents.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

OUT
27 MAY
MANAGEMENT
DIV.
OSI

1 Incl
Air Intell Rqmts
Memo #4, dtd 15 Feb 49
subj "Unconventional
Aircraft"

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

24-185-109

OFFICE SYMBOL	1. AFCSI	2. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~	3.	4.	5.
GRADE AND SURNAME OF COORDINATING OFFICERS				MJG 12 1949	

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

AFCSI
Mr. Gould/lse/72231
Wrtn 19 May 49

Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

~~24-1150~~

10 MAY 1949

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena in Vicinity of Camp Hood, Texas
SPECIAL INQUIRY

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

1. This refers to your letter of 6 May 1949 concerning the above subject.

2. You definitely should participate in any conferences on this subject and your Agents should be directed to investigate any incidents concerning or any information received about aerial anomalies.

3. Inclosed is a copy of the form that should be used as a guide for reporting information concerning flying discs or aerial phenomena. Reports on this subject should be sent direct to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, attention Director of Technical Intelligence. One information copy each will be sent to the Director of Intelligence, USAF, this Headquarters and to OSI Headquarters.

4. Air Materiel Command has the responsibility for research work on this project. The investigative feature of investigations of this nature requires close cooperation and coordinated effort.

1 Incl
Cy of Form - Guide
to Inves Unidentified
Aerial Objects

Wm. E. CARPENTER
Colonel, USAF
Deputy Director, Special Investigations
The Inspector General, USAF

MAY 23 1949

24-185108

OUT
MAY 1949
MANAGEMENT
DIV.
OSI

OFFICE SYMBOL	1. AFCSI	2.	3.	4.	5.
GRADE AND SURNAME OF COORDINATING OFFICERS	Gould Col Martin Clarkson Lt Col Turner				

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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5

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

151

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

RRL/bl

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

6 May 1949

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena in the Vicinity of Camp Hood, Texas

TO: Director, Special Investigations
The Inspector General
USAF
Washington 25, D.C.

ATTENTION: Deputy Director

1. Reference is made to conversation between Deputy Director, OSI, and the Commander, 10th District, in Washington on 14 April 1949, relative to unknown phenomena occurring in the vicinity of Camp Hood, Texas.

2. On 20, 27 April and 4 May 1949, regular weekly conferences were held with representatives of the FBI, ONI, Fourth Army, and OSI. At each of these conferences the question of investigative jurisdiction relative to the phenomena at Camp Hood was discussed. It was the consensus of the other agencies present that OSI had a definite interest in this matter and should actively participate in the investigation of the occurrences. G-2, Fourth Army specifically requested assistance in the matter, stating that since their number of trained Agents was small, the assistance of Agents from OSI would materially augment the coverage which could be afforded the area. This office tactfully declined to actively participate in the investigation pending receipt of instructions from your Headquarters. Fourth Army is now becoming insistent upon receiving assistance, and a definite answer to their request must be made.

3. On 5 May 1949, at the request of G-2, Fourth Army, Lt. Colonel JAMES R. SMITH of the 3rd Region OSI and the writer attended a joint conference at Camp Hood, in the role of observers. This conference was between representatives of Camp Hood, Fourth Army, Killeen Base, ONI and the FBI. A full report of the meeting will be forwarded upon receipt of the minutes from Fourth Army. During the conference the main subject discussed was the unknown phenomena occurring and plans were made to increase the accuracy and degree of observations.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 3 DEC 1975

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UNCLASSIFIED

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
AUG 12 1948

MAY 10 12 51 PM 49

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

IN
18 MAY 949
SECURITY
DIV.
OSI

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF

MAY 10 1949

IN
18 MAY 1949
GEN. INVEST.
DIV.
OSI

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Ltr. from Hq. 10th District, Subj: Aerial Phenomena in the Vicinity of Camp Hood, Texas, 6 May 1949

It was stressed in the conference that the air strip immediately adjacent to Killeen Base was very important for any proposed utilization of the area and was, by its nature, vulnerable. It was pointed out that although the security within Killeen Base is the responsibility of AFSWP, the air strip itself was under the control of Eighth Air Force and was located upon ground which had been turned over to the Air Force by the Ground Force. Following this line of reasoning, representatives of the other military services felt that OSI as investigative agency of the Air Force should take an active part in ascertaining the nature of the phenomena occurring on and around the runway. The representatives of OSI did not commit themselves.

4. As more sightings had been made on the night of 4 May 1949, it is the opinion of this office that the matter has reached a fairly serious stage and some positive action is mandatory. It is therefore requested that this office be granted permission to actively participate in an investigation in the Camp Hood area, limiting the activity to the area upon which the runway is located and terrain immediately surrounding. It is further requested that your Headquarters determine at the highest level which agency has primary jurisdiction in this matter and that this office be advised. It is realized that the possibility of a hoax or explainable natural phenomena may be the basis for the unusual occurrences, but the sensitive nature of the area necessitates a positive determination of facts.

R. R. Lumsden

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

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~RESTRICTED~~

19D OSI 24-0 3d Ind 25 April 1949

SUBJECT: Explosion

Hq 19th District OSI (IG), USAF, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California

TO: District Commander, 17th District OSI (IG), Kirtland AFB, New Mexico

1. Attention is invited to basic letter and inclosure attached thereto.

2. A copy of an EEI Form, to be completed on all cases involving unconventional aircraft, is forwarded for your information and such investigative action as you may deem appropriate.

3. It is requested that information copies of your reports of this investigation be furnished as follows:

DO #19 - - - - - - - - - 2
G-2, Sixth Army - - - 1
2d OSI Region - - - - 1
CG, AMC (ATTN: MCIAXO-3) - 2

JOHN G. SWOPE
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

2 Incls
1. n/c
Added 1 incl
2. Cy of EEI (trip)

Copy furnished, less incl #2:
Hq OSI
2d OSI Region
CG, AMC
CG, 6th Army (Thur: 19D OSI DetCo, Presidio of San Fancisco, Calif)

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

MAY 31 1949

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
MAY 3 9 51 AM '49
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

~~RESTRICTED~~ UNCLASSIFIED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

HEADQUARTERS
AREA SERVICE UNIT 6407
ARIZONA RECRUITING DISTRICT
U. S. ARMY AND US. AIR FORCE RECRUITING SERVICE
213 North First Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

JBP/mm

AMWPH-c 360.33

7 April 1949

SUBJECT: Explosion

TO: Commanding Officer
Intelligence Field Office No. 2
Sixth Army
Fort MacArthur, California

1. In compliance with GO No. 4, 1948, Headquarters Sixth Army, dated 13 January 1948; and 1st Indorsement, Sixth Army, file AMGBI-C 319, dated 2 April 1948 to letter Department of the Army, file GSGID 452.1, Subject: "Unconventional Aircraft," dated 25 March 1948, the inclosed report is submitted.

2. While it is realized that the event described is outside area described, the report was made to our Douglas Recruiting Station, and is forwarded for such action as is deemed necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

1 Incl
Report of Explosion

J. B. PIERCE
Capt, AGD
Adjutant

cc: CG, 6th Army

COPY

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

AMGBI-CI 1st Ind 14 April 1949
Subject: Explosion
HEADQUARTERS SIXTH ARMY, OAC of S, G-2, Presidio of San Francisco, California

TO: Office of Special Investigations, Building T-3, Presidio of San Francisco, California

For information and any action deemed necessary.

FOR THE AC OF S, G-2:

/s/ ROLAND H. McINTIRE
/t/ ROLAND H. McINTIRE
Lt. Colonel CMP
Chief, CI Division

1 Incl
n/c

19D OSI 2nd Ind 19 April 1949
Subject: Explosion
Fr Actg Detachment Commander, Presidio of S.F., California
TO: Dist. Commander, 19D OSI, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, Calif.

For information and any action deemed necessary.

/s/ CULLEN W. IRISH II
/t/ CULLEN W. IRISH II
Acting Detachment Commander

1 Incl
n/c

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~RESTRICTED~~

4 April 1949

Rodeo, New Mexico

Subject: Bomb or missile explosion.

To : Commanding Officer
ASU 6407
U.S. Army & U.S. Air Force
Arizona Recruiting District
132 East Pennington Street
Tucson, Arizona

On Sunday night, April 3rd. 1949, Mr. M.C. Jamison, patrolman of the Border Patrol, U.S. Immigration Service, came to my home to report the following:

A Mr. Slover and a Mr. Curley Walters reported to Mr. Jamison that on Thursday, 31 March 1949, Mr. Slover heard a plane overhead and missing. He next heard a very heavy explosion and thought that a plane had crashed. The time of day or night is not fixed in this second hand report.

The following day, Mr. Slover and Mr. Walters rode on horseback to the site of the explosion and described a swath in the brush and timber culminating in a huge crater. Mr. Slover described a piece of metal about 12 inches in diameter and pointed. He felt it was some kind of a "war head" for a guided missile. Nothing resembling a plane was found.

The site of the explosion is described as wild mountainous country, about ten miles east of Rodeo, New Mexico and about five miles from the ranches of Mr. Slover and Mr. Walters. The nearest emergency landing field by plane is said to be at Rodeo. The site is about seventy-five miles by automobile from Douglas.

Mr. M. C. Jamison, Border Patrol, phone Douglas 126 can guide anyone to the ranch of Mr. Slover or Mr. Walters and from there, either of these persons can guide a party to the explosion site.

It is suggested that Davis Monthan Air Force Base, conduct further investigation.

Frank H Campbell
M/Sgt/ NCO in charge

C
O
P
Y

~~RESTRICTED~~

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

See Dir

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

[redacted] PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

FROM: MATS, ANDREWS AFB, MD

TO : 1226 ABG, ERNEST HARMON AB, STEPHENVILLE, NFLD.
ATTN PIO

INFO: CSAF, WASH., D. C. ATTN AFSPR
ATLANTIC DIV MATS, WESTOVER AFB, MASS.
NEWFOUNDLAND BASE COMMAND, FORT PEPPERELL, ST. JOHNS, NFLD.

[redacted]

Major news picture agencies have queried through USAF regarding photos of flying saucers reportedly made by Air Force member attached to Stephenville. This story has received wide dissemination. Request you check validity of report, existence and custody of photos and source of rumor. For your information the saucer story is still an active project with classification Secret.

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

File

INFO: OIN, CSI, SPR

CAFIN- 4125 (17 MAY 49) DTG: [redacted]

[redacted]

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
MAY 17 8 51 AM '49
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

MAY 26 1949

UNCLASSIFIED

COPY No. 7

AUG 12 1948

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—56692-1

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

5D-OSI/JEM/fmm

5D 24-21B

19 May 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE, Incident, Morgantown, W. Va.
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

1. Inclosed for your information and any action deemed necessary is report of investigation of Special Agent TONEY ZEVARIS, DO #3, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, dated 17 May 1949.

2. This is the final report in this investigation and the files of this office are being closed in instant matter.

1 Incl
R/I d'td 17 May 49
(in dup)

THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR
Captain, USAF
Acting District Commander

Cy to: Hq OSI

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
BY Historian
DATE 3 DEC 1975

UNCLASSIFIED

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24-185-105

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

MAY 23 12 53 PM 1949

OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

JUN 1 1949

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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BASIC: Letter, Headquarters OSI, dated 2 June 1949, file 24-185, subject, "Aerial Phenomena, SPECIAL INQUIRY"

File No: 24-8 1st Ind DR/JLB/web

Headquarters 17th District Office of Special Investigations (IG) USAF
Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico, 13 June 1949

TO: Director of Special Investigation, Office of The Inspector General USAF, Washington 25, D. C.

1. Receipt of letter, your headquarters, dated 27 May 1949, referred to in paragraph 1, basic communication, is acknowledged.

2. Report of Investigation referred to in paragraph 2, basic communication, was transmitted from this district on 20 May 1949, prior to receipt of Air Intelligence Requirements Memorandum No. 4. Four (4) copies of reference Report of Investigation were forwarded to the Commanding Officer, Kirtland AFB, who, in turn, forwarded two (2) copies to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, ATTN: MCIAXO-3.

3. One (1) copy of reference Report of Investigation has, this date, been forwarded to the Director of Intelligence USAF.

4. In all future instances, the provisions of Air Intelligence Requirements Memorandum No. 4 will be followed.

Doyle Rees

DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 3 DEC 1975

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24-185 1 46 X

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
JUN 22 8 35 AM '49
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

GEN. INVEST. DIV. JUN 1949 IN
OUT 24 JUN 1949 SECURITY DIV. OSI

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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AFCSI
Mr. Gould/lse/72231
Wrtn 1 June 49

Office of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

24-185

2 JUN 1949

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: District Commander
17th OSI District, IG
Kirtland Air Force Base
Albuquerque, New Mexico

1. Reference is made to letter from this Headquarters, dated 27 May 1949, concerning the above subject. This letter outlined the procedure to be followed in disseminating information concerning aerial phenomena, and requested that any future reports be forwarded as stated therein.

2. This Office has just received your report, file no. 24-8, dated 10 May 1949, and it is noted that Headquarters OSI, Commanding Officer, Kirtland AFB, and your file was the only distribution made. It is therefore requested that you forward a copy of this report to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, attention Director of Technical Intelligence, and one copy to the Director of Intelligence, USAF, this Headquarters.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

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

OUT
2 JUN 1949
MANAGEMENT
DIV.
OSI

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

24-185-104

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OFFICE SYMBOL	1. AFCSI	2.	3.	4.	5.
GRADE AND SURNAME OF COORDINATING OFFICERS	Gould McGregor for Lem Turner		UNCLASSIFIED		AUG 12 1974

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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251

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.	DATE
24-8	10 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY: JAMES C. MAY

REPORT MADE AT: DO #17, Kirtland AFB

PERIOD: 3, 5, 6 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: DO #17, Kirtland AFB

STATUS: PENDING

TITLE

SUBJECT UNKNOWN
(AERIAL PHENOMON)

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRIES

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

On a report from Mr. HUBER, (civilian) to Staff Officer of the Day an investigation was initiated on HUBER'S sighting an unidentified aerial object seen in the vicinity of Tucson, Arizona. Statements taken from persons observing this object. Outline of Project "Sign" followed in this investigation.

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

DISTRIBUTION

CO, Kirtland AFB 4
OSI, Hq 2
File 2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commanding Officer
Kirtland Air Force Base
New Mexico

APPROVED
Doyle Rees
DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander.

FILE STAMP

24-185 104A
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
MAY 24 4 17 PM '49
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

UNCLASSIFIED

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

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.

DATE

REPORT MADE BY

REPORT MADE AT

PERIOD

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

STATUS

TITLE

CHARACTER

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF [illegible]

BY

DATE

DISTRIBUTION

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

FILE STAMP

AGO FORM 15 JAN 49 O-208 Replaces AGO Form 4, 21 Jul 48, which may be used.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DETAILS

1. Date of sighting - 28 April 1949

2. Time of sighting - Approximately 1745 hours MST

3. Where sighted:

a. Ground

(1) Tucson, Arizona

(2) From 10 to 300 miles NE Tucson, Arizona

(3) Near corner of N Campbell and E Hedrick Dr on sidewalk in front of 1922 East Hedrick Drive.

(4) Latitude 32° 15' North, Longatude 110° 57' West

b. n/a

c. n/a

4. Number of objects - No formation

5. Distance of object from observer

a. n/a

b. From 30° to 60°

c. 25,000 to 50,000 feet

6. Time in sight - From 12 to 40 minutes.

7. Appearance of object

a. Silver

b. Cigar or sausage shape

c. Metallic

d. Size

(1) From B-29 to City Block

(2) From B-29 to City Block

8. Direction of flight - NE to SE to SW in a curved line

[redacted]

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9. Tactics or maneuvers - a. Rotating

10. Evidence of exhaust

a. No smoke

b. n/a

c. No odor

d. n/a

e. n/a

11. Effect on clouds - No clouds in sky

12. Lights

a. Reflected light from sun

b. n/a

c. n/a

13. Support

a. None

b. Not close enough to determine

c. No

d. Not observed

e. Not known

14. Propulsion

a. Could not see

b. Not observed

c. Not observed

d. Not observed

15. Control and stability -

a. None

b. None

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16. Air Ducts

a. Not observed

b. One witness observed two round holes which appeared similar to portholes or eyes.

17. Speed - Anywhere from 300 to 600 miles per hour.

18. Sound

a. None

b. None

c. None

19. Manner of disappearence - Faded from view

No. 1 Observer

1. Name - John J. Huber

2. Address - 2244 E. Hedrick, Tucson, Arizona, after 7 May 49, Gallup, New Mex.

3. Occupation - At Tucson, Caretaker
At Gallup, New Mex, Truckdriver for Railway Express.

4. Place of business

a. Caretaker for J. O. Mack, 3194 East Broadway, Tucson, Arizona

5. Hobbies - Photography, 5 years experience

6. Ability to determine

a. Color - Not color blind

b. Speed of moving objects - Not very good

c. Size at distance - Fair

7. Reliability of observer

A. Sources

(1) Neighbor - Not checked
(2) Police Dept - No Record
(3) FBI Records - Not checked
(4) Employer - Considered reliable.

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8. Notes relative to observer on

a. Sightings in general - unknown

b. How attention was drawn to object - Glint of light

9. Witnesses

a. 3194 E. Broadway

b. Oil man

c. Unknown

10. Observer well educated, character very good, seemed to have fair amount of education and also seemed character was very good.

No. 2 Observer

1. Name - W. Howard Hamm

2. Address - 1411 North Dodge Ave, Tucson, Arizona

3. Occupation - Florist

4. Place of business

a. Part time employee of Tucson Floral Shop and Green House, 3130 East First St, Tucson, Arizona.

5. Hobbies - Artist (Painter in oils; landscapes and western scenes) 15 years experience.

6. Ability to determine

a. Color - good

b. Speed of moving objects - poor

c. Size at distance - poor

7. Reliability of observer

a. Sources

(1) Neighbor - not checked
(2) Police Department - No record
(3) FBI records - not checked
(4) Employer - Has vivid immagination according to Mr. Al Lowman, employer.

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8. Notes relative to observer on

a. Sightings in general - fair

b. How attention was drawn to object - Glint of light

9. Witnesses

a. addresses - 3130 East First St, Tucson, Arizona

b. Occupation - Florist shop owner

c. Reliability - unknown

10. Mr. Hamm was interviewed by Special Agent Lindell M. Politte and the writer and is considered pretty intelligent, well educated, character good, but has a very vivid imagination.

No. 3 Observer

1. Name - H. C. Keahey

2. Address - 1922 East Hedrick Dr, Tucson, Arizona

3. Occupation - horse-shoer and caretaker

4. Place of business - Circle W Ranch and Riding Stable

5. Hobbies - None

6. Ability to determine

a. Color - good

b. Speed of moving objects - fair

c. Size at distance - fair

7. Reliability of observer

a. Sources

(1) Neighbor - not checked
(2) Police Department - No record
(3) FBI records - not checked
(4) Employer - Mr. R. E. Walker, owner Circle W Ranch thinks highly of witness, is not prone to exagerate and takes information at face value.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

8. Notes relative to observer on

a. Sightings in general - good

b. How attention was drawn to object - Glint of light

9. Witnesses

a. 1922 East Hedrick Drive, Tucson, Arizona, Address

b. Occupation - Stable owner

c. Reliability - unknown

10. Observer seemed quite intelligent, very good character, not very well educated but character very good.

Relative to radar sightings - Not applicable

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences - Weather clear, no clouds, visibility 50 miles.

2. Winds aloft report - Between 1700 and 1900 28 April 1949

Altitude	Velosity in Knots	Degrees
5,000	4 320	320
6,000	2	340
7,000	3	170
8,000	4	220
9,000	8	210
10,000	9	210
12,000	12	200
14,000	15	230
16,000	17	260
18,000	16	260
20,000	7	270
22,000	4	340
24,000	7	320
26,000	13	290
28,000	22	270
30,000	29	280
32,000	35	280
34,000	44	280
36,000	45	280
38,000	45	280
40,000	40	280
45,000	50	280
50,000	56	280
55,000	50	280

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3. Local Flight Schedules

a. American Airlines - DC -4
b. Private - 4 Light aircraft in local area
c. Air Force - 3 T-6
1 B-26
1 C-47
1 B-50

4. No balloons or testing devices had been released by United States Weather Bureau in Tucson, Arizona immediately prior or during this time.

5. Object did not contact earth.

6. Object not near other aircraft.

7. Obtain photographs where available, if not secure sketches of

a. Object - Appeared to look like cigar or sausage.

b. Surrounding terrain - Map inclosed.

c. Place where it contacted earth - not applicable

d. Maneuvers - rotating motion

e. Formation - not applicable

8. Secure signed statement - Statements inclosed.

9. Obtain fragments or physical evidence where possible - not applicable

10. Was any radio antenna to be observed - None observed.

Inclosures:

FOR CO, KIRTLAND AFB

1. Map

2. Statement of W. Howard Hamm In Quad

3. Statement of H. C. Keahey, In Quad

4. Statement of John J. Huber, In Quad

FOR OSI, HQ

1. Statement of W. Howard Ham in Dup

2. Statement of H. C. Keahey in Dup

3. Statement of John J. Huber, in Dup

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FOR FILE

1. Statement of W. Howard Hamm in Dup
2. Statement of H. G. Keahey in Dup
3. Statement of John J. Huber in Dup

- PENDING -

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 17, KIRTLAND AFB

AT TUCSON, ARIZONA

1. Will interview neighbors of observers.

2. Will contact FBI for check of records.

AT GALLUP, NEW MEXICO

1. Will check neighbors of Mr. JOHN J. HUBER to ascertain character and reliability of witness.

2. Will check FBI files for record of JOHN J. HUBER.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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STATEMENT

At approximately 5:45 PM. on 28 April 1949 I sighted an object in the air NE of Tucson, Arizona, just over the rim of the Catalina Mountains. This object was very bright and appeared to be reflecting the sun shine. From my point of observation, this object was first sighted at approximately a 30 degree angle of elevation and I would judge it to be at that time about 300 miles NE of Tucson. This object was in sight for approximately 12 minutes after which time it disappeared to the SW, just gradually fading from view in the distance. It appeared to be traveling in a curved trajectory, but I believe this object was traveling in a straight line and from my point of observation, the illusion was curved. I would judge this object to be traveling in excess of 500 miles an hour at an altitude of from 5 to 10 miles up. It appeared to be sausage like in shape, with no fins, wings or protrubances of any sort. It seemed to be revolving similar to a slow roll of an airplane. It was most visiable when it reached a position where it reflected the sun's rays but it also could be seen during the times when no reflections were visiable. From the height and size of the object in the air, and if it was placed on the ground, I would judge it to be the size of a city block. I did not hear any noise nor was there any exhaust or vapor trails.

I was in the company of Mr. Hubert and Tex Keahey and the three of us were standing near the corner of Campbell Ave and East Hedrick Drive while this object was in sight. There were no openings visiable, windows or any other identifiable marks. The only way I can describe it is that it was sausage like in shape. I am sure that this was not a conventional aircraft and to the best of my knowledge and belief I can give no reasonable explanation as to exactly what the object was that I saw.

W. Howard Hamm

W. HOWARD HAMM
1411 North Dodge Ave
Tucson, Arizona

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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STATEMENT

At about 5:30 P.M. on the night of 28 April 1949, I noted an object in the sky northeast of where I reside which traveled in a southeasterly direction and eventually turned to the southwest and disappeared from sight. I would judge this object to be at an angle of 60 degrees and from 4 to 5 miles high.

This object seemed oval in shape and when it caught the sun's rays it was a brilliant silvery color. When I first observed this object it seemed to turn over and disappeared for awhile. I noticed it again a few minutes later much farther south of my first observation.

I noted no exhaust or vapor trails. It made no noise. I could see no lights, wings or tail surfaces. I have noticed B-29s flying high overhead but this seemed to travel much faster.

Looking at this object as I did for at least a half hour it seemed to be 5 or 6 feet long and I would say it would be 20 to 25 feet long if it was on the ground.

When I observed this object I was in company with a man named Huber and another named Hamm, who I believe works in a florist shop somewhere on the east side.

H. C. KEAHEY
1932 E. Hedrick Dr.
Tucson, Arizona

H. C. Keahey

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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STATEMENT

At 5:45 P.M. on 28 April 1949 I sighted an object NE of Tucson, Arizona at an angle of 75 degrees from the horizontal and at an altitude of about 25,000 to 30,000 feet. I noticed this object while standing in front of the Circle W. Ranch near the corner of East Hedrick and North Campbell Avenue, at 2218 East Hedrick Drive. I first noticed it because of the reflection of the sun on the object which showed it a brilliant silvery color. When I first sighted the object it was traveling in a south-easterly direction and finally curved to the southwest and disappeared from view. I observed it for about 40 minutes.

This object was cigar shaped with rounded ends. Had no tail assembly or wings that I could see. It seemed to be rotating as it traveled. I would also say it was traveling at a high rate of speed. There were no clouds, and the sky was very clear. Toward the front of the object I noted two circular holes which looked just like eyes from that distance.

I did not hear any noise or notice any exhaust or vapor trails.

From its altitude I would say it would be as large as a B-29.

I was in company with two other men. One man's name was Ham and the other man was called Tex.

I called Davis-Monthan AFB and talked to the S.O.D. who was on duty that evening.

John J. Huber

JOHN J. HUBER
2244 E. Hedrick
Tucson, Arizona

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