PORTER HARDY, JR.
2D DISTRICT, VIRGINIA

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

April 21, 1960

24-185-21

Larry W. Bryant

Honorable James H. Douglas
Secretary of the Air Force
Department of the Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In March I received a communication from Mr. Larry P. Maccubbin, 331 East Little Creek Road, Norfolk, Virginia, concerning the investigation of unidentified flying objects.

The correspondence was referred to General Musgrave of the Legislative Liaison Office of the Air Force. I received a reply from Colonel Carl M. Nelson, a copy of which was forwarded to Mr. Maccubbin.

I have now received another communication from Mr. Maccubbin along with a copy of an affidavit which alleges to refute statements made by Colonel Nelson. This affidavit relates specifically to the reporting of an UFO in the Poquoson area of Virginia.

If the affidavit is accurate, this indicates extremely poor handling by the Air Force. I believe this particular situation and the other matters in Mr. Maccubbin's letter deserve more thorough consideration.

I shall appreciate your advices.

MAY 17 1960

Sincerely yours,

Porter Hardy, Jr.

ISO CD DIV MAY 16 1960 OUT

This was received from Capt. Mack SAFOI-3D on 9/6/60. After examining file 24-185-21 I advised Capt. Mack's office that info. in our files not related to issue in this correspondence. I suggested SAFOI-D directly to the Command for info. on which to base proposed reply to Congressman Hardy.

24-185-21-4
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
FIAT IG
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
UNCLASSIFIED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

33[illegible] East Little Creek Road
Norfolk 5, Virginia
April 19, 1960

Honorable Porter Hardy, Jr.
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Thank you for your letter of April 4, 1960, and for the Air Force letter enclosed with it. However, Colonel Carl M. Nelson's statements were completely unsatisfactory.

Concerning the 1948 top secret report, which concluded that UFOs were real, Colonel Nelson says that no such report exists. Perhaps that report no longer exists but there is no question that it did exist in 1948. Colonel Nelson continues, "By 'real' it is assumed Mr. Maccubbin means the objects from another planet as he mentions elsewhere in his letter of 22 February 1960. Captain Ruppelt evidently referred to letters or memoranda of individuals whose personal opinions may have reflected these views. There never has been an official Air Force report with the conclusion Mr. Maccubbin indicates."

Captain Edward J. Ruppelt, as the head of the Air Force Project Bluebook, which investigated the UFO phenomena, had access to all of the Air Force files which concerned UFOs. In the foreword of his book, The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, he states that, with the exception of the style, the book was written just as he would have written it had he been asked to do so by the Air Force.

In Chapter Three, Captain Ruppelt begins his narrative concerning the "Estimate of the Situation", which Colonel Nelson is so positive did not exist. I will quote a few paragraphs from Ruppelt's book.

"In Intelligence, if you have something to say about some vital problem you write a report that is known as an "Estimate of the Situation." A few days after the DC-3 was buzzed (this is a reference to a report made by an Eastern Airlines crew on July 24, 1948--LPM), the people at ATIC decided that the time had arrived to make an Estimate of the Situation. The situation was the UFOs; the estimate was that they were interplanetary!

"It was a rather thick document with a black cover and it was printed on legal-sized paper. Stamped across the front were the words TOP SECRET.

"It contained the Air Force's analysis of many of the incidents I have told you about plus many similar ones. All of them had come from scientists, pilots, and other equally credible observers, and each one was an unknown.

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"When the estimate was completed, typed, and approved, it started up through channels to higher-command echelons. It drew considerable comment but no one stopped it on its way up."

Then followed several paragraphs concerning a UFO sighting in which a National Guard pilot, Lieutenant George F. Gorman, had had a "dog-fight" with a UFO. To continue:

"While the people on Project Sign (the forerunner to Project Bluebook--LPM) were pondering over Lieutenant Gorman's dogfight with the UFO. . .the Top Secret Estimate of the Situation was working its way up into the higher echelons of the Air Force. It got to the late General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, then Chief of Staff, before it was batted back down. The General wouldn't buy interplanetary vehicles...."

Thus, the top secret report died a quick death. Yet, this report did exist, and, regardless of Colonel Nelson's claims to the contrary, it was NOT made up of "letters or memoranda of individuals." It was the official Air Force analysis of the UFOs. And it concluded that the UFOs were not only actual objects but were interplanetary vehicles.

Colonel Nelson's allegations that the Poquoson, Virginia, sighting of 19 October 1959 was not reported to Langley Air Force Base and, further, that no civilian UFO investigator was queried concerning this sighting because this type of interroga tion is contrary to Air Force policy are untrue. The enclosed affidavit, signed and notarized, attests to this fact. Larry W. Bryant is a civilian UFO researcher, being the chairman of the Air Research Group, a local study organization. It is clearly evident that this affidavit completely disproves Colonel Nelson's statements on this important incident. Therefore, my question concerning the laxity of the Air Force in investigating this sighting still remains.

The next statement made by Colonel Nelson was "The 1952 Washington, D. C. radar and visual sightings were determined to be due to a temperature inversion." I will now give a brief run-down of the events concerning this Washington sighting and the above explanation which was officially rejected in 1952.

On July 19, 1952, a formation of UFOs was spotted on the radarscopes at Washington Airport Control Center and the airport tower. They were tracked for several hours as they maneuvered over the White House, the Capitol and other Washington areas. During this time several of the UFOs were seen visually--exactly where the radar showed them--by Captain Casey Pierman of Capital Airlines, the control tower operators at Washington Airport, and Andrews Air Force Base operators, as well as other military and civilian personnel.

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The UFOs returned on the night of July 26, and again radar tracking was publicly confirmed by visual observations. Air Force Lt. William L. Patterson, a jet pilot who tried to intercept one of the UFOs, was one witness. Airline crews, a CAA pilot, and airport personnel were among the others. On this second occasion the Control Center radar blips were seen by a Navy radar expert, Lt. Holden, as well as Senior Controller Harry Barnes and other CAA radar experts who all agreed that the blips were caused by solid objects which seemed to be under intelligent control.

All of the radar operators were familiar with weather effects on radar. All such effects were ruled out in these two sightings, especially a temperature inversion, since on the first night the inversion was only 1½ degrees and on the second night only 2 degrees. As confirmed by outside experts, including Dr. John Hegin, head of Project Vanguard, it would require at least a 10-degree inversion to cause the fake blips. Not only that, any trained radar operator would distinguish them instantly from blips of solid objects. Inversion blips would not appear to maneuver intelligently nor would they account for the visual observations.

Despite all this, the Air Force Director of Intelligence, Major General J. A. Samford, told a press conference that he personally thought that temperature inversions were to blame for the objects. However, about five weeks later, this tentative answer by Gen. Samford was officially rejected. In an interview witnessed officially by Mr. Albert M. Chop, the Public Information Officer who handled all AF UFO information, Major Lewis Norman, assigned by AFHQ at the request of the Office of Public Information for this purpose, said that the temperature inversion answer was impossible with such negligible inversions as 2 degrees.

In December, 1953, the Washington Times Herald secured an official Air Force statement that the Washington Airport sightings were unexplained.

Now, after eight years, the Air Force, through Colonel Nelson, is trying to conceal the facts by releasing an explanation already rejected as impossible.

Colonel Nelson's discussion of the 24 February 1959 American Airlines pilot's sighting over Pennsylvania has several inconsistancies within itself. He states the the Air Force explanation of this sighting, as suggested by Captain Killian's report, was a night refueling operation. However, he also says that the Air Force findings were based solely on the Captain's report. Since the submission of the report, according to Colonel Nelson's letter, no other communication has been made with Killian. Surely it is sheer folly to try to discover the cause of such a

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sighting, witnessed by hundreds of people, by simply reading a one-page, double-spaced report submitted by ONE observer and then checking a few Air Force records. Why didn't Air Force officials interrogate personally the crews of several or all of the six airliners? Why weren't the crews consulted about the refueling explanation to get their opinion? Is this what the Air Force would term an "adequate, thorough, and honest" investigation? Since it is obvious that no true investigation of this sighting was made, one wonders, and rightly so, if the refueling explanation given by Colonel Nelson is any closer to the truth than the "Belt of Orion" explanation was.

Another example of the Air Force cover-up is found in Colonel Nelson's explanation of the 11 July 1959 Pacific Ocean sighting, which, he says, resulted from a meteor. He also stated that "All aircraft saw the meteor at the same time and the direction was also constant." However, one of the pilot's who spotted this object was very emphatic about a change in course.

"My co-pilot, Richard Lorenzen, and Flight Engineer Robert Scott stared open-mouthed as the light came toward us at an extremely high rate of speed," explained Captain George Wilson, a 19-year flying veteran. "For at least ten seconds, it maintained its course which was on an opposite heading to us and had it been another aircraft it would have passed well to our left.

"Suddenly the object made a sharp right turn at a speed inconceivable of any vehicle we know of, and the light suddenly disappeared," the Captain added. There were four smaller lights trailing behind the larger one. They were evenly spaced and "were either part of the mysterious object or this was an example of darn good formation flying."

Captain Wilson was sure to point out that the object "made a sharp right turn." Yet, Colonel Nelson insists that "the direction was also constant." The very fact that the object DID turn makes it obvious that it was no meteor.

The closing portion of the Air Force letter to you discusses open Congressional hearings. Colonel Nelson states that "The Air Force feels that public hearings would merely give dignity to the subject out of all proportion to which it is entitled. The sensation seekers and the publishers of scientific fiction would profit most from such hearings." This passage is an exact quotation from similar letters sent in the past to Senators and Congressmen who have requested information on UFOs. Several of these letters were sent over a year ago, including one to Senator Harry Flood Byrd on January 20, 1959. Apparently this is the standard answer which the Air Force gives concerning open hearings. However, if open hearings disclosed that all UFO reports

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were in fact "scientific fiction", the Air Force would gain tremendously. The mystery would have ended once and for all. The truth is that public hearings, if they included the testimony and appearance of veteran pilots and other trained observers, who have sighted UFOs, would prove the reality of the UFOs, as well as the official Air Force secrecy concerning them, and, possibly, the reason for this secrecy.

This letter in itself should be proof enough that the UFOs exist and that the American people are not getting the straight facts about them from the Air Force.

For this reason, I urge you to ask for open hearings on the subject of UFOs and/or to support these hearings. The Air Force policy of censorship is not only wrong--it could very well be dangerous.

I invite comment on the subject matter of this letter from both yourself and the Air Force and I am willing to listen to reasonable arguements and explanations for the UFOs. However, I have, as yet, failed to find any satisfaction from either the "investigations" of these objects by the Air Force (which, by itself, would warrant open hearings) or the so-called explanations given for them.

I thank you for your interest and cooperation in this serious matter.

Sincerely yours,

Larry P. Maccubbin

Larry P. Maccubbin

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I, the undersigned, do solemnly swear that on October 23, 1959, I telephoned the Group Operations, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, and talked with a Sgt. Lacy of that office about the alleged sighting of an unidentified flying object in Poquoson, Virginia on October 19, 1959; that that sergeant said he would check into the case and keep me informed of the action his office would take; that later in the day I received a telephone call from a Sgt. R. M. Markling, an Intelligence Technician of Langley's 4505th Air Refueling Wing, who questioned my interest in the sighting, and who said that the decision on whether to conduct an official Air Force investigation of the sighting would be made by other personnel there at the Base. I further swear that on November 27, 1959, I telephoned the Langley Public Information Officer and asked what Air Force action was being taken in the disposition of my letter dated November 1, 1959, sent via Certified Mail #589576 to the Intelligence Officer of the 4505th; that that P.I.O. said my letter was being handled in accordance with the provisions of Air Force Regulation #200-2. This affidavit is testimony that the Air Force was aware of the DAILY PRESS news article of October 21, 1959, and did in fact query me, a civilian UFO researcher, on the results of my investigation into the Poquoson sighting of October 19.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
City of Newport News.

Larry W Bryant

Before me, the undersigned authority, in and for Newport News, Virginia, on this day personally appeared Larry W. Bryant, who being by me duly sworn, upon oath says: that stated above.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, by the said Larry W. Bryant, this eleventh day of April, 1960, to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.

My Commission expires June 5, 1960

V. Lee Wells

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AFCSI-6D 24-185-21/Capt Johnson/mb/4718/19 Jan 60

JAN 20 1960

Larry W. Bryant

UNCLASSIFIED

AFCIN-4

1. Reference is made to letter, this Directorate, dated 12 November 1958, subject and file same as above.

2. During the months of October and November 1959, Bryant made several unsuccessful attempts to solicit information by telephone from various personnel at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia concerning an alleged Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) sighting which reportedly occurred in October 1959.

3. On 12 November 1959, Captain Wesley R. Williams, Information Services Officer (ISO), Langley Air Force Base, advised that he had received a letter from Bryant, dated 1 November 1959, in which Bryant requested that he be advised whether "any Langley-based officer or agency" planned to conduct an investigation into the alleged UFO sighting which had reportedly occurred in October 1959. Bryant further requested that, if no further investigative action was contemplated by the Air Force, he be advised of the reason for the decision.

4. On 12 November 1959 a confidential source provided this Directorate with a copy of an incomplete document entitled "FROM WITHIN THE BLACKOUT: AN ANALYSIS OF SECRECY ON THE LOCAL USO SCENE by Larry W. Bryant, Chairman, the Air Research Group 2." Attached for your information is one copy of this document and one copy of letter from Bryant, dated 1 November 1959.

5. No investigation is being conducted of Subject by this Directorate.

20/1/60

F. L. WELCH
Assistant Chief
Counterintelligence Div.
Dir of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

20 JAN 1960

JAN 25 1960

2 Atchs
1. Ltr to Intelligence Officer, 4505 Air Refueling Wg, 1 Nov 59 fr Larry W. Bryant
2. Document by Larry W. Bryant, FROM WITHIN THE BLACKOUT

AFCSI-6D
Capt L. R. Johnson 19 Jan. 60
Major L. F. Olsen 19 Jan 60.
Mr. R. F. Eldridge 19 Jan 60

24-185-21

USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

File Cy - AFCSI DW 24-185-21
Cmbl Cy - AFCSI-6D Capt Johnson
Read Cy - AFCSI-6D

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AFCSI-6D/Capt Johnson/stf/4718/18 Jan 60

AFCSI-6D 24-185-21

JAN 2 0 1960

Larry W. Bryant (U)

SAFOI (Major L. F. Tacker)

1. The following is furnished for your information:

a. During the months of October and November 1959, Bryant made several unsuccessful attempts to solicit information by telephone from various personnel at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia concerning an alleged Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) sighting which reportedly occurred in October 1959.

b. On 12 November 1959, Capt Wesley R. Williams, Information Services Officer (ISO), Langley Air Force Base advised that he had received a letter from Bryant dated 1 November 1959 in which Bryant requested that he be advised whether "any Langley-based officer or agency" planned to conduct an investigation into the alleged UFO sighting which had reportedly occurred in October 1959. Bryant further requested that, if no further investigative action was contemplated by the Air Force, he be advised of the reason for the decision.

c. On 12 November 1959 a confidential source provided this Directorate with a copy of an incomplete document entitled "FROM WITHIN THE BLACKOUT: AN ANALYSIS OF SECRECY ON THE LOCAL UFO SCENE by Larry W. Bryant, Chairman, the Air Research Group".

2. Attached for your information is one copy of the above-cited document and one copy of letter from Bryant dated 1 November 1959. The attachments are for your retention.

3. No investigation is being conducted of Subject by this Directorate.

F. L. WELCH
Assistant Chief
Counterintelligence Div.
Dir of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

20 JAN 1960

2 Atchs
1. Ltr frm Bryant dtd 1 Nov 59
2. Document by Bryant

AFCSI-6D
Capt L. R. Johnson
Maj L. F. Olsen
Mr. R. F. Eldridge

JAN 25 1960

24-185-21-39

USAF IG
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File cy - AFCSI-6D 24-185-21
Read cy - AFCSI-6D Capt Johnson

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1002 Arnold Street
Newport News, Virginia
November 1, 1959

Intelligence Officer
4505th Air Refueling Wing
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

Dear Sir:

On October 23, 1959, I talked by telephone to a member of Langley's Group Operations, regarding an alleged sighting of an unidentified flying object on October 19. Later in the day, a Sgt. R. M. Merkling, of your office, contacted me and asked for the information which I had obtained about the sighting. He said that the decision on whether to conduct an official Air Force investigation of the sighting would be made by other personnel there at the Base.

In a telephone conversation on October 30, a Maj. S. G. Scull, of your office, could not inform me as to what subsequent action your office has taken or plans to take in the disposition of my information and/or the data contained in the Daily Press news article of October 21. Should I assume that no Air Force investigators will ever officially contact the two observers involved in the incident of October 19? Specifically, does any Langley-based officer or agency plan to conduct an official interview with either of the two boys within the next 30 days?

If no further investigative action on this case is contemplated by the Air Force authorities concerned, will you please tell me the reason for this decision?

Yours sincerely,

Larry W Bryant

Larry W. Bryant

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Larry W. Bryant
1002 Arnold Street
Newport News, Virginia

FORT MONROE
NOV 2
1 PM
1959
VA.

Intelligence Officer
4505th Air Refueling Wing
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

CERTIFIED
No. 589576
MAIL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

FROM WITHIN THE BLACKOUT: AN ANALYSIS OF SECRECY ON THE LOCAL UFO SCENE

by

Larry W. Bryant

Chairman, the Air Research Group

atdu

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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P R E F A C E

The United States Air Force defines an Unidentified Flying Object as "any airborne object which by performance, aerodynamic characteristics, or unusual features does not conform to any presently known aircraft or missile type, or which cannot be positively identified as a familiar object." The writer has taken several months to summarize a particular phase of the official and unofficial investigation of UFO's. He has endeavored mainly by trial-and-error to set an example of what the novice researcher in this field can accomplish by asking questions, weighing answers, and forming logical conclusions. At the same time, he hopes that the layman will gain insight into the motives and methods of private citizens who have a serious and active interest in the subject of unconventional serial objects--or "flying saucers". And the writer trusts that this summary will become a significant contribution to organized civilian UFO research.

For parallel reading outside the bibliographic entries of the accompanying appendixes, the reader is encouraged to consult "The Psychology of UFO Secrecy", and inspiring article written by Coral E. Lorensen, appearing in the October-ber, 1958 issue of Flying Saucers Magazine (Palmer Publications, Amherst, Wisconsin). Also recommended is Frank Edward's authoritative article on "Censorship and UFO's", published in the September, 1959 issue of Fate Magazine. The writer envisions this paper as an introductory reference treatise. Accordingly, it is his intention to keep his reader informed of pertinent developments. This will be done simply by attaching periodic supplements or annexes to the basic work. Each annex will be numbered and dated and should be regarded as a separate Air Research Group publication.

As the culmination of over three years' research, this paper attempts to prove that on both the local and national levels the vast majority of the government's UFO information is unavailable to the American public. Certainly, this report is more than a documentary criticism of a single governmental policy. It is an appeal for the endurance of our heritage as Americans: Freedom of seeking the truth wherever or whatever it might be; freedom from undue authoritarian censorship. If freedom be a relative term, it is the hope of the writer that his efforts will have made his audience more nearly free in at least spirit, if not in action.

L. W. BRYANT

Newport News, Virginia
September 7, 1959

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PART ONE

Discovery - Decision

In 1956, when I was a freshman at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, I was browsing in a drug store when I came across a flying-saucer advertisement in a little-known pulp magazine. The ad concerned another obscure magazine and solicited new subscriptions from readers who were interested in receiving up-to-date information on unidentified flying objects. I was curious enough to send for a sample copy of the publication, but I did not realize that this idle curiosity was later to evolve into a concerted effort to start my own UFO investigations.

Having read a few books on the UFO enigma, I was readily appreciative of others' thoughts about the subject. Although I never saw a bonafide "saucer", I had heard of reliable reports from persons who have observed the phenomenon in this area.

One such report is now a classic in the annals of the Air Technical Intelligence Center's Project Blue Book *. Listed as an "unknown", the case involves two veteran airline pilots, William B. Nash and William H. Fortenberry, who, on the night of July 14, 1952, saw eight coin-shaped, red-orange objects maneuvering below their plane, near Norfolk. The two observers calculated the objects' speed to be 12,000 miles per hour! Says Pilot Nash about this sighting: "I believe the discs were intelligently controlled machines from outer space."

Six years after the Nash-Fortenberry incident I was fortunate to learn of another confirmed local sighting of unknown objects traveling through the evening sky of July, 1952. Reported to me in writing, in July, 1958, by the key witness, a scientist employed by the Langley division of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration **, this case also is in the files of Project Blue Book. The engineer has requested that his name not be used publicly in connection with the report. Therefore, I shall refer to him as Mr. "Hopkins".

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* Project Blue Book is the code name of the Air Force unit investigating UFO reports submitted from the field. The Project is one of several functions of the ATIC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio.

** Formerly, the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

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I talked with Mr. Hopkins on July 4, 1958 and learned that at least two Newport News Ground Observer Corps spotters who were on duty the night of July 16, 1952 saw lights which were similar to those he saw. He could not recall their names, but he said that during an informal conversation he and the plane spotters compared figures and decided that they all had seen the same thing. Mr. Hopkins showed me his copy of the Langley Field account; it did not include the G.O.C. aspect, the reason being that the report came before the private collaboration made by him and the spotters. Apparently, the ground observers did not "call in" their sighting to the Richmond Air Defense Filter Center, for he told me that as far as he knew the Air Force still has not been informed of the G.O.C. confirmation.

Following my brief tenure at William and Mary, I accepted employment at a printing firm in Newport News. During the spring of 1957, I had collected a good sampling of "saucerzines"--periodicals published by private organizations or persons interested in the UFO subject. Titles of such magazines included Cosmic News, The Saucerian Bulletin, Satellite, and Ufology News. I also had two French examples, i.e Courrier Interplanetaire, and Curanos. To add vitality to my "saucerana" collection, in July I became an Associate Member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena *, and I began to receive its regular magazine, The U.F.O. Investigator, as well as the special publications which the Committee issues from time to time.

Now that I was substantially introduced to organized civilian ufology, as exemplified by the National Investigations Committee, I could not help sensing the dominate theme of this new branch of enquiry. The findings of NICAP indicated that for years the Air Force has been withholding information, including sighting reports, on UFO's. Since most of its Board of Governors subscribes to the accusation of Air Force censorship, an express prupose of the Committee is to end the secrecy. Thus, there struggles not only a controversey over the reality or unreality of alien space vehicles called flying saucers but also over the alleged withholding of vital UFO information.

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* NICAP, a non-profit group, is directed by Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe (USMC, Ret.) and is headquartered at 1536 Connecticut Avenue, Washington 6, D. C.

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I wanted to conduct my own research into this question of secrecy, so in August I launched my campaign to search the ATIC and other sources for all available answers.

I wrote to the Air Force, requesting an evaluation of a "lights-in-the-sky" sighting that had occurred in Newport news in the summer of '56. In his cordial reply, Capt. Wallace W. Elwood, Assistant Adjutant of the Air Technical Intelligence Center, said: "We have received only one report of a sighting that corresponds to the one mentioned in your letter. We requested more detailed information from the person who made the report and at this date we have not received the information requested. We thus do not have sufficient information upon which we can base an analysis or an opinion." The captain went on to say that he was enclosing a Department of Defense press release as well as a copy of the summary of their Project Blue Book Special Report Number 14. The summary, by the way, emphasized the Air Force conclusion that "no evidence has been received which would tend to indicate that the United States is being observed by machines from outer space or a foreign government."

My first ATIC probe, then, showed a willingness of the Air Force to cooperate with others in this field. However, I couldn't imagine why they would not accept NICAP's Fight-Point Cooperation Plan, which the letter had proposed in its July issue of the U.F.O. Investigator *.

* See item (2) of Appendix to Part One.

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With my introduction to civilian UFO research, I became aware of the widespread charges and supporting evidence that the Air Force is engaged in a plot to conceal UFO facts from the public. Despite its desire to cooperate with "acredited news media representatives" and its objective of "taking the aura of mystery out of UFO's", the Air Force, by its perennially contradictory behavior on the subject, had failed to persuade this writer and other researchers that what we were calling a flying-saucer blackout was in reality a misfire of our own imaginations.

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PART TWO

Oldenburgh's Folly

In the summer of 1957 I considered the advantages of forming a NICAP Affiliate, a study group comprised of twelve or more local members. * But NICAP membership in this area was rather low, so to be practical I established a club of my own, the Air Research Group. ** The first step in its formation was to recruit members, or "sympathizers", as I used to call them; several small ads in the local newspaper produced the desired results, and by the late fall of '57 a few local saucer enthusiasts had applied for and secured membership in the Group. *** It wasn't until early 1958 that the club had its first introductory meeting. Little did I realize that as the Group's chairman - no one else wanted the job - I would soon be responsible for a ufological coup de main that would go down in Air Force and NICAP history.

During my 1957 recruiting program, I was fortunate to have had the saucers working for me, at least indirectly. There is nothing like a UFO flap, an eruption of sightings, to stir up indifferent minds. The month of November was the host this time. In the space of 30 days, a flood of reliable reports caught the attention of Project Blue Book, NICAP, and the news-wire services. The Nation, the State, and the Peninsula -- all were subjected to the whims of machines which supposedly do not exist. In comparison, the November '57 flap was no less a spectacle than that of the classic July, 1952 period. /

Along with a few unconfirmed reports, the Tidewater

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* See item (1) of Appendix to Part Two.

** Refer to ARG Form 3A.014, "Statement of Policy" (11 Feb 59).

*** See ARG Form 3A.015, "Membership Data Sheet" (Revised 11 Feb 59).

/ For an analysis of the November flap see item (2) of Appendix to Part Two.

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area of Virginia had an energetic sampling of the November phenomena. The Ground Observer Corps was not left out, either, for the Air Research Group now has on file a report of a dime hovering over Hilton Village, Warwick--in broad daylight. Clearly outlined, solid, and about three-fourths the size of a B-57, the object apparently was observing six jet aircraft that had just taken off from Langley Field. It was about 500 feet above the flight path of the B-57 jets and about one mile from the observation post. The spotter first was watching the jets but then he happened to glance upward and to the right and spied the foreign craft. He had sensed the object's presence minutes before he consciously observed it. After about ten seconds of trying to believe his eyes, the observer turned to pick up his binoculars; when he came back seconds later, the object was gone. The thing had never moved during the period of observation. For this reason and the fact that it had disappeared suddenly without a trace, the spotter did not call in a report to the Filter Center. Had it remained in view a few minutes longer or moved at all, the logging of a report certainly would have been necessary. The observer said that in his five years of extensive sky surveillance he had never before experienced such an incident.

Are the UFO's interplanetary vehicles originating from a source unknown to us Earthlings? Are they secret weapons boasting a "Made-in-USA" label? Are the objects a form of life itself--space animals? Many private researchers think they have the answers to those provoking questions, and I for one am confident that the U. S. Air Force has the answers. "Indications are that the USAF has ceased its basic research into the UFO story and is concentrating on covering up all evidence of flying-saucer reality. 'Conceal everything, at any cost' seems to be the philosophy of the AF; in fact its UFO bible, Air Force Regulation 200-2 *, is an epitome of military censorship." Those were my thoughts back in late 1957. The question in my mind not only concerned the existence of the saucers themselves; I was becoming more and more critical of the Air Force's general handling of UFO investigation. I asked myself: "Can ten years and millions

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* A sample copy of AFR 200-2 is available upon request to the Office of Public Information, Department of the Air Force, Washington 25, D. C.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

of dollars spent on UFO investigation be a fair price if indeed flying saucers are figments of the imagination?" Satisfaction guaranteed, or your money back; can this motto ever be employed by the scientists of Project Blue Book.

My first briefing on AFR 200-2 came in January, 1958. One of the ads on the Group which I had published in the local newspaper cited our objective of giving the public all data obtained from our investigation of local sightings. A couple of days later, I received a letter from a Newport News advertising agency, soliciting the identical copy which I had used earlier. The agency was the publisher of the Langley Flyer, a weekly newspaper issued for Langley Field personnel. Several days after I accepted the invitation to submit the notice for publication I was informed that the copy had been rejected by the base public information officer at Langley, Capt. Gregory H. Oldenburgh. I was told that an explanation for his action could be had by telephoning him. So I did call him. Referring to AFR 200-2, he said that he was not authorized to publish such an ad. When I asked him to send me a copy of the regulation, he invited me to discuss its provisions with him at his iffice. It seemed odd to me that he couldn't spare a copy of the document, so I decided to draw up two alternate ads for his consideration. I know that AFR 200-2 prohibited AF Base personnel from releasing information on sightings that remain unsolved or unexplained. Therefore, I was prepared to argue the point that since the "saucers" are regarded by the AF as non-existent then there actually is no confirmed data that the Air Research Group could make public. But the captain did not want to argue at all; of this he reminded me when we met each other at the appointed hour on January 20.

At the start of the ten-minute interview, Captain Oldenburgh inquired of me as to what my educational background was, where I was employed, and what my other interests were. He showed me a copy of AFR 200-2, explained its restrictions, and said that I could obtain a copy by writing to the government printing office. Well, I asked to take down on paper a few extracts from the document, but he wouldn't allow this, saying, however, that it would be all right to copy the entire thing. Perhaps his attitude was based upon the fact that the regulation used to be classified. I could easily perceive his interpretation that any extract from the order should be kept in the category of "For Official Use Only".

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He pointed out that UFO information concerns the national security, and that he was responsible for keeping such information in the hands of authorized persons. I felt it useless to point out the difference between reports of "flying saucers" and reports of unidentified conventional aircraft. Such a distinction, by the way, is presented in AFR 200-2. I suspected that he was alluding to other Air Force directives on UFO's, the existence of which was unknown to the general public.

Just before he ended the interview to depart for another appointment, he said regarding the alternate ads which I had asked him to approve or reject, in writing: "You're not going to pin anything on me"; and he added that he was planning to take the matter up with a legal advisor.

Three days later he wrote to me stating that he had rejected the advertising copy because "I felt it would encourage Air Force personnel to violate present Air Force policy and specifically AFR 200-2". As to the revised ads, one of which used only the term flying saucer: "Though the wording has been changed, it is my belief that one of the objectives of your organization is the public dissemination of data on unidentified flying objects. As I pointed out to you on the 20th of January, this is contrary to Air Force policy and regulation."

Even if Oldenburgh did misinterpret the security aspect of the Air Force UFO investigation program, he nevertheless gave impetus to the secrecy provision of AFR 200-2, i.e., no base commander is authorized to release data on sightings unless said sightings involved what was later determined to be familiar or conventional objects. Only investigative procedure such as radar tracking methods and jet-intercept performance is deemed classifiable in the interest of national security. As far as conclusionary evidence is concerned, Air Force Assistant Secretary "R. E. Horner" stated on January 22, 1958, that the AF was not withholding any UFO information. He made this declaration as a participant in a nationally televised documentary show on the UFO subject. But, as disclosed later by CBS spokesman N. A. Carlberg, Director of Editing, the show itself "had been carefully cleared for security reasons". "Therefore, it was the responsibility of this network to insure performance in accordance with predetermined security standards. Any indication that there would be a deviation might lead to statements that neither this network nor the individuals on the program were authorized to release. As a consequence,

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public interest was served by the action taken by GBS in deleting the audio in Major Keyboe's speech at a point where he apparently was about to deviate from the script." I have two questions: If it is true that the AF is withholding no UFO data, that flying saucers are non-existent, then why was it necessary to clear such a program for security? What were the "unauthorized statements" they feared might be made?

Because of the Oldenburgh incident, I was now convinced that the UFO blackout was not imaginary. To speak out publicly against such a government policy. I composed a lengthy letter-to-the-editor, and in March I substituted it for publication in the Newport News Daily Press.

I have always believed that an informed public contributes to the strength of a nation. Freedom of information thus was the theme of the letter. As i singled out Captain Oldenburgh's action, I had in mind George Washington's remark that "concealment is a form of misinformation". My letter was utterly intolerant of military secrecy as an end within itself. To me, secrecy practiced for its own make could not realistically mean security.

Needless to say, the letter was never published. But later I agreed to stop the idea of publicly reproaching Captain Oldenburgh for his relatively minor part in the nation-wide "conspiracy". The Daily Press's military editor, Harry Koleum, thought I had some interesting material that could be molded into a feature article on the Air Research Group. So, after discussing the proposal with members at a meeting on April 2, I hurredly submitted the material he had requested. The article carried a photograph of this writer, and opened with the following paragraph.

> A group of 10 Peninusula residents is trying to get the Air Force to revise a regulation and at the same time is attempting to dispel the idea that those who believe in unidentified flying objects are crackpots.

Elsewhere the article observes: "Purposes of the group, the

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youthful spokesman said, are to inform the public of the results of their own investigations, and to encourage the public to demand an and to undue Air Force censorship of UFO dates."

Before the feature article was published, I had spoken to Editor Kolcum of at least one instance in which a private researcher had tried to determine the number and classification of sightings which were reported to a certain Air Force base in recent years. By order of AFR 200-2, simple requests like that one must be forwarded to Air Force headquarters in Washington, where they are handled by the chief P.I.O., Maj. L. J. Tacker. In most cases the requests are denied. When informed of this situation, Mr. Kolcum queried Langley and he too was told that his answer must come from the office of the Secretary of the Air Force. So he contacted that office and talked with Major Tacker, who said he would call Langley for the date and would contact Kolcum later. Mr. Kolcum was out of the office when Tacker returned the call, no someone else took down the information.

On April 9, the morning paper carried a news article titled "Langley Reports 3 UFO Sightings". Over a two-year period, Major Tacker informed the Daily Press, sightings occurred on Sept. 10, 1956, near Big Bethel, Hampton; in May, 1957 in Suffolk; and Nov. '57 in Warwick. He said none of the three reports was accomplished by sufficient data to form a positive identification, and a thorough investigation was made of the Big Bethel incident. Although this case was not listed as an "unknown", Major Tacker said that the object involved was reported as about the size of a softball, shaped something like a full moon. And he said that a witness, who was not named, allegedly saw passengers in the vehicle, wearing headgear.

When informed of the Air Force's response to Mr. Kolcum's enquiry, I was curious to know if any of the observers of the three cases was on active military duty at the time of his experience. I was aware that at least one other un-

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classified order had been used to embrace secrecy in the government's UFO investigations. Titled JANAP 146, this document makes it a federal offense for pilots to reveal UFO sightings publicly if they reported them over a system called CIRVIS--Communications instructions for Reporting Vital Intelligence Sightings. A Joint-Chief-of-Staff product, the directive is binding on members of the armed forces, the Coast Guard, and anyone else who happens to learn the contents of a CIRVIS message. Section III, citing the Espionage Laws, prescribes that any person who makes public a UFO-CIRVIS report can be imprisoned for one to ten years and fined up to 10,000 dollars. My curriosity about the Langley cases was partially satisfied when I phoned Major Tacker on the morning of April 9. He said that all the observers, if he recalled correctly, were unassociated with the military. As I proceeded to query him on other points of the Daily Press article, particularly the lack of clarity in the Big Bethel case, he invited me to submit my questions to him in writing. Thus, on the same day, I composed a three-page letter to him and enclosed a NICAP sighting report form, which I asked him to forward to the initial observer in the Big Bethel incident. In his reply of April 14, he said that my letter disclosed that I was associated with one of many private organizations on aerial phenomena and for this reason he could not give me the data requested. He siad: "It is true on occasion that we do furnish information on specific cases to accredited news media representatives to keep this public adequately informed on this subject." Then he added: "If your organization (NICAP, that is, for the writer never mentioned the Air Research Group) desires to pursue this matter further, I suggest you communicate with some of the other groups or dubs interested in aerial phenomena. It is a popular and imaginative subject and I am sure such associations will be mutually beneficial."

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There we have it! The ultimate significance of AFR 200-2: If we need to know a certain datum, we must discover it without assistance from the Pentagon, or be prepared to defend our right to the information. But, I think the Pentagon is coming to realish that, as columnist George E. Sokolsky remarks: "It is not profitable to keep the people uninformed or falsely informed because this course of events brings the truth to the surface sooner or later. Whether the course of ufological events takes the form of a mass saucer landing or a recurrence of mysterious aircraft disappearances remains to be seen.

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PART THREE

IFO, UFO, and the AF Budget

To show further the affectiveness of AFR 200-1, I recount here another experience I had with the authorities of Langley Field, ATIC, and the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force.

IFO--Identified Flying Objects--in the form I have chosen to represent that category of sightings which that AF lists as solved. Such a sighting, for example, is the case of a "UFO" that was seen by hundreds of Peninusla residents on the Fourt of July, 1958. At the expense of the tax-payer, it was determined by the Langley interception dispatched to the scene that this phenomenon was merely a searchlight beam. Since the object was positively identified as a familiar or conventional one, Langley's commander, Col H. P. Sparks and its P.I.O. were authorized by AFR 200-2 to release all data secured on the nature of the phenomenon. Both the exact location of the searchlight and the fact that an attempted interception was made were publicized freely. Because such data was so easily made public, I could see no reason why the AF would not release figures on the expenditures of Project Blue Book, particularly as regards IFO cases. But, I should have reminded myself of the earlier attempt I had made to determine the number of solved sightings logged by Langley during 1956-1958. In this respect, a letter I addressed to Col. Sparks on April 10 was referred, in accordance with AFR 200-2, to Maj. Tacker at the Pentagon. I objected to this obvious evasion but was informed by Capt. Oldenburgh on April 28 that since my inquiry concerned the results of an investigation of UFO's his office was not authorized to release such information. Did his office forget this restriction on the night of July 4? Maj. Tacker never replied to my letter of April 10.

From June 1, 1958 to January 22, 1959, I became fully aware of how difficult it can be to trace the use of U. S. tax dollars. A series of 23 letters to and from officials of the Air Force and the United States Congress proved to me that burcaucracy is an ideal burial ground for citizens' enquiries.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

APPENDIX TO PART ONE

(1) RUPPELT, Edward J. The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects. New York: Doubleday and Co. Inc.: 1956. This book was cleared for security by the Department of Defense.

(2) KEYHOE, Donald E., Editor. "8-Point Plan Offered Air Force", The U.F.O. Investigator: Vol. I, No. 1 (July, 1957), p. 1.

(3) KEYHOE, Donald E. The Flying Saucer Conspiracy. New York: Henry Holt and Company: 1955. Page 232.

(4) KEYHOE, Donald E., Editor. "Metal Object from Skies Rushed to ATIC for Analysis", The U.F.O. Investigator: Vol. I, No. 3 (January, 1958), p. 5

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

PART FIVE

Cover-up at CONARC

In May, 1958 I secured employment as a publications clerk with the Adjutant General's Section, Headquarters. The position, which I still occupy at this writing, is a "sensitive" one, requiring appropriate security clearance. My official duties are governed by specific Army regulations. Soon after I became a Civil Service employee, I learned that much of my unofficial activity is subject to scrutiny and restriction by certain Army authorities.

The U. S. Continental Army Command embraces the six U. S. Continental Armies and all field type Army installations within the United States. About 100 Army posts, 400,000 military personnel, 75,000 civilian employees, and over a million Army Reserve members receive training directions and policy instructions from the command's nerve center here on the Peninsula. CONARC headquarters is second in authority only to Department of the Army headquarters in Washington, D. C.

Part of Hq USCONARC's function is to originate and distribute publications. Its Daily Bulletin is prepared for the information and use of all Ft. Monroe personnel. This newspaper consists of an official section and an unofficial one, which usually carries items on local club doings, sales of merchandise, and employment advertisements.

On September 22, 1958, I inserted an unofficial notice in the Daily Bulletin, suggesting that Ft. Monroe personnel who were interested in UFO's contact the Air Research Group. Two days later, my immediate supervisor received a telephone call from the office of Maj. W. M. Hartness, Commanding Officer of the Counter Intelligence Corps (C.I.C.) Detachment at the fort. I was told to report to the C.I.C. office for questioning.

When I arrived for the interview I was met by two gentlemen dressed in civilian clothes. One was the chief of C.I.C. Operations, Mr. W. J. Robinson, the other was Mr. J. T. Morgan.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

The closed-door meeting, which lasted about thirty minutes, was presided over by Mr. Robinson, a tall, husky man, whose Army career had everything but an official flying-saucer discussion. While the two officers asked me questions, I sat uncomfortably in an arm chair opposite theirs. My answers were complete and to the point, as I had nothing to hide. I told them why I was interested in UFO's and why I had inderted the ad in the Daily Bulletin. They in turn complained that they were interested in the activity of any new group which advertised itself in a CONARC publication. Although they had not said so, I was sure they were investigating my activity to determine if any subversion was involved.

Communist infiltration into organized ufology is, of course, an unpleasant subject. Nevertheless, it is reported that some existing groups are adhering to and fostering certain doctrines or principles which sound the familiar ring of the"party line". At least one West Coast group is "dedicated to the physical, spiritual, and economic .... cipation of man", and it has publicly stated that one of its purposes is "to help initiate, through political and economic action, the procedures for providing abundance for all." This organization promotes the "New Age non-money, non-value exchanging economic system of "Prior Choice Economics'". From the label "New Age", it is evident that the group is composed mainly of contactists, i.e., persons who believe that our neighboring planets are inhabited by benevolent, god-like beings who travel and communicate from world to world via "etberic" spaceships and universal thought waves.

The contactist is an idealist: as a member of the New Age Group cited above, he works toward establishing "the Universal Brotherhood of all Mankind"; he wants to "help create greater understanding and cooperation between the peopld of earth and the people of space"; and he hopes to "disseminate to the earth's peoples the solutions to their problems."

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We know that communism appeals to the idealist. But we also know that many contactists are not taken in by the party line. It is a matter of degree, then, as to how the New Age faction is being infiltrated. Because of limited space here, it would be well to consider this subject further in a separate paper.

Recognizing the threat posed by subversive fronts, NICAP publicly affirms that it has no known communist members. Likewise, a similar organization, APRO *, requires prospective members to sign a statement declaring whether or not they have had any communist ties.

At the termination of the September 24 interview, the two C.I.C. Agents apparently were confident that my group was not spreading any un-American propaganda. I returned to my work the same day and heard nothing further about the interview until December 9, 1958. On that date I received a letter from Major Hartness, who was replying to my request of December 4, in which I asked for a copy of any official report that his office had made on the interview of September 24. He advised me that "no formal report was made in this matter."

Since the Air Research Group notice in the Daily Bulletin had brought few replies I decided to revise it and submit it for publication in the edition for December 22. Under the heading "Instructions for Reporting Aerial Phenomena", I asked the Ft. Monroe employees report any UFO sighting to the Group for analysis. On the 23rd I was again summoned to the C.I.C. office, where I met Mr. Robinson and another investigator, Mr. W. B. Smith. Mr. Robinson produced a draft of an official notice which he said would be printed as a rescission in a forthcoming Daily Bulletin. He said the my unofficial ad of the 22nd would be rescinded because it was a "very official sounding" announcement and because the G-" (Intelligence) section was rather upset over the matter. The draft cited two Army documents which prescribe "proper reporting procedure for the sighting of unidentified flying objects." Mr. Robinson

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* Address of APRO (Aerial Phenomena Research Organization): 1712 Van Goure, Alamogordo, New Mexico.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SAFEGUARD POLICY
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
5 DEC 1975
DATE

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

REPLY TO ATTN OF: 21D 24-146

24 November 1959

24-185-21-34-26-27-28-29-30-31

SUBJECT: LARRY W. BRYANT, Civilian
1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, Va.

UNCLASSIFIED

TO: Dir OSI (24-185-21)
ATTN: Deputy Director

1. Your attention is invited to attached letter report and accompanying attachments, more particularly Attachment Nr. 2 thereof, which was received from the Department of the Army and the existence of such at CONARC level could prove most embarrassing to that organization, if the information were divulged. Investigation in the premises was originally authorized by Lt Colonel Cox, then District Commander, upon the personal request of the then Base Commander, Colonel Sparks, and the then 836th Air Division Commander, General Chickering, and has been continued at intermittent intervals due to the activities of Subject and to keep the Base Commander apprised of developments upon the part of Subject.

2. This case has been reopened to apprise the Commander, Colonel Tibbets, of the current activities upon the part of the Subject and with particular emphasis on his attempt to embarrass the U. S. Air Force and especially Langley AFB through the media of the published article.

3. It is understood from Major Hartness that Subject forwarded proposed article, portions of which are set forth in Attachment 2 to the attached letter report, to the Department of the Army without in any manner whatsoever coordinating with the CONARC where he is employed, and that the Department of the Army referred the matter back through the media of a highly sensitive and classified communication to ascertain the facts surrounding the proposed publication by Subject. It is understood that the article also contains severe criticism concerning the Department of the Army and individuals therein as well as the Air Force.

4. It is further understood that when the investigation is completed by CONARC it will be returned to the Department of the Army, at which time the Department of the Air Force will be then queried as to their knowledge of the allegations by Subject. Therefore, this matter is brought to your immediate attention so that the information desired may be furnished to the Department of the Army if and when a query is made of the Department of the Air Force.

24-185-21-38

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

OUT
11 JAN 1960
CI DIV
OSI

UNCLASSIFIED
12 JAN 1960

NOV 30 09 31 '59

OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

KURT K. KUNZE, Capt USAF
Historian

DATE

5 DEC 1975

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

5. This letter is classified CONFIDENTIAL because it contains investigative information which requires protection against unauthorized disclosure.

A. N. BEATTIE
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Atch:
Ltr Rpt, addressed to
Comdr, LAFB w/ 2 atchs (in dup)

[redacted]

OSI-319

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Dir OSI, USAF

UNCLASSIFIED

Reply to
Attn of: 21D 24-0

8 May 1959

24-185-20-17
24-185-18-33
24-185-17-92
24-185-2-10
24-0-1826

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object
COEBURN, VA

TO: 4505th Refueling Wing (Dir Intell)
Langley Air Force Base, Va
ATTN: Major K. C. Titmus

1. Confirming conversation by and between Major Murrelle, Chief, Counterintelligence Division, this organization, and Lt Hugh R. Ennis of your organization, the inclosed data from the "Roanoke Times", a daily newspaper printed in Roanoke, Virginia, dated May 1 and 3, are inclosed for such disposition as you deem appropriate in accordance with AFR 200-2 and related amendments thereto.

X

FRED C. CHASE, Major, USAF
For and in the absence of
RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

2 Atchs:
a/s

Copies to:
~~Dir~~ OSI
Det 2103

18 MAY 1959

UNCLASSIFIED

OUT
18 MAY 1959
CI DIV
OSI

24-185-21-37

MAY 12 0 08 1959

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

IN

1959 MAY 14 15 00

COUNTER INTEL DIV



THE ROANOKE TIMES, Friday, May 1, 1959.

Strange Lights Are Seen in Section Near Coeburn

By ALEX CROCKETT
Times Southwest Virginia Bureau

COEBURN, April 30—Is Wise County's mountainous terrain being used as a testing ground for a highly secret and radically different type of aircraft?

Louis Estes, a Coeburn funeral director, is convinced it is. Others in the area—Prof. T. W. Gibson of Clinch Valley College, for example—feel that it's a bit early to draw conclusions.

CENTER OF all the speculation is a steadily increasing number of sightings of unusual lights on and around Sheeprock Mountain near here.

Estes shares with the Clinch Valley College Astronomy Club the distinction of having been a frequent viewer. Other residents of the Coeburn area—sometimes in groups of as many as 50 persons—claim to have seen the strange lights, too.

According to Estes, something has been going on around the mountain for nearly 10 years. From his home on the north edge of town, he has seen glowing red-orange discs land and take off as close as 1,000 yards away.

He says he has counted as many as 21 sightings in three consecutive nights. His most recent viewings were the past Sunday and Tuesday nights.

The college Astronomy Club became interested about two months ago after individual members began to report and discuss sightings. Since the first of March, the club has been recording its observations. The record reads like this:

March 5—9 p.m., one sighting; March 11—9 p.m., one; March 20—11:55 p.m., one; April 1—9:30 p.m., one; April 8—9 p.m., one; April 9—9 p.m., one; April 14—9:40 p.m., one; April 16—beginning at 9 p.m., seven sightings; April 17—beginning at 8:30 p.m., nine sightings; April 20—10 p.m., two; April 23—9:40 p.m., one.

Weather conditions entered on the sheet varied from "clear" to "heavy fog, much rain." The sky was "hazy" on both April 16 and 17—the two big nights.

ALL OF the objects appeared to be moving in either a southwesterly or a northwesterly direction. All except the one on March 20 were observed on or near Sheeprock Mountain, just north-northwest of the Town of Coeburn. It was the one exception that made a "believer" of Prof. Tom Robinson, the club's faculty sponsor.

At 11:55 p.m., three resident students of the college—Frank Rose and Paul Buchanan of Clintwood, and Garth Thornbury of Grundy—observed a bright, orange-red light about 15 degrees above the horizon.

There were low clouds that night, but there had been no precipitation. No stars were in view. All three of the boys agreed the object was "much brighter" than stars or planets on a clear night.

They watched the light zigzag, move in circles, become first bright and then dim, and disappear and reappear several times. They aroused Robinson and he watched for a few minutes until the light disappeared again.

Not long afterward, it reappeared and continued to "do tricks" at what the boys judged to be 10 miles away and a quarter of a mile high. Eventually, it seemed to disappear into the clouds at about 45 degrees elevation to the horizon southeast of the campus.

Altogether, it had been in view for about an hour and 45 minutes.

Buchanan and Charles K. Dearben of Coeburn have been among the more enthusiastic observers from the college.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Many Watch Light Display In Coeburn

A Times Staff Dispatch
Southwest Virginia Bureau

COEBURN, May 2—Coeburn's mysterious lights were back in full force Friday night, but practical jokers, unimaginative skeptics and several hundred people who were "just plain curious" made observing conditions far from ideal.

Rugged Sheeprock Mountain near here was dotted with a variety of flashing, blinking and moving lights. At least half of them could be definitely traced to such commonplace things as campfires, flashlights and red signal flares. Three or four others probably originated from similar sources.

At least two did not.

A GROUP of newsmen assembled near the high school football field here got a clear—though long range—look at both of them. Up on the crest of Sheeprock, a State Forestry Service employe confirmed one of the good sightings, but said he could not see the other object.

The light seen simultaneously from the two points was in the sky just above Wise Mountain rather than Sheeprock. It was visible for about 15 minutes around 9:30 p.m. through field classes from the high school, it appeared to be an orange-red elliptical light. It displayed both vertical and horizontal motion before finally disappearing on or over the crest of the mountain.

David W. Miller, a state forester who said his own campfire and flashlight probably accounted for some of the intermittent glows on Sheeprock, offered essentially the same observation on the object over Wise Mountain.

From his vantage point, Miller also saw a similar moving light some distance away—apparently over the area between Wise Mountain and High Knob. He said he watched another brighter red light flash down onto the Toms Creek side of Sheeprock. He did not see the most spectacular object the

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNCLASSIFIED

MAR 13 1959

24-185-21 AFCSI-6D/Capt Olsen/ga/8924/12 Mar 59

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, INTELLIGENCE

AFCIN

SUBJECT: Transmittal of Information

1. Transmitted is information considered of interest to your office. The inclosure is for your retention.

2. Remarks -

1 Incl
Ltr fr FBI dtd 9 Feb 59
w/1 incl (2 cys)

RB 13/3/59
HOMER L. MOORE, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Sabotage and Espionage Branch
Counterintelligence Division
Directorate of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

UPON WITHDRAWAL OF THE INCLOSURES, THE CLASSIFICATION OF THIS CORRESPONDENCE WILL BE CANCELLED.

OUT 13 MAR 1959 CI DIV OSI

16 MAR 1959

OUT 13 MAR 1959 MANAGEMENT DIV OSI

24-185

24-185-21-36

11 Mar 59 Olsen 12 March

AFCSI-6D
Capt L. F. Olsen
Maj R. M. Arentson

Coord Cy, AFCSI-6D 24-185-21

UNCLASSIFIED

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Dir OSI, USAF

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

File Nr: 24-0

5 March 1959

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT(UFO)
Fredericksburg, Virginia
11 January 1959

TO: Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

1. On 3 March 1959, Mrs. NELLIE S. PUGH, P. O. Box 61, Bowling Green, Virginia, and her son, CHARLES E. PUGH, JR. of the same address, were interviewed upon information furnished by Federal Bureau of Investigation Field Office, Richmond, Va., dated 2 March 1959, Subject, Unidentified Object Seen in Vicinities of Fredericksburg, Va. and Short Pump, Va., January 11, 1959. NELLIE S. PUGH and CHARLES E. PUGH, JR., furnished the following information concerning the unidentified flying object which they allegedly sighted on 11 January 1959:

a. Description of the Object:

(1) Appeared at a distance as a row of rectangular windows lit with yellow light. Above row of windows was one round, larger, much brighter light of white color. When overhead object appeared round, with yellow lights around the circumference.

(2) At a distance (side view) object appeared no bigger than a quarter held at arms length. Overhead (bottom view) object appeared no bigger than a half dollar held at arms length.

(3) The circumference lights appeared yellow; the overhead light appeared white. No other parts of object discernable.

(4) One object only.

(5) N/A

(6) None except as described in other sections.

(7) When first sighted by PUGH, Jr. object appeared to be a falling star. PUGH, Jr. stated object had a yellow-white tail approximately equal to the radius of the object. Tail disappeared as object stopped "falling" and reduced speed.

OUT 17 MAR 1959 CI DIV OSI

IN 17 MAR 1959

24-185-21-35

INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF 12 MAR 59 1324 OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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(8) None.

(9) Object hovered, did not move with a constant speed or course.

b. Description of Course of Object:

(1) PUGH, Jr. stated he was looking for falling stars. He further stated that he did not see any either before or after the UFO sighting. Object appeared in the ENE and seemed to be falling, as a meteorite would.

(2) When first appeared was approximately 40 degrees off the horizon in East North East.

(3) Object disappeared through the horizon. Cessation of sight not due to distance, but to object's disappearing into horizon.

(4) When first sighted, object appeared to "fall" from great altitude out of ENE. Object stopped falling, appeared to keep constant altitude and came toward the automobile in which observers were riding. When object passed over the automobile, it seemed to change course and head South directly over the automobile on a concurrent course at approximately the same relative speed. After three (3) minutes on the concurrent course, object changed course and moved toward the West, where it disappeared under the horizon. (Total time elapsed: six (6) minutes).

(5) Slowly to the West.

(6) Six (6) minutes.

c. Manner of Observation.

(1) Ground-visual from moving automobile.

(2) None used.

(3) N/A

d. Time and Date of Sighting:

(1) Between 2000 and 2030 Hrs EST, 11 Jan 59.

(2) Night.

e. Location of Observers:

(1) Observers driving SE on State Rt #2. Object was in sight from the south city limits of Fredericksburg, Va. to a point on Rt #2 eight (8) miles south of the City limits of Fredericksburg, Va.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Hq 21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT (UFO)

File Nr: 24-0
5 March 1959

f. Identifying Information on Observers:

(1) (Civilians) Mrs. NELLIE S. PUGH, SR. 32 years of age, P. O. Box 61, Bowling Green, Va. Housewife. CHARLES E. PUGH, JR. 12 years of age. Same address. Student.

g. Weather and Winds-Aloft Conditions at Time and Place of Sighting:

(1) Clear night. No clouds. No moon.

(2) Weather information furnished by Miss LEE SIMMONS, Forecaster on Duty, 4 March 1959, from records of United States Weather Bureau, Byrd Field, Richmond, Va.

11 Jan 2000 Hrs Wind - Surface: NW at 6 Knots
2030 Hrs Wind - Surface: N at 7 Knots
No further wind information available.

(3) No clouds. Ceiling unrestricted.

(4) Visibility unrestricted.

(5) No Thunderstorms in area.

h. No unusual activity.

i. N/A

j. Unknown

k.

(1) CHARLES PUGH, Sr. advised he interviewed his wife and son separately and they both gave substantially the same account of the UFO sighting.

(2) PUGH, Sr. is a radio announcer for Havens & Martin Radio Station, Richmond, Va. and he has mentioned this sighting in recent broadcasts; has further inferred that the disappearance of the JACKSON family could be tied in with this UFO (both occurred on same date, 11 January 1959). PUGH, Sr is an Officer in the Army Reserve.

l. No physical evidence.

cc: Dir OSI, USAF

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

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3

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Dir OSI, USAF

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

File Nr: 2

6 February 1959

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT (UFO)
Richmond, Virginia
22 January 1959

TO: Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

1. This communication confirms information furnished Major STEWART G. SCULL, AO 582947, Intelligence Officer, Hq 345th Bomb Wing, 836th Air Division, Langley AFB, Va. on 23 January 1959, relative to an alleged sighting of an unidentified flying object(s) in the vicinity of Richmond, Virginia.

2. On 30 January 1959, WILLIAM S. MOORE, Kappa Alpha Fraternity House, Randolph Macon College, Ashland, Virginia, was interviewed upon information received in a "Summary of Information" from Region VI, 109th CIC Group, Richmond, Va., dated 27 January 1959. MOORE furnished the following information concerning the unidentified flying object which he allegedly sighted on 22 January 1959:

a. Description of the Object:

(1) Appeared in a triangular shape.

(2) Appeared as light clusters, no bigger than a dime held at arms length.

(3) Color seemed to be white (3 objects), orange (4th object).

(4) Two white light clusters later joined by a third object (which seemed to be orange in color) fourth light (white in color).

(5) First two white lights traveling side by side. Orange light joining up, then breaking off; fourth light seemed to intercept other white lights.

(6) Clusters of lights seemed to have a triangular shape.

(7) None.

(8) No sound noted.

(9) No other pertinent or unusual details.

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b. Description of Course of Object(s):

(1) Observed two clusters of bright lights which were blinking.

(2) When first observed appeared to be about 45° off the horizon.

(3) About 50°.

(4) White objects (#1 & #2) moved from North to South, then stopped. Orange object (#3) moved from North to South and it also appeared to stop. First white object(s) (#1 & #2) then moved in a westward direction with orange object (#3) on a parallel course. The orange object continued into the west until it disappeared. The white objects then reversed their direction and headed East. Fourthobject (white) appeared out of the North and intercepted the first two white objects. The fourth object continued in a southerly direction and disappeared. The first two objects then disappeared in the East.

(5) Objects were in sight about 30 minutes.

c. Manner of Observation:

(1) Ground visual

(2) No optical aids used

(3) N/A

d. Time & Date of Sighting:

(1) 2045 hours EST, 22 January 1959

(2) Night.

e. Location of Observer

(1) Driving West-Northwest on Highway #60, approximately 20 miles East of Richmond, Virginia.

f. Identify Information or Observers:

(1) WILLIAM S. MOORE, age 18, 811 Marshall Street, Hampton, Va., occupation: student.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

g. Weather & Winds Aloft, Conditions at Time and Place of Sighting:

(1) Clear night with moon.

(2) Weather information obtained from U. S. Weather Bureau (WBAS), Byrd Field, Highway #60 (located approximately 3 miles from point observer observed lights).

(3) Unknown.

(4) 15 miles.

(5) Unlimited, no cloud cover.

(6) No thunderstorms in area at time of sighting.

h. No unusual activity in the area.

i. No interception or identifying action taken.

j. Air traffic - unknown.

k. N/A

l. No physical evidence.

cc: Dir OSI, USAF

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

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OUT
12 FEB 1959
CI DIV
OSI

24-185-21-33

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNCLASSIFIED NOV 12 1958

Typed: 10 Nov 1958

24-185-21 AFCSI-6D/Capt Olsen/rvg/C181/X8896

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: (U) Larry W. Bryant

1. The following is furnished for your information:

a. The 4 February 1958 edition of The Daily Press, Newport News, Virginia, carried the following advertisement:

NOTICE TO LANGLEY AIR
FORCE PERSONNEL

"Would like to hear from those persons interested in volunteering their services as Special Advisors to a proposed local study group on aerial phenomena. Not violating military security but acting as private citizens (i.e., separate from official Air Force duty), the advisors would help the club solve research problems and inform it on current methods, achievements, and obstacles in this field. For more information write Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick."

b. The Daily Bulletin for 22 September 1958 of Headquarters, United States Continental Army Command, Fort Monroe, Virginia, listed the following item:

"17. LITERATURE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA. If interested in actual facts on Unidentified Flying Objects, write the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, which is a local civilian organization acting in cooperation with the U. S. Air Force."

c. A check with the Office of Information Services, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, disclosed that that office had previously been contacted by one Larry Bryant of 1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, Virginia, who represented himself as Associate Member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington, D.C. Checks of appropriate local agencies in Virginia did not disclose any information concerning either the Air Research Group or Larry Bryant.

OUT 12 NOV 1958 CI DIV OSI

d. At the request of the OSI, Larry W. Bryant, Department of the Army civilian, employed at Fort Monroe, Virginia, was interviewed

21

File Copy -- AFCSI-6D INV 24-185-21
Cmbk Copy -- AFCSI-6D
Read Copy

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24-185-21 *32

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

by the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence, Headquarters, United States Continental Army Command, on 23 September 1958, concerning his basis for claiming Air Force cooperation with the Air Research Group. Attached for your information is one copy of letter from Headquarters, United States Continental Army Command, containing the results of the interview with Bryant.

1 Incl
Ltr to DO #21, fr
Depty C/S for Intelligence, Hq US Continental
Army Command, Ft Monroe,
Va., dtd 27 Sep 1958,
file ATINT 334.

HOMER L. MOORE, Lt Col, USAF
Chief, Sabotage and Espionage Branch
Counterintelligence Division
Directorate of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

AFCSI-6D
Olsen 10 Nov '58
for Capt L. F. Olsen
Maj R. M. Arentson
Lt Col H. L. Moore
Ltr 10 Nov 58

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Dir OSI, USAF

HEADQUARTERS
21st DISTRICT OSI (IG) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

UNCLASSIFIED

File Nr: 24-146 30 September 1958

SUBJECT: LARRY W. BRYANT, Civilian
1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, Va.

TO: Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

1. Reference is made to a communication confirming the oral briefing of Lt Colonel Eugene O'Neill, Executive, by Major A. C-Murrelle, II, this District, 24 September 1958, Subject as above, dated 26 September 1958.

2. Inclosed is a letter, Subject Air Research Group, dated 27 September 1958 by Lyman D. Bothwell, Colonel, GS, DCofS for Intelligence, Hq U. S. Continental Army Command, Fort Monroe, Virginia, which sets forth the results of an interview with one LARRY W. BRYANT, Department of the Army civilian employed at Fort Monroe, Va., relative to the insertion of an ad in the Hq CONARC Bulletin inferring that BRYANT was cooperating with the Air Force concerning unidentified flying objects. BRYANT's explanations of authority for claiming cooperation with the Air Force patently illogical, nevertheless are forwarded as a matter of interest to you.

A. C-MURRELLE, II, Major, USAF
For and in the absence of
RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl:
a/s (in dup)

cc: Dir OSI (w/ Incl in dup)

cc: Comdr, TAC (w/ Incl in dup)
(1 copy to be forwarded to
Col W. H. Smith, Dep Dir of Intell)

OUT
12 NOV 1958
CI DIV
OSI

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FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

24 NOV 1958

24-185-21-31
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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OCT 22 1958

OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence
HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES CONTINENTAL ARMY COMMAND
FORT MONROE, VIRGINIA

ATINT 334

SEP 27 1958

SUBJECT: Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Newport News (Warwick), Virginia

TO: Commanding Officer
21st District Office of Special Investigations
Langley Air Force Base, Virginia
ATTN: Major A. C. Murrelle II, USAF

UNCLASSIFIED

1. In compliance with your request of 23 September 1958, Larry W. Bryant, Department of the Army civilian employed at Fort Monroe, Virginia, was interviewed concerning his basis of authority for claiming Air Force cooperation with subject organization in a notice he submitted for publication in the Headquarters, United States Continental Army Command (Hq USCONARC) Daily Bulletin, 22 September 1958 (Incl 1).

2. Bryant, in effect, stated that he is a member of subject Air Research Group as well as an associate member of the National Investigations Committee of Aerial Phenomena (NICAP), Washington, D. C. Subject Air Research Group was described as an "unofficial" listening post for the NICAP and Bryant is the only active member although the local organization has seven or eight passive members. The purpose of both organizations is to attempt to determine actual facts concerning Unidentified Flying Objects (UFO).

3. Bryant's illogical bases of authority for claiming cooperation with U.S. Air Force are:

a. He has, on occasion, conversed with and written to personnel at Langley Air Force Base, Virginia and while officials at this installation "obviously have not appreciated people like myself who attempt to publicize UFO sightings", Bryant interprets that any answer he has received, written or verbal, positive or negative, constitutes cooperation.

b. On one occasion, Bryant attempted to solicit information from an official at Langley Air Force Base with negative results. He then communicated with Congressman Robeson of Virginia who procured the desired information through the U.S. Air Force Legislative Liaison Office, Washington, D. C. Bryant interprets this release of information as

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"cooperation" although obtained through a third person and under legislative pressure.

4. Bryant stated he had claimed his group was cooperating with the U.S. Air Force to gain prestige and to eliminate the ridicule his group was usually subjected to when attempting to recruit new members.

5. Bryant was advised that in the future specific authority should be obtained prior to claiming the cooperation, support or endorsement of any official agency.

Lyman D. Bothwell

1 Incl
USCONARC Daily Bulletin

LYMAN D. BOTHWELL
Colonel, GS
DCofS for Intel

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

HEADQUARTERS
21st DISTRICT OSI (IG) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

File Nr: 24-146

30 September 1958

SUBJECT: LARRY W. BRYANT, Civilian
1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, Va.

TO: Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

1. Reference is made to a communication confirming the oral briefing of Lt Colonel Eugene O'Neill, Executive, by Major A. C-Murrelle, II, this District, 24 September 1958, Subject as above, dated 26 September 1958.

2. Inclosed is a letter, Subject Air Research Group, dated 27 September 1958 by Lyman D. Bothwell, Colonel, GS, DCofS for Intelligence, Hq U. S. Continental Army Command, Fort Monroe, Virginia, which sets forth the results of an interview with one LARRY W. BRYANT, Department of the Army civilian employed at Fort Monroe, Va., relative to the insertion of an ad in the Hq CONARC Bulletin inferring that BRYANT was cooperating with the Air Force concerning unidentified flying objects. BRYANT's explanations of authority for claiming cooperation with the Air Force patently illogical, nevertheless are forwarded as a matter of interest to you.

A. C-MURRELLE, II, Major, USAF
For and in the absence of
RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl:
a/s (in dup)

cc: Dir OSI (w/ Incl in dup)

cc: Comdr, TAC (w/ Incl in dup)
(1 copy to be forwarded to
Col W. H. Smith, Dep Dir of Intell)

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

DIA OSI USAF

HEADQUARTERS
21st DISTRICT OSI (IG) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

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

File Nr: 24-146

26 September 1958

SUBJECT: LARRY W. BRYANT, Civilian
1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, Va.

TO: Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

1. This communication confirms the oral briefing to Lt Colonel Eugene O'Neill, Executive, by Major A. C-Murrelle, II, this District, 24 September 1958.

2. Major William M. Hartness, Commander, CONARC CIC Detachment, Fort Monroe, Va., requested an indices check concerning the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, Va., 23 September 1958. This is a normal procedure as between Department of Defense investigative agencies. The check revealed that the Air Research Group was involved in file 24-146, District Office Nr. 21, Subject as above, which was closed 31 March 1958 and accomplished pursuant to the desires of your predecessor. The Air Research Group was found to be located at the same address as Subject and apparently he is considered the spokesman for the aforesaid group in accordance with findings in cited case and in an article appearing in the DAILY PRESS, Newport News, Va., dated 9 April 1958. A subsequent conversation between Major Murrelle and Major Hartness developed the fact that BRYANT was employed at CONARC Adjutant General area as an administrative assistant in the Blank Forms Division, Directorate of Publications and as such an employee contacted M/Sgt James M. Bradley, RA 36070739, the NCOIC, Hq CONARC Daily Bulletin and had inserted therein the following item under date of 22 September 1958:

"LITERATURE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA. If interested in actual facts on Unidentified Flying Objects, write the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, which is a local civilian organization acting in cooperation with the U. S. Air Force." (Inclosure #1)

3. In accordance with the desires of Lt Colonel O'Neill, the following Base personnel were alerted and requested to inform the Executive in the event that a similar attempt was made to insert a notice of this type in the Langley AFB Daily Bulletin: Captain Gladstone H. Matheson, AO 1048895,

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[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: LARRY W. BRYANT, Civilian

File Nr: 24-146
26 Sept 1958

Director of Administration; Captain Mary M. Mackey, 44744W, Information Services Officer, relative to the potential insertion or request therefor in The Flyer, a weekly Base publication.

4. Colonel Weldon H. Smith, 3407A, Deputy Director of Intelligence, Tactical Air Command and Colonel Nelson C. Voshel, AO 262859, Deputy for Administration, Tactical Air Command, were apprised of the situation for the following reasons:

a. Colonel Smith as Deputy Director of Intelligence has the overall primary concernment relative to data involving Unidentified Flying Objects and Colonel Voshel has the responsibility for the publication of Hq TAC Daily Bulletin.

5. Major Hartness was requested to diplomatically ascertain the authority for the statement implying "cooperation with the U. S. Air Force" as contained in paragraph 17, Hq CONARC Daily Bulletin Number 185, dated 22 September 1958 from Subject. When this information is obtained you will be promptly notified of the results thereof.

1 Incl:
Cpy of CONARC Daily Bulletin

~~cc~~: Dir OSI, USAF w/1Incl
cc: Comdr, TAC (in dup) w/
copies of Incl
(1 copy to be forwarded to
Col Smith, Dep Dir of Intel)

R. C-MURRELLE, II, Major, USAF
For and in the absence of
RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

OUT
16 OCT 1958
CI DIV
OSI

24-185-21-30
24 NOV 1958
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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
~~24-185-461~~ x7
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OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

FOR THE COMMANDER:

OFFICIAL

A. S. NEWMAN
Major General, GS
Chief of Staff

UNITED STATES CONTINENTAL ARMY COMMAND
OFFICIAL
T. J. MARNANE
Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General

UNCLASSIFIED

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11. RELIGIOUS EMPHASIS WEEK. Religious Emphasis Week will be 5-12 Oct 58 at the Chapel of the Centurion. Dr. William B. Oglesby, Jr., Professor of Pastoral Counseling, Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va., will be the Missioner. Dr. Oglesby is a graduate of Austin College, Sherman, Texas. Services will be held nightly at 1900 hrs. Women's Services daily at 1000 hrs.

12. POST THEATER, 1930 hrs.
Tue "I Married A Monster From Outer Space" (Mature) Tom Tryon - Gloria Talbott

13. BSA EXPLORER POST 331 will meet Tue, 23 Sep 58, 1900-2030 hrs at the Scout Hall, Bldg T-160, to prepare for reregistration of unit and other fall activities. Prospective Explorers, their parents and friends of Scouting are invited to attend.

14. BROWNIE SCOUTS. Registration and first meeting, 4th grade Brownies, will be held Friday, 26 Sep 58, 1515 hrs, in the Casemate.

15. SMALL BOAT OWNERS. The following extract from the rules governing use of Small Boat Facilities at Ft Monroe, dated 1 April 58, is quoted for information.

"For the period 1 October to 1 May, Maintenance Space in the boat house will be allocated on a time schedule."

Boat owners desiring work space during this period are requested to submit application to Lt Col C. G. Witte, Combat Developments, War Games Division, Bldg 5F giving dates desired. Due to large number of boats now at this station applicants should limit time requested to the minimum. Recent inspection reports by the Post Fire Marshal indicate that boat owners using the boat house are not complying with the rules governing police. Your cooperation is requested.

16. SHORTHAND CLASS will start at the Education Service Center, Tue, 23 Sep 58. Space exists for additional enrollment. For further information telephone Education Services, Bldg T-183, Ext 22254. Class will start at 1800 hrs.

17. LITERATURE ON AERIAL PHENOMENA. If interested in actual facts on Unidentified Flying Objects, write the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, which is a local civilian organization acting in cooperation with the U. S. Air Force.

18. NCO AUXILIARY will hold a welcoming coffee at 1000 hrs at the NCO Open Mess on Wed, 24 Sep 58. All new comers are urged to attend. Free nursery starts at 0930 hrs.

19. OFFICERS OPEN MESS. Mon, 22 Sep 58. Casemate Club closed on Mondays. All Beach Club activities closed for the season. Make your reservations now for German Nite, Wed, 24 Sep 58. Ext 22277.

20. NCO OPEN MESS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING. A meeting of the General Membership will be held on Tue, 23 Sep 58, as required by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Ft Monroe NCO Open Mess. Time of meeting, 1900 hrs and all members are urged to be present. This meeting is called in order to elect a new board of governors for the coming year.

21. LOST. One large grey male cat in the 300 block of Fenwick Rd. If found, please call Lt Tidwell, Ext 22258 or H-33842.

22. BABYSITTERS. Experienced babysitter available. Alice Jeffrey, Ext 6128.

Experienced high school senior desires babysitting jobs. Available week nights or week ends. Phone Pat Andrew, Ext 4245.

23. FOR SALE. Remington, Model 11, 20 guage, 26 inch barrel, 5 shot Automatic Shotgun with Cutts compensator, plus all choke tubes, with 7 boxes #6 Magnum shells. All in brand new condition. Priced for quick sale. Call Col Sheffield, Ext 7263 or 22132.

BUY U. S. SAVINGS BONDS TODAY

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES CONTINENTAL ARMY COMMAND
FORT MONROE, VIRGINIA

DAILY BULLETIN

OFFICIAL

UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED OFFICIAL ITEMS EXPIRE 22 DECEMBER 1958

Number 185 — 22 September 1958

1. DETAILS FOR HEADQUARTERS USCONARC, 22 September 1958:

		Extension
(1615-0730)	Staff Duty Officer: Lt Col E. C. Witt, Jr., CD	6122
	Staff Duty NCO: SFC P. J. Higgins, AG	6122

2. DETAILS FOR HEADQUARTERS FORT MONROE, 22 September 1958:

		Extension
(1615-0730)	Staff Duty Officer: 2d Lt R. E. Steck	22250

3. VISITOR TO HQ USCONARC.

NAME AND ORGANIZATION	GRADE	DATE OF ARRIVAL	LENGTH OF STAY	SECTION TO BE VISITED
C. M. S. Deakin, Office of Director of Military Training, War Office, London	Brigadier	22 Sep	2 days	Hq USCONARC

(SGS, USCONARC)

4. OFFICER ARRIVAL AT FORT MONROE.

NAME	GRADE	BRANCH	SECTION	ARRIVAL
Hutchinson, Philip A.	Lt Col	TC	Trans	18 Sep 58

(AG HQ USCONARC)

5. HONOR GUARD. There will be an honor guard in the area east of the Chamberlin Hotel at 1000 hrs, 22 Sep 58, in honor of Lt Gen E. A. Pollock, USMC, Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force, US Atlantic Fleet. Residents of Fort Monroe and personnel whose duties permit are invited to attend. (SGS, USCONARC)

6. SEPARATION COUNSELING. Personnel due for separation during the month of Oct 58 will report to Bldg T-183, Educational Services, at 1250 hrs, 24 Sep, for separation counseling. Unit Commanders will be responsible for the attendance of all personnel due for separation during the month of October. Only those individuals scheduled for immediate reenlistment may be excused. For planning purposes these separation lectures are conducted on the 4th Wed of each month for personnel due for separation during the following month. (POST MIL PERS OFF)

7. PASSING HALTED BUSSES. Now that school has started, all personnel, military, civilian and dependents, must be on the alert while driving and always stop for halted school busses. This rule applies whether meeting or passing busses. While regulations do not require motorists to stop for halted Post busses, it is the motorist's responsibility to exercise extreme caution when approaching them since children also ride these busses and will frequently alight and cross the street in front of the bus without using due caution. Give the children a brake. (POST PM)

8. PEDESTRIAN RIGHT-OF-WAY. All personnel are reminded that pedestrians have the right-of-way when crossing the street in cross walks. (POST PM)

9. RANGE FIRING. (REPEAT) Firing will be conducted on the Post Range on 22, 23, 24 and 26 Sep 58 between 0730 and 1700 hrs by Hq Co USCONARC. All personnel not actually participating in the firing will refrain from entering the Post Range area during these days. Red range flags will be displayed when firing is in progress. The main range flag is flown from a pole adjacent to the Post Incinerator. Officer in charge of firing is Captain Kendrick. (POST S3)

10. OFFICERS QUARTERS. 55, 42 Ingalls Rd. Frame house, with a living room, alcove, dining room, butler's pantry, kitchen, bedroom and bath on the 1st floor; 5 bedrooms and 2 baths on 2nd floor.

64, 71 Fenwick Rd. Large frame house with living room, dining room, sun porch, kitchen, maid's room and bath on 1st floor; 4 bedrooms, sun porch and bath on 2d floor.

Applications should be submitted to S1, Post Hq, by 1200 hrs, 24 Sep. (POST S1)

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted] Dir OSI, USAF

HEADQUARTERS
21st DISTRICT OSI (IG) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

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

File No: 24-146 31 March 1958

SUBJECT: (Confidential)
LARRY W. BRYANT, Civilian
1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia
SPECIAL INQUIRY

UNCLASSIFIED

TO: Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia
ATTN: Provost Marshal

1. Transmitted herewith is Report of Investigation by Special Agent VARTAN ASDOURIAN, DO #4, File 24-826, dated 24 March 1958, pertaining to the above subject.

2. All logical investigative leads have been developed and reported and this investigation is considered closed in the files of this office.

3. Your attention is invited to AFR 124-1 which prohibits the unauthorized disclosure of investigative information.

4. This letter is classified CONFIDENTIAL in that it contains information which requires protection against unauthorized disclosure.

1 Incl:
ROI, DO #4, File 24-826,
dtd 24 Mar 58 (in dup)

cc: Dir OSI, USAF (24-185-21)

OUT
8 APR 1958
CI DIV
OSI

W 10 APR 1958

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

24-185-21 - 29 - 23

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

3 APR 58 09 09

OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

DATE

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-826

DATE 24 MAR 1958 mh

REPORT MADE BY
VARTAN ASDOURIAN, S/A

REPORT MADE AT
DO #4, Bolling AFB 25, D. C.

PERIOD
5, 10, 14 March 1958

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #21, Langley AFB, Va.

STATUS
RUC

UNCLASSIFIED

TITLE
(U) LARRY W. BRYANT
Civilian
1002 Arnold Street
Warwick, Virginia

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE
ROI, S/A GROVER C. FARMER, DO #21 (ZI); file 24-146, dtd 20 Feb 58

SYNOPSIS

Files of DO #4 (ZI); FBI HQ, FBI ID and Dir OSI negative regarding AIR RESEARCH GROUP.

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

Unauthorized disclosure of information contained in this report is prohibited and will be considered a violation of AFR 205-1 and AFR 205-6.

UNCLASSIFIED

DISTRIBUTION
DO #21 (ZI) (24-146) 5
(Comdr, LAFB-Actions-2)
Dir OSI (USAF) (24-185-21) 2
File 1

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OUT
31 MAR 1958
CI DIV

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APPROVED
Doyle Rees
DOYLE REES
Colonel, USAF
District Commander.

FILE STAMP
4 APR 1958
24-185-21-28
24-185-461
461
24-185-461 x6
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
MAR 26 11 29 '58
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Noted

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

16—57741-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

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

CHARACTER

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

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

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[redacted]

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28 MAR 1958
IN
S & B BRANCH
958

Replaces AFOSI Form 4, 23 Jul 49, which is obsolete.

AIRD FORM 0-208
15 JAN 49

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

24-826

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. On 5 March 1958, the files of District Office #4 (ZI) were reviewed and revealed no record regarding the AIR RESEARCH GROUP.

2. The files of the following National Agencies were checked regarding the AIR RESEARCH GROUP on the dates indicated with results as set forth below:

FBI Headquarters (FBI HQ)	14 Mar 58	No investigation conducted by FBI pertinent to your inquiry.
FBI Identification Division (FBI ID)	10 Mar 58	No record.
Directorate OSI (Dir OSI)	10 Mar 58	No record.

3. This report is classified CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with AFR 124-1A which states that all reports of investigation will have a minimum classification of CONFIDENTIAL.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

DIL OSI, USAF

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.	DATE
24-146	25 February 1958 js

REPORT MADE BY: CHARLES E. HARTENSTINE, S/A

REPORT MADE AT: DO #21, Langley AFB, Va.

PERIOD: 25 February 1958

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: DO #21, Langley AFB, Va.

STATUS: PENDING

UNCLASSIFIED

TITLE

24-185-461 CR

LARRY W. BRYANT
Civilian
1002 Arnold Street
Warwick, Virginia

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

ROI, S/A GROVER C. FARMER, DO #21, File 24-146, dtd 20 Feb 58

SYNOPSIS

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

UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED AND WILL BE CONSIDERED A VIOLATION OF AFR 205-1 AND AFR 205-6

Headquarters, FBI, advises that organization has conducted no investigation on National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena. 23 October 1956 edition of Washington, D. C. newspaper contained article announcing founding of instant organization.

IN 1958 A&D BR CI DIV

OUT 10 MAR 1958 CI DIV OSI

UNCLASSIFIED

DISTRIBUTION

Comdr, LAFB (Action) 2
(w/ 1 Incl)

Dir OSI (24-185-21) 2

File 2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

APPROVED

A. C-MURRELLE, II
Major, USAF
For and in the absence of
RICHARD G. COX District Commander.

FILE STAMP

4 MAR 1958
12 MAR 1957
24-185-21-27
~~24-185-461 X1~~
24 185 461
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
27 FEB 58 11 49
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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A+D 10MAR58

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

TITLE	FILE NO.
	REPORT MADE BY
	PERIOD
	OFFICE OF ORIGIN
	STATUS
	DATE

CHARACTER

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY

BY ROBERT L. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

5 DEC 1975

DATE

UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION
CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT IS SUBJECT TO
AND VIOLATION OF
ARE CRIMINAL ACTS.

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OUT
10 MAR 1959
OI DIV
OSI

COUNTER INTEL DIV

1958 FEB 28 16 12

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

27FEB58 11 43

OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

AFHQ FORM 1 MAR 56 0-208 PREVIOUS EDITION

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[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

File No: 21D 24-146

DETAILS:

AT LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA

1. By letter, dated 20 February 1958, the Directorate, Office of Special Investigations, Washington, D. C., advised the 21st District OSI that information had been received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation to the effect that the FBI had conducted no investigation of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena.

The Directorate OSI further advised that the 23 October 1956 edition of The Washington Daily News, Washington, D. C., printed an article which alleges that instant organization had been founded recently. The organization at 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., was headed at that time by one T. TOWNSEND BROWN of Leesburg, Virginia. BROWN termed the organization a "privately supported fact-finding body serving the national public interest."

The Directorate OSI forwarded as an inclosure with their letter, a copy of a letter which was disseminated by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena in June 1957. A copy of this letter is attached as Inclosure 1 to those copies of this report designated for the Commander, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

2. This report is classified CONFIDENTIAL in that it contains investigative information which requires protection against unauthorized disclosure.

INCLOSURES:

FOR COMMANDER, LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA

Copy of letter disseminated by the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena in June 1957.

PENDING

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

File No: 21D 24-146

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

DISTRICT OFFICE NR. 21, LANGLEY AFB, VA.

Will upon completion of outstanding undeveloped leads, conduct any further investigation deemed appropriate.

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Source
Dir OSI, USAF

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.	DATE
24-146	20 February 1958 js

REPORT MADE BY: GROVER C. FARMER, S/A

REPORT MADE AT: DO #21, Langley AFB, Va.

PERIOD: 18 February 1958

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: DO #21, Langley AFB, Va.

STATUS: PENDING

UNCLASSIFIED

TITLE

~~SUBJECT~~
LARRY W. BRYANT
Civilian
1002 Arnold Street
Warwick, Virginia

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

only original
no one back
M&L

REFERENCE

ROI, S/A CHARLES E. HARTENSTINE, DO #21, File 24-146, dtd 13 Feb 58

SYNOPSIS

UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED AND WILL BE CONSIDERED A VIOLATION OF AFR 205-1 AND AFR 205-6

Files Norfolk Field Office, FBI and Office of Naval Intelligence, 5th Naval District, negative concerning SUBJECT, The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena and the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE INFORMATION
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

21 MAR 1958

DISTRIBUTION

Comdr, LAFB (Action)	2
~~Dir~~ OSI (24-185-21)	2
DO #4	2
File	2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

APPROVED

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

FILE STAMP

24-185-21-26
~~24-185-461X3~~
24 185 461

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
FEB 25 08 23 '58
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Ltrs A+D

AFHQ FORM 1 MAR 56 0-208 PREVIOUS EDITION OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

16—57744-2 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

10 mar 58

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

File No: 21D 24-146

DETAILS:

AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

1. On 18 February 1958, files of the Office of Naval Intelligence, 5th Naval District, were reviewed by Mr. V. F. PATTERSON, Intelligence Analyst, who advised the files of that office reflect no information concerning SUBJECT, The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, or the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia.

2. On 18 February 1958, files of the Norfolk Field Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, were reviewed by Mr. FRANK GUTHRIE, Clerk, who advised the files reflect no information concerning SUBJECT, The National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena or the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia.

3. This report is classified CONFIDENTIAL in that it contains investigative information requiring protection against unauthorized disclosure.

PENDING

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

File No: 21D 24-146

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DISTRICT OFFICE NR. 4, BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE 25, D. C.

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. Will review indices of FBI Hq and FBI ID, for any information contained therein concerning the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia.

DISTRICT OFFICE NR. 21, LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VA.

1. Will upon completion of outstanding undeveloped leads, conduct any further investigation deemed appropriate.

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR, OSI, USAF
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

24-0
24-185

File No: 24-146
Dir File No: 24-185-21

13 February 1958

SUBJECT: National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena
Washington, D. C. (Unclassified)

TO: Director, Special Investigations
Hq, USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to letter, your Directorate, subject and file as above, dated 4 February 1958, setting forth results of a records check, Headquarters OSI, concerning subject organization and one LARRY W. BRYANT.

2. At the time this request was submitted, no formal investigation had been opened in that none had been requested by the Commander, Langley Air Force Base. The information requested of the Directorate, in this instance, was for the files of District Office #21, so that it would be immediately available in the event of future incidents involving BRYANT and this organization.

3. On 4 February 1958, a local newspaper in Newport News, Virginia, contained an advertisement by the Air Research Group, same address as BRYANT, wherein Langley Air Force Base personnel were solicited to join this group in an advisory capacity. At that time, the Commander, Langley Air Force Base, requested this District Office conduct an investigation of this matter.

4. Forwarded herewith is the report of investigation by Special Agent CHARLES E. HARTENSTINE, District Office #21, setting forth results of this investigation to date.

24-185-21-25

OUT 4 MAR 1958 CI DIV OSI

H21 MAR 1958

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL FEB 19 11 10'58 OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

H25 MAR 1958

1 Incl
Ltr, DO#21, file 24-146, dtd 13 Feb 58

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

When Incl. No. 1 is [redacted] attached, the classification of this correspondence will be cancelled in accordance with AFR 205

[redacted]

Attest.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

IN [redacted]

1958 FEB 21 10 08

COUNTER INTEL DIV

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21 FEB 958
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BRANCH

[redacted]

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-146

DATE 13 February 1958

REPORT MADE BY CHARLES E. HARTENSTINE, S/A bsa

REPORT MADE AT DO #21, Langley AFB, Va.

PERIOD 5, 6 February 1958

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #21, Langley AFB, Va.

UNCLASSIFIED

STATUS PENDING

TITLE

LARRY W. BRYANT
Civilian
1002 Arnold Street
Warwick, Virginia

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

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE INITIAL REPORT

SYNOPSIS

Investigation initiated upon inquiry from Commander, Langley Air Force Base, concerning the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia. 4 February 1958 edition of local newspaper contained advertisement by instant organization soliciting Langley Air Force Base personnel to participate as special advisors to this group. Files 21st District OSI reflect LARRY W. BRYANT, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia, in September 1957, requested information from Langley Air Force Base, concerning an alleged foreign object given to an officer from this installation by a local citizen who saw same fall from sky. BRYANT represented himself as associate member of National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington, D. C. In January 1958, BRYANT submitted advertisement to Langley AFB newspaper soliciting membership in same organization. Files 21st District OSI, Directorate OSI and Police Departments Hampton, Newport News and Warwick, Virginia, negative concerning SUBJECT and National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena.

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Comdr, LAFB (Action) 2
Dir OSI (24-185-21) 2
File 2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

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APPROVED

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

FILE STAMP

AFHQ FORM 1 MAR 56 0-208 PREVIOUS EDITION OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

16—57744-2 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

File No: 21D 24-146

DETAILS:

1. This investigation was initiated upon receipt of a letter from the Base Commander, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, dated 5 February 1958, requesting information concerning the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia, who, in a newspaper advertisement, solicited Langley Air Force Base personnel to participate as special advisors to a proposed civilian study group on aerial phenomena.

AT LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA

2. On 5 February 1958, a review of the 4 February 1958 edition of the Daily Press, a daily newspaper published at Newport News, Virginia, reflected the following advertisement which is set forth verbatim:

NOTICE TO LANGLEY AIR
FORCE PERSONNEL

"Would like to hear from those persons interested in volunteering their services as Special Advisors to a proposed local study group on aerial phenomena. Not violating military security but acting as private citizens (i.e., separate from official Air Force duty), the advisors would help the club solve research problems and inform it on current methods, achievements, and obstacles in this field. For more information write Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick."

3. On 5 February 1958, a review of the files, 21st District OSI, reflected the following information pertinent to this investigation:

In January 1958, this District Office received an inquiry from Captain G. H. OLDENBURGH, Office of Information Services, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, relative to the affiliations and activities of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington, D. C. The inquiry from OLDENBURGH resulted from two incidents involving one LARRY W. BRYANT, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia, who represented himself as an associate member of instant organization. The 16 September 1957 issue of the Times Herald, a daily newspaper published at Newport News, Virginia, contained an article to the effect that on the previous day a loud explosion was heard over the Hampton Roads, Virginia, area, and one Mrs. C. H. LARSEN observed a strange white object fall from the sky. Subsequently a letter, dated 24 September 1957, addressed to Bureau of Aerial Research, Langley Air Force Base, signed by BRYANT, was received at Headquarters Langley Air Force Base. In this letter BRYANT, representing himself as an associate member of instant organization, made reference to the object allegedly seen by Mrs. LARSEN. BRYANT stated he had contacted Mrs. LARSEN and was informed by her that the object had been turned over to an officer from Langley Air Force Base. BRYANT requested he be advised of the results of an analysis of the object found by Mrs. LARSEN.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

File No: 21D 24-146

In January 1958, the editor of "The Flyer", a weekly newspaper published at Langley Air Force Base, received an advertisement from BRYANT to be published in "The Flyer", wherein BRYANT was soliciting membership in the organization in question. Captain OLDENBURGH, who monitors all advertisements for this paper, was of the opinion that membership in this organization on the part of military personnel could possibly result in conflict with or violation of paragraph 9, AFR 200-2, and consequently, the advertisement from BRYANT was refused.

Indices of the 21st District OSI contained no information concerning BRYANT or subject organization. By letter, dated 22 January 1958, the Directorate OSI was requested to furnish 21st District OSI any information on instant organization reflected in the files of that Headquarters. By letter, dated 4 February 1958, the Directorate OSI advised that the files of that Headquarters reflected no information concerning LARRY W. BRYANT or the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena. The Directorate OSI further advised that an inquiry concerning BRYANT and this organization had been made of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and any information developed would be furnished 21st District OSI.

AT HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

4. On 6 February 1958, files of the Hampton Police Department were reviewed by L. E. PAYNE, Chief Identification Section, who advised the files reflect no record of SUBJECT. PAYNE advised that no information concerning any organizations is recorded in the Police Department files.

AT NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA

5. On 6 February 1958, files of the Newport News Police Department were reviewed by Mrs. MARGARET SCHANZ, Clerk Identification Section, who advised the files reflect no record of SUBJECT. Mrs. SCHANZ further advised that no information concerning any organizations is recorded in the Police Department files.

AT WARWICK, VIRGINIA

6. On 6 February 1958, files of the Warwick Police Department were reviewed by Mrs. ELEANOR PRICE, Clerk, who advised the files reflect no information concerning SUBJECT. Mrs. PRICE advised the files contain no information concerning any organizations.

7. This report is classified [redacted] that in contains investigative information requiring protection against unauthorized disclosure.

PENDING

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

File No: 21D 24-146

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DISTRICT OFFICE NR. 21, LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA

AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

1. Will conduct LAC at Norfolk Field Office, FBI, for any available information concerning LARRY W. BRYANT, the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena and the Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick, Virginia.

AT LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA

2. Will upon receipt of information from the Directorate OSI concerning the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, resulting from inquiry of the Federal Bureau of Investigations, conduct any further investigation deemed appropriate.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Dir OSI, USAF

HEADQUARTERS
21st DISTRICT OSI (IG) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE INV

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

DATE 5 DEC 1975

UNCLASSIFIED

File Nr: ~~24-146~~ 23 September 1958

SUBJECT: Air Research Group
1002 Arnold Street
Newport News (Warwick), Va.

UNCLASSIFIED

TO: Major William M. Hartness
Chief, Counterintelligence Det, CONARC
Fort Monroe, Virginia

1. Confirming your inquiry concerning subject group and their efforts to solicit the aid of Fort Monroe personnel through the media of a Daily Bulletin announcement, the following information is supplied:

a. The 4 February 1958 edition of the DAILY PRESS, Newport News, Va., carried the following advertisement:

NOTICE TO LANGLEY AIR
FORCE PERSONNEL

"Would like to hear from those persons interested in volunteering their services as Special Advisors to a proposed local study group on aerial phenomena. Not violating military security but acting as private citizens (I.E., separate from official Air Force duty), the advisors would help the club solve research problems and inform it on current methods, achievements, and obstacles in this field. For more information write Air Research Group, 1002 Arnold Street, Warwick."

b. Captain G. H. Oldenburgh, Chief, Office of Information Services, Langley AFB, Va., upon being interviewed 5 February 1958, stated that he had been previously contacted by one Larry Bryant, 1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, Va., who represented himself as an associate member of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington, D. C. This contact was effected September 1957 and Bryant at that time requested information through Oldenburgh from Langley AFB concerning an alleged foreign object purportedly given to an Officer from Langley AFB by a local citizen who saw same fall from the sky. Bryant requested he be advised of the results of an analysis of said object. It is to be noted that no such object was given to any military personnel from Langley AFB. In January 1958 Bryant submitted

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

Chief, DISTR & CORR BR (AFCO) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF
BY JOHN K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
6 DEC 1975

UNCLASSIFIED

SAGE BRANCH
29 SEP 1958
IN

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: Air Research Group, etc.

File Nr: 24-146
23 Sept 58

an advertisement to Langley AFB newspaper "THE FLYER", wherein Bryant was soliciting membership in the National Investigations Committee of Aerial Phenomena, locally known as the Air Research Group. Captain Oldenburgh in his official capacity refused the advertisement in the belief that such would conflict with or be a violation of paragraph 9, AFR 200-2. This Air Force Regulation governs the proper reporting of unidentified flying objects.

c. A local agency check concerning the Air Research Group and Bryant was negative in the Tidewater area of Virginia. This check also included the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena.

d. A local agency check in Washington, D. C. revealed only the information that the Washington DAILY NEWS, /Washington, D. C. 23 October 1956 printed an article which alleged that subject organization had then been recently founded. The organization at 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. was headed at that time by one T. Townsend Brown of Leesburg, Va. Brown termed the organization "a privately supported fact-finding body serving the national public interest". Inclosed is a copy of a letter which was disseminated by this organization in June 1957. (Inclosure #1) No further information was obtained concerning subject organization in the Washington, D. C. intelligence family or in the law enforcement agencies area.

2. Inclosed is a copy of an article appearing in the DAILY PRESS, Newport News, Va., 9 April 1958. (Inclosure #2)

3. Captain Mary Mackey, currently Chief of Office of Information Services, Langley AFB, was contacted immediately after your telephone call 0910 hours, 23 September 1958 and she stated after querying her staff that neither she nor her staff had received any calls or inquiries from the Air Research Group, nor from Larry W. Bryant and that neither she nor any of her staff had contacted anyone in CONARC, Fort Monroe, V . concerning the placement of an advertisement in Fort Monroe's Daily Bulletin.

4. During the month of February 1958 and during a Mike Wallace TV show, one Donald E. Keyhoe, Major, USMC (Ret), was interviewed and the name of Captain Oldenburgh and Langley AFB concerning unidentified flying objects and an alleged refusal to give the information to civilian sources was developed and portrayed. The allegation portrayed on TV was more detailed than the newspaper item inclosed herewith as Inclosure #2.

5. The Board of Governors has indicated in the circular referred to hereinabove by the National Investigations Committee included Brigadier General Thomas B. Croton, USA (Ret), Baltimore, Md., Colonel Robert B. Emerson, USA Reserve, Nuclear Physicist, Kaiser Aluminum Co., Baton Rouge, La., and refers to evaluation of information by General Albert C. Weidemeyer, USA (Ret), Poolsville, Md.

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: Air Research Group, etc

File Nr: 24-146
23 Sept 58

6. The information hereinabove is patently of a sensitive nature and is classified CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with appropriate Air Force regulations and to prevent dissemination to unauthorized individuals. In view of the information obtained from other Federal agencies and included in this communication, the information included in this communication is not to be disseminated outside of the Department of the Army and therein only on a strictly need to know basis.

cc: Dir OSI (24-185-21) w/2 Incls

A. C-MURRELLE, II, Major, USAF
For and in the absence of
RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

OUT
12 NOV 1958
CI DIV
OSI

24 NOV 1958
24-185-21-24

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
SEP 19 10 57 1958
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

COUNTER INTEL DIV
1958 SEP 29 16 09

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

NATIONAL INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
ON AERIAL PHENOMENA
Washington, D.C.

UNCLASSIFIED

Administrative Office
1536 Connecticut Ave., N.W.

Dear Friend:

Your interest in our investigation of Unidentified Flying Objects (flying saucers) is greatly appreciated. Since 1950 the Air Force has kept thousands of authentic UFO reports from the public. While we believe we know their reasons, we are convinced that Americans have a right to the truth. To that end, NICAP has set up a nationwide network--soon to be worldwide--for reporting UFO sightings and hidden developments.

All this information - uncensored - will be revealed to NICAP members in a monthly magazine and in confidential bulletins. The magazine will include dramatic, authentic sightings by veteran pilots and other competent witnesses, behind-the-scene stories of the Air Force secret investigation, proof of the censorship which has muzzled hundreds of pilots, the pro's and con's of the question, "Is there life on Mars?" and specific articles on the UFO problem and our own space-travel plans.

In addition, NICAP will hold public hearings on claims of contacts with spacemen--to expose hoaxes and also to ferret out the facts. All this will be covered in the monthly magazine, with many other features, such as--a serialized history of UFO's with new sidelights on famous sightings, frank answers to readers' questions, and a monthly department in which I shall reveal some "inside stories" I have learned in the last two years.

As an Associate Member of NICAP--for an annual fee of $7.50--you will receive the monthly magazine and the special bulletins. You will also be privileged to join a NICAP club in your area and become part of our large supporting network. Most important of all, you will be playing a vital role--not only in aiding to end the censorship--but in helping to find all the answers to the UFO mystery.

To become a NICAP member, merely forward your $7.50 membership fee to

NICAP
1536 Connecticut Avenue
Washington 4, D.C.

UNCLASSIFIED

We hope you will join in this factual yet fascinating work.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Donald E. Keyhoe
DONALD E. KEYHOE, Major USMC (Ret)
Director of NICAP

Ind 1

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

ARTICLE APPEARING IN "THE DAILY PRESS", NEWPORT NEWS, VA.

9 APRIL 1958

OVER 2-YEAR PERIOD

Langley Reports 3 UFO Sightings

In the past two years, there have been three unidentified flying object sightings reported to Langley Air Force Base, the Daily Press was told yesterday.

Maj. L. J. Tacker, executive officer in the public information division, office of the Secretary of the Air Force, made the report yesterday after a local youth charged that this information is unattainable.

Larry Bryant, 20, of 1002 Arnold St., Warwick, spokesman for the Air Research Group, last week said that he has been unable to find out from Langley how many sightings have been reported to the base. Bryant said that since 1956, he has knowledge of seven sightings in Tidewater on UFO's. Langley reported that regulations prohibit the base from giving out information on unidentified flying objects; that this information must come from the Air Force Secretary.

Tacker reported sightings Sept. 10, 1956, near Big Bethel; last May in Suffolk and last November in Warwick. He said none of the three were accompanied by sufficient data to form a positive identification, and a thorough investigation was made by Air Force authorities of the Big Bethel sighting.

This object, Tacker said, was reported as about the size of a softball, shaped something like a full moon. A witness reportedly said he saw passengers in the vehicle, wearing headgear.

The Air Research Group is an organization of 10 Peninsula residents, five of whom have seen UFO's and all of whom believe that the unidentified objects are flown by inhabitants of other planets, Bryant said.

Bryant contends that the public is not receiving complete information on sightings; that the Air Force reports only three per cent are classed as "unknown" while the actual figure, he adds, is 12 per cent.

Bryant was skeptical yesterday when told of the Air Force report. He questioned whether the three sightings included all those turned in by pilots as well as by ground observers.

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District Office #21
Office of Special
Investigation

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AFCSI-6E/Capt Herr/sgp/3939
Wrtn: 12 Feb 58
Rewrtn: 19 Feb 58

AFCSI-6E INV 24-185-461

20 FEB 1958

SUBJECT: National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena
Washington, D. C.

UNCLASSIFIED

TO: District Commander
21st OSI District (IG)
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

1. Reference is made to our letter, subject as above, file AFCSI-6E INV 24-185-21, dated 4 February 1958.

2. On 6 February 1958 the Headquarters, Federal Bureau of Investigation, said that they have conducted no investigation on subject organization.

3. On 23 October 1956, The Washington Daily News, Washington, D. C., printed an article which alleges that subject organization had been founded recently. The organization, at 1536 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., was headed at that time by one T. Townsend BROWN of Leesburg, Virginia. BROWN termed the organization a "privately supported fact-finding body serving the national public interest."

4. Inclosed for your information is a copy of letter which was disseminated by this organization in June 1957. This Directorate contemplates no further action.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

IN 26 FEB 1958

1 Incl
a/s

OUT 20 FEB 1958 CI DIV OSI

JOSEPH J. CAPPUCCI, Lt Colonel, USAF
Asst. Chief, Counterintelligence Division
Directorate of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

24-185-~~221~~-23
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USAF IG OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

UNCLASSIFIED

AFCSI-6E
Capt Herr
Maj Perry
L/Col Coe

AFCSI-6A

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(AFR 190-16)

~~AFCSI~~ FILE COPY
COMEBACK COPY - AFCSI-6
READING COPY - AFCSI-6

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNCLASSIFIED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AFCSI-6E/Capt Herr/sgp/3939
Wrtn: 28 Jan 58
Rewrtn: 31 Jan 58

4 FEB 1958

AFCSI-6E INV 24-185-~~21~~ 461

SUBJECT: National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena
Washington, D. C. (Unclassified)

UNCLASSIFIED

TO: District Commander
21st OSI District (IG) USAF
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

1. Reference is made to your letter, subject as above, file 24-0, dated 22 January 1958.

2. The files of this Directorate contain no information on subject organization or on Larry W. BRYANT. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has been queried for information on this organization and your District will be apprised of the results.

3. Your attention is directed to Section VIII, OSI Bulletin Number 51, which outlines the appropriate procedure for obtaining information regarding questionable organizations and publications.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

JOSEPH J. CAPPUCCI, Lt Colonel, USAF
Asst. Chief, Counterintelligence Division
Directorate of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

OUT
4 FEB 1958
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24-185-21-22

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USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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AFCSI-6E
Capt Herr RW- 31 Jan
Maj Perry EZP 31 JAN 58
L/C Coe for 3/2/58

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(AFR 190-16)

FILE COPY
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READING COPY - AFCSI-6

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Mr. Whaley
FBI Liaison Officer

We are desirous of obtaining any information you may have on the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington, D. C.

EMIL F. PERRY
Major USAF

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS
21st DISTRICT OSI (IG) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

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

22 Jun 57
D/O 18 (270)

UNCLASSIFIED

~~File No: 24-0~~ 24-185

22 January 1958

SUBJECT: National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington, D. C.

TO: Directorate of Special Investigations (IG)
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.
ATTN: AFCSI-6

1. This District Office received a recent inquiry from Captain G. H. Oldenburgh, Office of Information Services, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, relative to the affiliations and activities of the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington, D. C.

2. According to Oldenburgh, the inquiry resulted from two incidents involving one Larry W. Bryant, 1002 Arnold Street, Newport News, Virginia, who represented himself as an associate member of subject organization. The 16 September 1957 issue of the Times Herald, a daily newspaper published in Newport News, Virginia, contained an article to the effect that on the previous day a loud explosion was heard over the Hampton Roads area, and one Mrs. C. H. Larsen observed a strange white object fall from the sky. Subsequently a letter, dated 24 September 1957, addressed to Bureau of Aerial Research, Langley Air Force Base, signed by Bryant, was received at Headquarters Langley Air Force Base. In this letter Bryant representing himself as an associate member of instant organization, made reference to the object allegedly seen by Mrs. Larsen. Bryant stated he had contacted Mrs. Larsen and was informed the object had been turned over to an officer from Langley Air Force Base. Bryant requested he be advised of the results of an analysis of the object found by Mrs. Larsen.

In January 1958, the editor of "The Flyer", a weekly newspaper published at Langley Air Force Base, received an advertisement from Bryant to be published in "The Flyer", wherein Bryant was soliciting membership in the organization in question. Captain Oldenburgh, who monitors all advertisements for this paper, was of the opinion that membership in this organization on the part of military personnel could possibly result in conflict with or violation of paragraph 9, AFR 200-2, and consequently, the advertisement from BRYANT was refused.

[redacted]

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

21st District OSI (IG) File No: 24-0
Subj: National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena 22 Jan 58

3. Indices of this District Office reflect no information concerning Bryant or subject organization. It is requested District Office #21 be advised of any pertinent information concerning this organization reflected in the files of your Directorate.

4. This letter is classified CONFIDENTIAL in that it contains information of a personal nature unauthorized disclosure of which could be detrimental to the morale or reputation of the individual concerned.

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

W 26 FEB 1958

OUT
4 FEB 1958
CI DIV
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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

JAN 24 14 24 '58

OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

6 MAR 1958

24-185-21-22

31 Jan 58

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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COUNTER INTEL DIV

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To: OSI, USAF

HEADQUARTERS
21st DISTRICT OSI (IG) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

UNCLASSIFIED

File No: 24-147

11 February 1958

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object, Salem, Virginia, 12 January 1958

TO: Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

1. This communication confirms information furnished CLARKE E. JOHNSTON, Major, AO 421112, Intelligence Officer, 345th Bombardment Wing, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, on 3 February 1958, relative to an alleged sighting of an unidentified flying object in the vicinity of Salem, Virginia.

2. The 12 January 1958 edition of the Roanoke Times, a daily newspaper published at Roanoke, Virginia, contained the following article:

"Strange Objects Reported in Sky in This Section"

"Strange objects in the sky created concern in the Roanoke Valley area early today. State Police at Salem received a report from a man who reported a large object in the sky with what appeared to be a ball of fire trailing it. He said he saw it about 12:20 A.M. In addition, state police reported that the object or objects had been seen by persons in Floyd County and near Draper in Pulaski. Origin of the strange object was not known early today."

3. On 15 January 1958, Special Agent JOHN R. McNEILL interviewed Mr. HENRY E. BRUGH, Route 3, Salem, Virginia. BRUGH furnished the following information concerning the unidentified flying object which he allegedly sighted on 12 January 1958:

(1) Description of the Object:

UNCLASSIFIED

a. Appeared round, with a short cone trailing.

b. Appeared 10-20 feet in diameter, the face of the sphere appeared greening in color, the remaining portion including the trailing cone was fire red. The cone appeared to be a cone of fire given off from the object itself. The cone was about the same length as the object itself.

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(AFR 190-16)

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

c. The forward part of the sphere appeared to be of greenish fire and the remaining part was red in color.

d. Only one (1) object was observed.

e. No formation of any type was noted.

f. The object was void of shape except for its roundness and accompanying cone.

g. A trailing cone of what appeared to be fire about as long as the sphere and was the same color. The face or nose of the object glowed with a greenish color.

h. No sound noted.

i. No other pertinent or unusual details.

(2) Description of Course of Object:

a. At 0020 hours, 12 January 1958, object observed from living room of residence through the front window which faced west. Object proceeded in a rapid course westerly and disappeared after a very short period of observation.

b. Proceeding westerly.

c. The object disappeared over mountains to the west of Salem, Virginia.

d. Object although not resembling a meteor, gave off a short trail of what appeared to be fire.

e. Same as c above.

f. Object observed only a few seconds.

(3) Manner of Observation:

a. Ground visual.

b. No optical aids used.

c. N/A

(4) Time of Sighting:

a. 0020 hours EST, 12 January 1958

b. Night

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

File No: 24-147
11 Feb 1958

(5) Location of Observer:

a. Residence, Rt 3, Salem, Virginia.

(6) Identifying Information on Observer:

a. HENRY E. BRUGH, age 27, Route 3, Salem, Virginia; occupation - Buyer of scrap metal for Roanoke Scrap Iron and Metal Company, Roanoke, Virginia.

(7) Weather and Winds-aloft Conditions at Time and Place of Sighting:

a. Clear weather.

b. No report from nearest weather station.

c. Ceiling - very clear, visibility unlimited.

d. Visibility unlimited.

e. No cloud formations noted at time of sighting.

f. No thunderstorms in area at time of sighting.

(8) No air traffic noted in area at time.

1 Incl:
Drawing of BRUGH's version
of object sighted

cc: Dir OSI, USAF

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

OUT
20 FEB 1958
CI DIV
OSI

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted] Dir OSI

HEADQUARTERS
21st DISTRICT OSI (IG) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

File No: 24-145 20 November 195

UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

TO: Commander
Langley Air Force Base
Virginia

1. This communication confirms the request of Major Clarke E. Johnston, AO 421112, Intelligence Officer, 345th Bombardment Wing, Langley AFB, Va., to assemble data in accordance with paragraph 7d, AFR 200-2, dated 12 August 1954; because, Johnson did not have any other method of securing the data.

2. Synopsis: CHARLES N. BOOTH, HARRY L. COOMS and MARGARET MAST, all residing in Abingdon, Virginia, advised they cited a glowing object high in the sky above Abingdon on 6 November 1957. Object appeared somewhat differently to each viewer. All advised object observed for approximately five (5) minutes and traveled in a northwest direction.

3. Details: Special Agent W. D. Stone, Hq Region 6, CIC, U. S. Army, Richmond, Va., informed Special Agent Clifford C. Marz, Commander, Detachment 2102, 21st District OSI, Richmond, Va. that Special Agent William K. Little, CIC in Abingdon, Va., was informed by Mr. CHARLES BOOTH, Clerk Circuit Court, Abingdon, Va. that he, BOOTH, had observed at 1730 hours, 6 November 1957, an unidentified flying object traveling northeast of Abingdon at a speed less than that of a commercial airliner; shaped like a projectile; orange to red in color. This information was relayed to Marz 7 November 1957 and in turn relayed by him to this Headquarters and reported to Major Johnson, Intelligence Officer, 345th Bombardment Wing, Langley AFB, on 9 November 1957, at which time Major Johnson stated that he did not have any method or personnel with which to assemble additional data concerning the unidentified flying object. Major Johnson requested that this organization assemble the data as required by paragraph 7d, AFR 200-2.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: Unidentified Flying Object

File No: 24-145
20 November 1957

4. Special Agent John R. McNeill, DO #21, obtained the following information from three individuals who stated that they had observed the object:

On 13 November 1957, CHARLES N. BOOTH, 170 Hill Drive, N. E., Abingdon, Va., was interviewed concerning his sighting of an unidentified object on 6 November 1957. BOOTH furnished the following information:

(1) Description of Object:

a. Carrot shaped
b. Appeared 12-14 feet in length, and two feet wide at the widest end, tapering to a point at the opposite end.
c. Bright red-orange, similar to the light given off by a star.
d. Only one (1) object observed.
e. The object was void of shape, except for the previously mentioned carrot shape, no projections of any description observed.
f. See above
g. No sound of any sort was heard at the time of the sighting
h. None

(2) Description of course of object:

a. Upon arriving home from work and after debarking from his auto, BOOTH happened to look up into the sky, immediately observing the object. The object appeared to follow a straight course and did not vary from that course.

b. The object was first observed almost directly overhead.
c. The object was observed for a good five minutes during which it seemed to maintain its position descending gradually toward the horizon and eventually disappearing below the horizon.
d. The object remained in a vertical position with the narrow end up and maintained this attitude during its flight.
e. Slowly descending eventually behind the horizon.
f. Observed object for a full five minutes, object came from Southwest proceeding in a Northwesterly direction, predominately North.

(3) Manner of Observation:

a. None
b. None
c. N/A

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: Unidentified Flying Object

File No: 24-145
20 November 1957

(4) Time and date of sighting:

a. 1735 hours EST. 6 November 1957
b. Day
c. Residence, backyard, 170 Hill Drive, N.E., Abingdon, Va. estimated age of observer 50-55 years. Occupation, Clerk of County Court, Washington County, Va.
d. N/A

(5) Weather and wind conditions at time and place of sighting (the following weather conditions were given by observer BOOTH):

a. N/A
b. N/A
c. Ceiling very clear, almost unlimited
d. Visibility very good
e. There were no cloud formation observed at time of sighting
f. No thunderstorms in the area at time of sighting.

(6) Any other unusual activities or conditions:

a. None

(7) Interception or identification action.

a. None

(8) Location of any air traffic in area at time of sighting

a. None observed

(9) N/A

(10) None

(Above format extracted from paragraph 7d, AFR 200-2)

On 13 November 1957, HARRY L. COOMS, 175 Hill Drive, N. E., Abingdon, Va., was interviewed concerning his sighting an unidentified object, 6 November 1957. COOMS furnished the following information:

(1) Description of object:

a. The object appeared to be the shape of an elongated egg. A portion of which appeared to be a short blast area trailing. COOMS explained that this blast area did not resemble what is known as a "con trail" normally seen in the sky above Abingdon. It appeared to be that which would be expected trailing a rocket. The blast appeared to be about one third the length of the overall size of the object.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: Unidentified Flying Object

File No: 24-145
20 November 1957

b. Unable to estimate size due to what appeared to be extreme altitude. The object appeared to be flying at an altitude far above that which normal aircraft traffic is observed.

c. The color appeared as a glowing red-orange of such a magnitude as a bright star.

d. Only one object observed.
e. None
f. Due to its extreme height the object was void of any shape other than the previously described elongated egg shape.
g. Approximately one-third of the object appeared to be a blast area similar to that which would be expected from a rocket. There was no trail following the object.
h. There were no sounds of any kind heard during the sighting which could have come from the object.
i. None.

(2) Description of course of object:

a. COOMS' attention was drawn to the object by a comment made by BOOTH, who resides across the street, "look at the Sputnik". COOMS observed the object for a period of three to four minutes then went into the house and brought his wife and child out to view the object, and again viewed the object for an additional two to three minutes, until it disappeared below the horizon.

b. The object was first observed approximately 45 degrees above a level plane of the earth.

c. The object proceeded in a straight and apparently level path across the sky from the time it was first observed until it disappeared below the horizon.

d. See (c) above.
e. Disappeared below the horizon.
f. Observed for a full five or six minutes

(3) Manner of observation:

a. N/A
b. N/A
c. N/A

(4) Time and date of sighting:

a. 1735 hours, 6 November 1957
b. Day

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: Unidentified Flying Object

File No: 24-145
20 November 1957

(5) Location of observer:

a. 175 Hill Drive, N. E., Abingdon, Virginia (residence)

(6) Identifying information of all observers:

a. HARRY L. COOMS, estimated age 35-40 years, civilian, occupation accountant

b. N/A

(7) Weather and winds aloft conditions:
(The following conditions were observed by COOMS)

a. N/A
b. N/A
The nearest weather station is located at Tri City Airport, between Bristol, Tenn and Kingsport, Tenn.

c. Ceiling very clear
d. Visibility clear
e. There were no cloud formations in the sky at time of sighting
f. No thunder stomms in the area as far as could be observed.

(8) Any other unusual activities or conditions:

a. None

(9) Interception or identification actions:

a. N/A

(10) Location of any air traffic in area at time of sighting.

a. None observed.

(Above format extracted from paragraph 7d, AFR 200-2)

On 13 November 1957, Miss MARGARET C. MAST, Valley Street, Abingdon, Virginia, was interviewed and advised substantially the same as COOMS. In addition Miss MAST stated that at the time she sighted the object she was just coming out of a store on Main Street, Lebanon, Va., when she happened to look up and saw what appeared to be a bright orange light very high in the sky. MAST stated that she saw the object 1735 hours EST, 6 November 1957, also that the object appeared to her as an elongated diamond shape light. Miss MAST is employed in the bookkeeping department of the Abingdon Grocery Co., Abingdon, Va. and is estimated to be 42 to 47 years of age. MAST stated that the object appeared to come out of North Carolina enroute to St. Paul, Virginia, which would be a Northerly direction.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: Unidentified Flying Object

File No: 24-145
20 November 1957

5. Special Agent Little, CIC, classified the information as being received from an usually reliable source in reference to Mr. CHARLES BOOTH.

6. Inasmuch as all logical leads have been accomplished, this case is considered closed in the files of this District Office.

7. This letter is classified CONFIDENTIAL pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 30c(2)(a), AFR 205-1.

A. C-MURRELLE, II
Major USAF
FOR AND IN THE ABSENCE OF
RICHARD O. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl:
Illustration of cited object
cc: Dir OSI
cc: Det 2102
cc: Det 2103

24-185-21-19

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

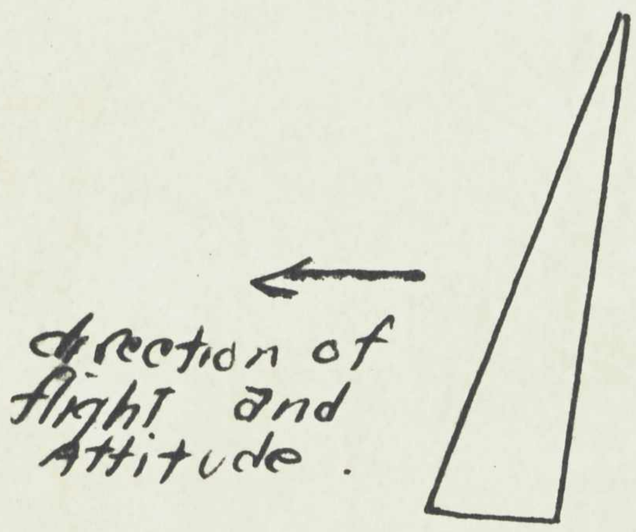
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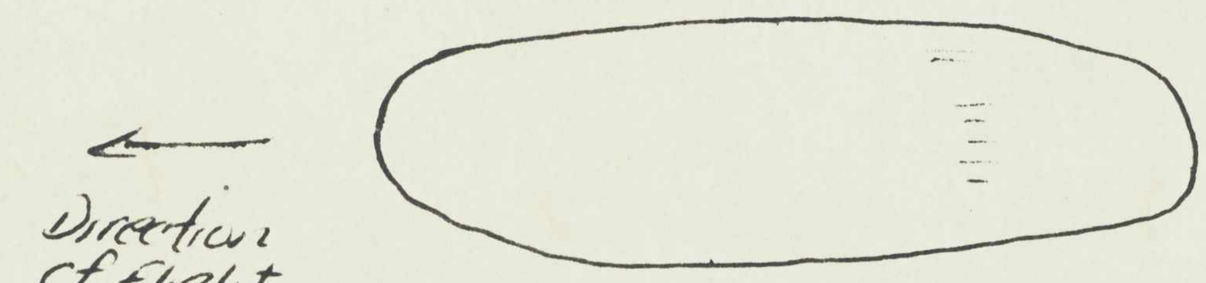
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4. The object, as seen by each of the aforementioned interviewees/described was and illustrated as follows:

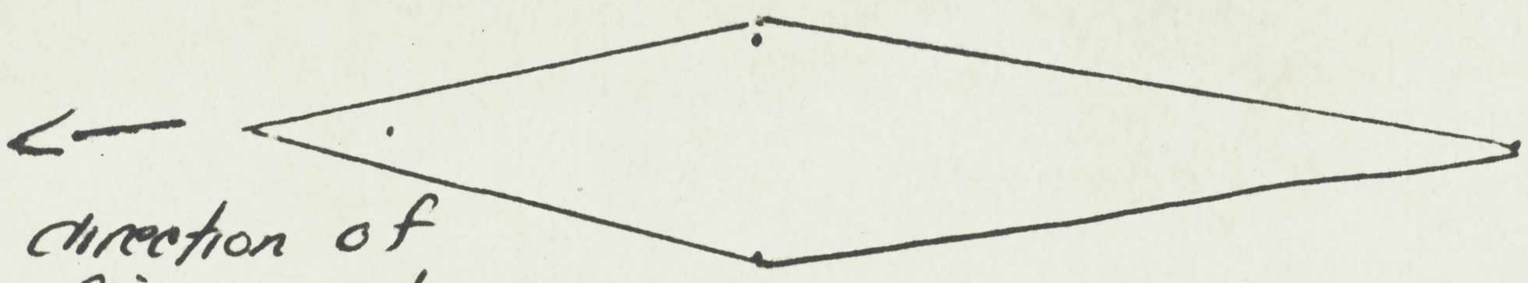
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Dir OSI

HEADQUARTERS
21st DISTRICT OSI (IG) USAF
LANGLEY AFB, VIRGINIA

UNCLASS

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

DATE 15 DEC 1975

File No: 24-144

14 November 1957

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

TO: Base Commander
Seymour-Johnson Air Force Base
North Carolina

1. This communication confirms the information orally transmitted to you by Special Agent John T. Fergerson, Jr., of Detachment 2104, this organization, 7 November 1957.

2. Cited information is listed as follows:

Captain HENRY MARTIN, Assistant G-2, U. S. Marine Corps, Camp Lejeune, N. C., telephonically communicated to S/A Eugene Sword, Detachment 2104, this organization, 7 November 1957, the following data:

CHARLES R. DOSSETT, Pvt. 1557545 and PAUL H. BURTON, Pfc. 1512921, both patients at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, sighted an unidentified flying object at that station. DOSSETT and BURTON were interviewed by G-2 section and the following description of object was obtained:

Shape - Round
Size to known object - Dime held at arms length
Color - Fire red
Number of objects - One
Formation - None
Further Details - Dim when stopped, bright in flight
Tail or Exhaust Trail - None
Sound - None
Other Features - Terrific rate of speed
Course - Elevation 3 miles, 10 miles away, east to west in gradual curve
Manner of Disappearance - Just disappeared
Length of Time in Sight - One and a half to two minutes
Observation Manner - Ground visual
Time and Date - 1915 to 1920 hours, 6 November 1957
Light Conditions - Night, weather clear, no clouds

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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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DATE 18 DEC 1975

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UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: Unidentified Flying Object

File No: 24-144
14 November 1957

3. This letter is classified CONFIDENTIAL pursuant to authority contained in paragraph 30c(2)(a), AFR 205-1.

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

cc: Dir OSI, USAF (in dup)
cc: Det. 2104

Director, OSI: A copy, in duplicate of the letter of confirmation concerning subject, which was submitted to the Base Commander, Seymour-Johnson AFB, N. C., is forwarded as a matter of information and in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 904b(1), OSI Bulletin Nr. 51.

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DIR/OSI

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

File No: 33-0

17 JAN 1957

SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENON RESEARCH GROUP

TO: Director, Special Investigations
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. The following information was received from the Richmond, Virginia Field Office, FBI, by letter dated 11 January 1957. The body of the letter is quoted as follows:

"Mrs. Margaret Blunt, 7606 Sweetbriar Road, Richmond, Virginia, advised this office on January 2, 1957, that she had received a letter from captioned organization requesting she furnish any information she might have relative to her alleged observation of a "flying saucer" a year or so ago near Richmond, Virginia. Mrs. Blunt informed she is employed by the Richmond Quartermaster Depot of the United States Army and it was while on her way to work one morning that she had sighted the object in question. She stated that several other women employees of the Depot were present and subsequently one of these women had told a newspaper reporter about the incident and all their names had appeared in the papers.

Mrs. Blunt advised that she was reluctant to answer the letter as she felt it could be an illegal or subversive group who was trying to obtain information they should not have. She pointed out that she knew nothing about the organization but the correspondence did not reflect the group was connected with the United States Government in any way.

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(AFR 190-13)

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

File No: 33-0; SUBJ: AERIAL PHENOMENON RESEARCH GROUP

She informed that the letter indicated the group was a national organization whose duty it was to investigate any and all unusual aerial phenomenon. It also reflected that one Bob Gribble was the Executive Director and Jim Ewart was the Director of Investigations. The address for this organization was shown to be 5108 Finlay Street, Seattle, Washington.

The above date is being furnished for your information, it being noted that the files of this office contain no reference to this organization."

2. No further action in this matter is contemplated unless directed by your office.

RICHARD G. COX
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
(AFR 190-18)

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

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OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Dir OSI

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, HAMPTON, VIRGINIA

File No: 24-0

13 JUN 1956

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

TO: Commander
405th Fighter Bomber Wing
Langley Air Force Base, Va.

1. The following is quoted from a letter, dated 5 June 1956, from the Federal Bureau of Investigation Field Office, Richmond, Va. This information was telephonically referred to your office on 8 June 1956.

"For your information, JAMES WILLIAM DAVES, 3889 Caulder Court, Richmond, Virginia, who has no telephone, telephonically contacted the Richmond Office of the FBI on June 5, 1956, to advise that in the past two years he has done considerable research on flying discs and he believed he saw one approximately two years ago.

"He continued that during the last week of May 1956, friends of his parents, the identities unknown, who reside near Stuart, Virginia, related that approximately May 23, 1956, they observed a large ball of fire approximately the size of a refrigerator go into the side of a mountain near Stuart, Virginia. DAVES could furnish no additional details concerning this incident but he was of the belief that this object observed near Stuart, Virginia, was a flying disc.

"DAVES indicated he may in the near future go to Stuart, Virginia, to contact his parents' friends for additional details concerning the above incident.

"The above is being furnished for your information."

2. On 8 June 1956, JAMES WILLIAM DAVES, supra, was interviewed and identified his parents' friends who observed the large ball of fire as RICHARD and MARY CARTWRIGHT, Meadows of Dan, Va. In addition

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

21st District OSI (IG)
Subj: Unidentified Flying Objects

File No: 24-0

DAVES advised that the CARTWRIGHTS have allegedly observed several other fireballs during the past year.

cc: Dir OSI

JAMES C. BORDEN
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
5 DEC 1975
DATE
5D 24-21-155

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

UNCLASSIFIED

14 September 1954

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT
Sighted 15 Miles Southeast of Ocean City, Maryland, 1500 hours, 27 Jul 54
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio
ATTN: ATIAA-2C

1. Transmitted herewith for your information is one (1) copy of Report of Investigation of Special Agent WILLIAM W. DENNIS, JR., District Office No. 21, dated 3 August 1954, file 53-(24)-11, subject as above.

2. Subsequent to writing the attached report, the District Commander, DO #21, was advised by the District Intelligence Officer, 5th Naval District, that investigation by his office revealed a witness who approached near enough to the object in question to identify it as a smoke pot. The District Intelligence Officer is of the opinion that the reported movement of the object can be accounted for by reason of smoke being blown away from the object by the wind. The District Intelligence Officer advised that there was extensive naval activity in the area of subject sighting and that a helicopter operating in the vicinity observed considerable dunnage in the area. The District Intelligence Officer believes that the smoke pot was used during some naval exercise in which no attempt was made to recover the pot, and the dunnage may well be parts of unrecovered experimental models.

3. No further investigative action is contemplated and the files of the Office of Special Investigations are considered closed.

4. Your attention is invited to the provisions of AFR 124-3, which prohibit the release of investigative information to unauthorized persons.

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
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ROBERTS P. JOHNSON
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl
ROI fr DO #21, dtd 3 Aug 54

cc: Dir OSI (24-185-21-11)
w/o Incl

50-F-14246

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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M & R BRANCH

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF S...
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

5D 24-21-168

20 April 1955

SUBJECT: (Unclassified)
Flying Saucer, ~~23~~ February 1955 at Wilton, Connecticut, Seen by ROBERT C. HARDY

24-185

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio
ATTN: ATIAA-2C

1. Transmitted herewith for your information is one (1) copy of Report of Investigation by Special Agent MICHAEL THEODORAKIS, District Office No. 2, dated 15 April 1955, file 24-420, concerning subject matter.

2. Your attention is invited to the provisions of AFR 124-1, which prohibit the release of investigative information to unauthorized persons.

Kenneth L Blackstone

KENNETH L. BLACKSTONE
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl
ROI DO #2 dtd 15 Apr 55

cc: Dir OSI w/o Incl

When Enclosure(s) ... attached, the classification ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ will be canceled (or changed to ...) in accordance with Par 25g AFR 205-1

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Code 151/x 8924/2 Sep 54

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

AFCSI-6D 24-185-21-11

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) ~~Unidentified Object Sighted 15 Miles Southeast of Ocean City, Maryland, 1500 hours, 27 Jul 54~~ SEP 1954
SPECIAL INQUIRY

UNCLASSIFIED

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

1. Attached for transmittal to the Air Technical Intelligence Center is an OSI report of investigation from District Office #21, dated 3 August 1954, concerning unidentified flying objects.

2. Subsequent to writing the attached report, the District Commander, DO #21, was advised by the District Intelligence Officer, 5th Naval District, that investigation by his office revealed a witness who approached near enough to the object in question to identify it as a smoke pot. The District Intelligence Officer is of the opinion that the reported movement of the object can be accounted for by reason of smoke being blown away from the object by the wind. The District Intelligence Officer advised that there was extensive naval activity in the area of subject sighting and that a helicopter operating in the vicinity observed considerable dunnage in the area. The District Intelligence Officer believes that the smoke pot was used during some naval exercise in which no attempt was made to recover the pot, and the dunnage may well be parts of unrecovered experimental models.

FOR THE DIRECTOR:

For E. T. Murtha Maj. USAF
GENE P. MORITZ
Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Sabotage and Espionage Branch
Counter Intelligence Division
Directorate of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

1 Incl
ROI fr DO #21
53-(24)-11
dtd 3 Aug 54

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USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
13 SEP 1954

AFCSI FILE

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF 5 DEC 1975
Historian
DATE

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, LANGLEY FIELD, VIRGINIA

File No: 53-(24)-11 3 August 1954

SUBJECT: (Confidential)
Unidentified Object Sighted 15 Miles
Southeast of Ocean City, Md., 1500 hours,
27 July 1954.

TO: Director, Special Investigations (IG)
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.
ATTN: Counter-Intelligence Division

1. Attached hereto is Report of Investigation by S/A WILLIAM W. DENNIS, Jr., File and Subject as above, dated 3 August 1954.

2. Subsequent to writing the attached report, the District Commander was advised by the District Intelligence Officer, 5th Naval District, that investigation by his office revealed a witness who approached near enough to the object in question to identify it as a smoke pot. The District Intelligence Officer is of the opinion that the reported movement of the object can be accounted for by reason of smoke being blown away from the object by the wind. The District Intelligence Officer advised that there was extensive naval activity in the area of Subject sighting and that a helicoptor operating in the vicinity observed considerable dunnage in the area. The District Intelligence Officer believes that the smoke pot was used during some naval exercise in which no attempt was made to recover the pot, and the dunnage may well be parts of unrecovered experimental models.

UNCLASSIFIED

1 Incl
As above
(in dup)

DWIGHT J. SCOVEL
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 53-(24)-11

DATE 3 August 1954 js

REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM M. DENNIS, JR, S/A

REPORT MADE AT DO #21, Langley AFB, Va.

PERIOD 30 July 1954

UNCLASSIFIED

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #21, Langley AFB, Va.

STATUS CLOSED

TITLE

(Confidential)
Unidentified Object sighted 15 miles Southeast of Ocean City, Md., 1500 hours, 27 July 1954

CHARACTER RECIPROCAL INVESTIGATIONS

REFERENCE INITIAL REPORT

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 15 DEC 1975

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by District Intelligence Officer, 5th Naval District, to determine if any Langley AFB activity was responsible for an unidentified object observed approximately 15 miles southeast of Ocean City, Md. 27 July 1954. Investigation revealed no Air Force activity at LAFB which could account for the sighting. NACA Station, Wallops Island, Va., advised that they fired a rocket and a Research Model on 27 July 1954, but that the points of impact of these missiles as checked by radar were approximately 30 miles from Subject sighting.

UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED AND WILL BE CONSIDERED A VIOLATION OF AFR 205-1 AND AFR 205-6.

DISTRIBUTION

DIO 5 ND	4
Dir OSI	2
Comdr, TAC (Info)	1
File	2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

UNCLASSIFIED

APPROVED

DWIGHT J SCOVEL
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander.

FILE STAMP

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

Air Force LAFB-L-3-1557

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

File No: 53-(24)-11

DETAILS:

1. This investigation was initiated on 30 July 1954 by the District Commander upon information received from and at the telephonic request of Captain WILLIAM L. MESSMER, District Intelligence Officer (DIO), 5th Naval District, Norfolk, Va. The DIO advised that his Office had received information from their Baltimore Office to the effect that at 1500 hours, 27 July 1954, individuals aboard two fishing vessels located southeast of Ocean City, Md., observed an object variously described as a red ball or a ball of red flame, which entered the water approximately 15 miles southeast of Ocean City. The witnesses stated that they observed the object for approximately 15 minutes and variously estimated the speed to be from 8 to 24 knots. One witness observed the object through binoculars. Some of the witnesses stated that the object traveled submerged part of the time, others that it traveled on the surface. The DIO further advised that the water in the area in question is too shallow to permit the operation of a submarine at Snorkel depth and no Naval craft of that type were in the vicinity at the time of sighting. The DIO requested OSI to determine whether any Langley AFB activity or the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics could account for subject sighting.

2. Special Agent DWIGHT J. SCOVEL assisted in this investigation.

AT LANGLEY AFB, VA.

3. On 30 July 1954 DALE SCHEFEL, 1st Lt, USAF, AO 2094381, Base Operations, was telephonically contacted and after reviewing his records, advised that Langley AFB had not lost any aircraft on 27 July 1954; that there had been no reported loss of aircraft wing tip tanks on 27 July 1954 and further that Langley AFB aircraft do not conduct firing or bombing practice over the area in question.

4. On 30 July 1954, Mr. JOHN C. PALMER, Acting Engineer-in-Charge, Pilotless Aircraft Research Station, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, Temperenceville, Va. (Wallops Island, Va.), was telephonically contacted by S/A SCOVEL and stated in effect that on 27 July 1954 his organization fired a 2-1/2" rocket and a Research Model. The missiles were tracked by radar. The 2-1/2" rocket struck the water approximately 5500 yards from the point of launching. The Research Model struck the water approximately 5000 yards from the point of launching. The points of impact of the missiles were approximately 30 miles from Subject sighting. PALMER advised that no attempt is made to recover such missiles. PALMER further advised that during the past three months his organization has not launched any missiles which have a fuel expectancy of more than three (3) seconds and that the missiles cited above landed within an area of two hundred yards from the impact points indicated above.

CLOSED

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Unclassified

~~SECRET~~

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

5D-24-21-134 29 April 1954

SUBJECT: Sighting of Unidentified Objects Near Blackstone, Virginia
SPECIAL INQUIRY

24-185-21-9

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio
ATTN: ATIAA-2C

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Transmitted herewith for your information is material identified under inclosures which is pertinent to unidentified flying objects.

2. The inclosed material was furnished this District Office by the Directorate of Special Investigations.

ROBERTS P. JOHNSON, JR.
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

2 Incls
1. Cy of ltr fr DO #21, dtd 11 Feb 54, to Comdr, 405th Fighter Bomber Wg, Langley AFB
2. Extract fr OSI, Hq USAFE Summary of Positive Intell Activities for Month of Jan 54, dtd 18 Feb 54

cc: Dir OSI w/o incls

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

13 MAY 1954
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24-185-21-9X
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
MAY 3 1 3 41 '54

When Inclosure No(s). 1&2 ~~is~~ (are) withdrawn or not attached, the classification of ~~SECRET~~ on this correspondence will be downgraded to Unclassified, in accordance with par 25e, AFR 205-1.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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MAY 3 1954

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, LANGLEY FIELD, VIRGINIA

File No: 24-0

11 February 1954

UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: Sighting of Unidentified Object
Near Blackstone, Virginia

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SAFEGUARD INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 15 DEC 1975

TO: Commander
405th Fighter Bomber Wing
Langley Air Force Base
Hampton, Virginia
ATTN: Director of Operations

1. Reference Air Force Letter 200-5, dated 29 April 1952.

2. The following is in written confirmation of a report telephonically transmitted to your office on 30 January 1954 by Lt Colonel DWIGHT J SCOVEL, District Commander.

3. On 29 January 1954, Lt Colonel SCOVEL received a telephonic report from the OSI Detachment Commander, Richmond, Virginia, in which Colonel SCOVEL was advised of a sighting of an unknown object in the sky, in the vicinity of Blackstone, Virginia. Colonel SCOVEL was advised that the sighting occurred sometime on the afternoon of 28 January 1954. Subsequently, Colonel SCOVEL contacted the Adjutant, 405th Fighter Bomber Wing and OSI was thereby directed to initiate an inquiry into this sighting.

4. The following is therefore the result of the inquiry into incident matter conducted by Special Agents ERNEST E HOARD and JAMES W WARD.

5. On 29 January 1954, MARVIN B SMITH, JR., Box 6, East Jeb Stuart Village, Blackstone, Virginia, was interviewed at Blackstone Army Air Field concerning the sighting of the unknown object. SMITH stated that, from August 1948 through July 1952, he had served in the Air Force, with duties as Control Tower Operator at Andrews and Bangor Air Force Bases. SMITH advised that he had been discharged as a S/Sgt, that his Service Number was AF 14281719. SMITH averred that he has been a CAA Airways Operation Specialist at Blackstone Army Air Field

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

File No: 24-0 11 February 1954
21st District OSI (IG), Langley AFB, Hampton, Virginia
SUBJ: Sighting of Unidentified Object Near Blackstone, Virginia

since 1 January 1953. SMITH stated that at 1715 hours on 28 January 1954, while he was at home, he looked into the sky and noticed a bright, white, shapeless object which appeared to be at an altitude of between twelve (12) and fifteen (15) thousand feet. SMITH said there were a few white clouds in the sky and the sun was still shining. According to SMITH, the object had a constant shine and remained stationary in the sky at about a thirty (30) degree angle above the horizon and due north of Blackstone. SMITH advised that he watched the object for a couple of minutes and then drove to the CAA Interstate Aviation Communications Station at Blackstone Army Air Field and advised the two (2) CAA employees on duty of the observation. SMITH stated that all three (3) observed the unknown object in the sky. According to SMITH, at 1721 hours, a C-47 flew over the station. The pilot of the aircraft was notified of the object in the sky and he advised that he also saw the object. The pilot believed, however, that the unknown object was between thirty (30) and forty (40) thousand feet in altitude. The pilot reportedly did not know the nature or identity of the object. SMITH identified the aircraft as a USAF Air Evacuation Plane, Number 8154, enroute to Andrews Air Force Base. SMITH further advised that the CAA Office at Blackstone notified Washington Air Route Traffic Control, National Airport, and Military Flight, Middletown, Pennsylvania, of the sighting. SMITH advised that he returned to his home and last noticed the object at 1745 hours. According to SMITH, the object created no noise, no smoke, no vapor trail and he advised that it appeared to be a flat oval in shape. SMITH stated that the object was much more prominent than any aircraft, due to its brightness. SMITH said that he did not have any knowledge of the size of the object nor of its exact shape.

6. On 29 January 1954, RALPH F. SCHAFFSTALL, Chief of the Facility, Blackstone CAA Office, was interviewed at Blackstone Army Air Field. SCHAFFSTALL advised that he had been working for the CAA since 1936. SCHAFFSTALL advised that he first saw the object at 1723 hours on 28 January when the CAA employees on the field called him at his home in Blackstone, and brought his attention to the sighting. According to SCHAFFSTALL, the unknown object appeared to have a bright metallic surface. According to SCHAFFSTALL, the unknown object was between forty (40) and forty-five (45) degrees above the horizon and due north in direction. SCHAFFSTALL estimated that the object was five (5) to ten (10) miles away at an altitude of approximately thirty (30) to forty (40) thousand feet. SCHAFFSTALL stated that behind the object was a light layer of cirro-stratus clouds. SCHAFFSTALL advised that these clouds usually occurred at an altitude of thirty-five (35) to forty (40) thousand feet and they thus helped him establish the approximate altitude of the object. SCHAFFSTALL stated that the unknown object was elongated in shape and was stationary. He had no knowledge whatsoever of the size of the object, and he further advised that there was no noise, no smoke or vapor trail, or disturbance in the air near the object. He stated that the only way he could describe the object was as a bright shining object in the sky. SCHAFFSTALL stated that he had lost sight of the object at approximately 1745 hours as it appeared to be withdrawing to the north, becoming smaller. SCHAFFSTALL averred that he had never in his life seen such a thing or could recall no balloons or planes that

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

File No: 24-0 11 February 1954
21st District OSI (IG), Langley AFB, Hampton, Virginia
SUBJ: Sighting of Unidentified Object Near Blackstone, Virginia

appeared so large at such an altitude. SCHAFFSTALL further advised the OSI agents that Roanoke, Virginia had reported three (3) loose weather balloons, on the morning of 28 January 1954. Roanoke had noted that the balloons were drifting in a north, northeasterly direction. SCHAFFSTALL estimated that if the direction of drift continued, the balloons would have passed no closer than one hundred (100) miles (approximately) from Blackstone and that in such an event the object sighted was probably not one of the balloons. SCHAFFSTALL, however, stated that the object could have been a balloon, but that he was unable to give any estimate of the nature of the object.

7. Mr. SCHAFFSTALL checked the records of the CAA Office and advised the following weather conditions for the late afternoon of 28 January 1954. Thin, broken clouds at twenty (20) thousand feet were reported at the approximate time of the sighting, with a north, northeasterly surface wind of six (6) miles per hour also recorded. SCHAFFSTALL gave the location of the Blackstone CAA Office as the following: 77 degrees, 55 minutes, no seconds, west longitude; 37 degrees, 4 minutes, 3 seconds, north latitude; elevation, 440 - IAC.

8. On 1 February 1954, Captain MARVIN H. CASTLEBERRY, AO 814651, Operations Officer, 48th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Langley AFB, was interviewed concerning the unknown object. CASTLEBERRY checked the squadron records and advised that the 771st AC & W Squadron, Cape Charles AFB, Virginia, had notified a pilot of the 48th squadron of an unknown object sighted. Captain CASTLEBERRY identified the pilot as 1st Lt. DONALD R. OSBORNE, AO 1911312, and stated that the notification occurred sometime on Thursday evening, 28 January 1954. Captain CASTLEBERRY advised from the records that the AC & W Squadron had received two (2) reports of unknown objects, from the Ground Observer Corps Filter Center, Richmond, Virginia. The first report, received by AC & W at 1744 hours, stated that an unknown object had been sighted at approximately 78 degrees, 18 minutes, west longitude, and 37 degrees, 43 minutes, north latitude. CASTLEBERRY stated that the AC & W Squadron had received another report from Richmond at 1804 hours, of a sighting at 77 degrees, 15 minutes, west longitude, and 37 degrees, 49 minutes, north latitude. CASTLEBERRY stated that Richmond had not advised the AC & W Squadron of the origin of the reports. CASTLEBERRY surmised, however, that the sightings probably originated at GOC Command Posts. CASTLEBERRY stated that the AC & W Squadron had observed no unidentified objects within a radius of two hundred fifty (250) miles, during this day. CASTLEBERRY stated that no further information was contained in the AC & W report.

9. On 1 February 1954, 1st Lt DONALD R OSBORNE, 48th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, was interviewed concerning his actions in this

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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File No: 24-0 11 February 1954
21st District OSI (IG), Langley AFB, Hampton, Virginia
SUBJ: Sighting of Unidentified Object Near Blackstone, Virginia

matter. OSBORNE advised that he was flying a F-94 aircraft over Langley AFB when notified of the unidentified object by the 771st AC & W Squadron. OSBORNE advised that he was given directions by the AC & W Squadron, and requested to investigate the directed areas for the unidentified objects. OSBORNE recalled that he had patrolled the areas directed by AC & W, but had failed to observe any unidentified objects. OSBORNE further advised from memory that he had first received AC & W notification at approximately 1800 hours on 29 January 1954.

Carl M Bremer
CARL M BREMER
Major, USAF
District Commander

cc: Deputy, CS Intelligence, Hqs. TAC.
Director OSI.

SEP 1954
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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
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SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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The following information was extracted from the OSI, HQ USAFE Summary of Positive Intelligence Activities for the Month of January 1954, dated 18 February 1954:

"4. Unidentified Flying Object Reported over BERLIN:

"On 8 January 1954, a German resident of the American Sector of BERLIN noted an unidentified object, similar in appearance and size to a full moon, traveling in a straight path from northwest to southeast over the American Sector of BERLIN. Time of observation was 2027 hours (local time), and source observed the object for a period of approximately five (5) to seven (7) seconds, at which time it disappeared behind the surrounding buildings. Weather conditions at time of observation were clear sky, a new quarter moon, wind approximately five (5) to ten (10) miles per hour, and temperature 20° to 25°F. Source could give no identifying aerodynamic features but stated that there was no sign of exhaust trail nor could any sound be heard from the object. The object traveled in a straight line at a constant altitude and speed. Source was unable to estimate altitude of the object but stated that speed of the object appeared to be twice that of a jet fighter aircraft but much slower than the speed of a meteor."

SECRET

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

THW WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS
15 September 1952

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft - Sutton, West Virginia, 12 September 1952

THE MONSTER OF BRAXTON COUNTY

Around a Bend They Saw a Pair of Bulging Eyes

By United Press

SUTTON, W. Va., Sept. 15—A short time after a meteorite—or something—blazed across this town last Friday and seemed to land nearby, an evil-smelling, green bodied monster 12 feet tall with bulging eyes and clawy hands sent seven young citizens running for their lives.

A. Lee Stewart, who with his father publishes the Braxton County Democrat, saw mysterious traces of whatever it was, and here's his story:

"It was about 7:15 p. m. when this meteorite, or something, was supposed to have been seen that I wandered down the street and the people told me about having seen it. Then, a little while later, this call comes in from Flatwood, a town about five miles away.

A PAIR OF EYES

"Mrs. Kathleen May and six boys had gone up the hill to where this thing was supposed to have landed, and they could see flashes of light—flash, flash, flash, three or four times—coming from the top of the hill.

"As they kind of eased around a little bend in the road, there, in the shadows, they saw a pair of eyes. There was a peculiar odor—a very sickening, hot, stuffy smelling odor.

"The oldest boy—he's 17—threw a flashilght on it. All the rest of them saw it too. The boy fell over backwards and all the people took to their heels and came running back to town.

"They said it was about 11 or 12 feet high, and had a shiny, metallic kind of face and protruding eyes. Its body was green. It had outstretched hands—sort of clawy looking hands.

"When they all got back to town, they gave the boy a dose or two of smelling salts, and called police.

TRACKS

"Of course," said Mr. Stewart, "the state police weren't in, but next morning the sheriff and some other people went up, and naturally I went along to investigate. I took my camera with me."

Atop the rugged, tangled hill, there was no trace of a meteorite, but there was an area "all trampled down," Mr. Stewart said. He said that he could still smell traces of the peculiar odor.

There were two tracks. They looked like skid marks, about a foot wide, a car length apart, and about ten yards long, Mr. Stewart said. He said you couldn't get an auto up that hill.

Mr. Stewart and the deputies took Gene Lemon, the 17-year-old, along with them.

SAW SOMETHING

"We had to coax him to go back," Mr. Stewart said. "I had to keep my hand on his shoulder. He just shook and shook like he was scared to death.

"I know all these people," Mr. Stewart said. "And I tried every way to tear this story down. But they all told the same story and they all stuck to it.

"I've never seen people in more fright.

"I don't know what they saw, but they sure saw something on that hill.

"Of course, at twilight, you can see lots of things. They could have seen an owl sitting up there in a tree, and put a body under it."

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

ROUTING SLIP

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

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ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE

REMARKS

UNCLASSIFIED

UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS REPORTED TO MAS PATUXENT RIVER MD #3 JUL + 23 Jul 52

The attached memo was handed the undersigned by Mr McKenna of ONI. 13692 He stated that should a memo be necessary in the transmittal he would give

memo
Incls
3 cys ea

FROM NAME OR TITLE

ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION

DATE

TELEPHONE

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

☆ GPO : 1951 - O 925564

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION
PATUXENT RIVER, MARYLAND

[illegible]
11-223

23 Jul 1952

RESTRICTED
SECURITY INFORMATION

UNCLASSIFIED

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

From: Intelligence Officer
To: Commanding Officer

Subj: Unidentified object sighted (23 July 1952); information concerning

Ref: (a) The Washington Post - "Radar Spots Air Mystery Objects Here" (8 on screen; planes sight odd 'lights') of 22 July 1952

Encl: (1) Statement of John H. Van Brunt, civilian

1. It was reported to the NAS, Patuxent River, Md. Intelligence Office by John H. Van Brunt, civilian, (Encl. 1) that about 0233 on 23 July 1952 while sitting in his automobile near the Lexington Park Hotel, Lexington Park, Md. he observed two (2) elongated and irregular shaped lights with a reddish glow; that the lights appeared approximately southeast at an elevation of about 30° and a distance of about 4 or 5 miles (southern extremity of NAS, Patuxent River, Md.); that the lights appeared bright but not glittering nor shiny; that in relation to the size of an average star each of the two (2) lights appeared about 10 times as large; that the lower (and to the right) light was in constant motion, darting toward the upper light and several times disappeared behind the upper light, remaining obscured for several seconds - then reappearing and dropping down to the right, to its original position; that the action continued from 0233 until 0243 when both lights disappeared without any further movement and darkness was evident - like the snap of a light switch; that during the ten minute period (0233 - 0243) there was absolute quiet - no vehicles nor aircraft motors - no vapor trails; that he concentrated on the two (2) lights until they disappeared; that he remained about thirty minutes after the lights disappeared but the lights did not reappear; that the lights could have been there some time before he observed them.

2. Inquiry and records locally (NAS, Patuxent River, Md.) reveal no aircraft in area (take off -landing), no known celestial phenomena, use of pyrotechnics, aerial lights, or flashes were observed, recorded or planned, at the time of the alleged sighting (0233 - 0243) 23 July 1952.

3. Reference (a) reflects the Air Force has received reports of an eerie visitation by unidentified aerial objects picked up by radar, indicating actual substance rather than mere light.

4. The Intelligence Officer, Potomac River Naval Command is cognizant of the foregoing information.

FILE 24-185

RESTRICTED
SECURITY INFORMATION

UNCLASSIFIED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AB
11-323

RESTRICTED

5. Forwarded for information.

J. H. BROWNLEE

RESTRICTED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

RESTRICTED

Intelligence Office
NAS, Patuxent River, Md.
23 July 1952

STATEMENT OF JOHN H. VAN BRUNT, CIVILIAN, ATTORNEY

I am an attorney residing at the Lexington Park Hotel, Lexington Park, Md.

While sitting in my automobile at 0233, 23 July 1952, I saw two elongated and irregular shaped lights with a reddish-white glow. The lights appeared at approximately southeast at an elevation of about 30°and at a distance of about 4 or 5 miles (southern extremity of NAS). The lights were bright but not glittering or shiny. In relation to the size of an average star, each of the two lights appeared about 10 times as large. The lower (and to the right) light was in constant motion darting toward the upper light and several times disappeared behind the upper light remaining obscured for several seconds, then reappearing and dropping down and to the right to its original position. This action continued from 0233 until 0243 at which time both lights disappeared without any further movement and darkness was evident like the snap of a light switch.

During this ten minute period there was absolute quiet. No vehicles nor aircraft motors to distract. No vapor trails. I did not take my eyes from the two lights until they disappeared from sight. I remained about 30 minutes longer but there were no more lights. The lights could have been there for some time before I observed them.

I have read the above statement consisting of one page and it is the truth to the best of my knowledge and belief, so help me God.

John H. Van Brunt

JOHN H. VAN BRUNT

WITNESSES:

John V. Runyon

D. S. Rainsberger

RESTRICTED

ENCLOSURE (1)

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

32
06763
AUG 5 1952

CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION

From: Intelligence Officer, Potomac River Naval Command
To: Director of Naval Intelligence (Op-321D)

Subj: Unidentified object sighted (15 July 1952); information concerning

Encl: (1) Two (2) copies of restricted ltr from IO, NAS Patuxent to CO, NAS Patuxent dtd 25 Jul 52, same subj

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded inasmuch as the information contained therein may be of interest to the United States Air Force.

F. M. CARTER

W. F. DANIELS
By direction

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION
PRIORITY

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED NOTFIY
CRYPTOCENTER BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

FROM: 7TH DIST OSI (IG) MACDILL AFB FLA

TO : HQ CHIEF OF STAFF USAF WASH DC

INFO : CG AMC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO

[redacted] OSI 5101

15 Jul 52

//ATTN: DIR OSI. INFO ATTN MCIS//

8 unidentified, luminous circular objects flying in formation, vicinity Langley AFB, Va sighted by Capt Frank Koepke, Pilot Pan American Airways while on New York-San Juan flight. Objects sighted 14 Jul 52, at approx 2100 hrs. Witnessed by W B Nash, co-pilot and Bill Frontenbery, engineer. Crew members stated circular objects turned to avoid collision with airliner. Estimated speed 1-thousand miles per hour. Crew members being interviewed by OSI at Miami, Fla.

Eight luminous circular objects flying in formation, vicinity Langley AFB, va, 14 Jul 52

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF [illegible]
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

DUPLICATE COPY
TO EXEC

Col. Bonard

ACTION : CSI

INFO : CDS, CIG, OIN

UNCLASSIFIED

ACTION COPY

24 | 18521

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
COPY No.

[redacted] (15 Jul 52)

CONFIDENTIAL

AFHQ FORM 0-309f
19 JAN 51
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

☆ 16—63727-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1951—O-927444

28 JUL 1952

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL-SECURITY INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

UNCLASSIFIED

File No: 24-O

25 June 1952

SUBJECT: Unusual Aerial Object, Vicinity of Harris Creek Road, Fox Hill, Virginia, 13 June 1952
SPECIAL INQUIRY

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

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

Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. This report pertains to the observation of an unusual aerial object by one (1) person near the Harris Creek Road in Fox Hill, Virginia. The time of sighting was 1030 hours 13 June 1952.

2. On 13 June 1952 at 1130 hours Major FRANK A KNAPP, Air Provost Marshal, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, telephonically advised this office that a local resident, FRANK E MCLAUGHLIN, had telephoned him and reported seeing an unusual aerial object, spherical in shape, in the Fox Hill, Virginia, area, a distance of approximately two (2) miles from Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

3. On 13 June 1952 at 1500 hours, Mr FRANK E MCLAUGHLIN was interviewed and gave in substance the following information concerning the incident: MCLAUGHLIN, a salesman for a local awning concern, first observed this spherical object while driving his car along Harris Creek Road, a sparsely populated section of Fox Hill, Virginia. As Mr MCLAUGHLIN rounded a bend in the road, he saw the object hovering in the air at an altitude of approximately 200 feet over a group of pine trees approximately 400 to 500 fet west of the road.

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UNCLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL-SECURITY INFORMATION

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

21st Dist OSI (IG), LAFB, Va. 25 June 1952
Subj: Unusual Aerial Object 24-0

4. MCLAUGHLIN described the object as being about 25 to 30 feet in diameter, made of a metallic looking substance and having a light blue or sky blue color. He stated it averaged approximately 3 to 5 feet in thickness, tapering down from the center to the outside, similar to a discus used in athletics. MCLAUGHLIN further stated that from where he stood, he was able to obtain a better view of the underneath side of the object and gave the following description: The craft had four (4) concentric sections when viewed from underneath. One section was a solid inner case which comprised the center and did not move. Next to this were two (2) spherical sections which were spinning rapidly in opposite directions. The outside section was narrower than the others and like the center, did not rotate. MCLAUGHLIN said the craft did not seem to have any exhaust or smoke, but that he did hear a slight whistling sound while the object was hovering over the group of trees. MCLAUGHLIN said he observed what appeared to be a small antenna protruding from the center portion of the craft on the top side. He could see no slots or duct openings in the object. After approximately 10 seconds MCLAUGHLIN said the craft tilted slightly, flew upward at an angle of 45 degrees and away from him at a tremendous speed. MCLAUGHLIN estimated that it was out of sight in a matter of seconds, but he could not estimate the speed at which it was traveling.

5. On 14 June 1952 Langley Air Force Base Operations advised that runway #35 was in use at the time of the reported sighting and that this flight path would bring any approaching airplanes over the Fox Hill area prior to landing. Records at Base Operations further indicated that three (3) aircraft landed at the approximate time of the sighting: A T-6 at 1004 hours, a T-11 at 1105 hours, and a C-45 at 1107 hours.

6. Weather Sequence Reports from Langley Air Force Base, which is located two miles north north west of Fox Hill for 1030 hours 13 June 1952 was as follows:

1030 hours clear; Visibility - 9 miles; wind from South South East at 3 knots; Temperature at 68°; Dewpoint 68°; Overcast at 20,000 ft; Scattered clouds at 500 ft.

7. In relation to the witness of subject sighting, the following information is submitted to aid in evaluating his credibility:

a. Name: FRANK E MCLAUGHLIN

b. Address: 3816A Chesapeake Boulevard, Hampton, Virginia

c. Occupation: Aluminum Awning Salesman, Going Co, 39th Street and Super Highway, Hampton, Virginia.

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

21st Dist OSI (IG), LAFB, Va.
Subj: Unusual Aerial Object

25 June 1952
24-0

d. MCLAUGHLIN had been looking for a prospective customer in the Fox Hill area at the time of the sighting. MCLAUGHLIN does not wear glasses and stated that he had not partaken of any intoxicants prior to the sighting.

e. MCLAUGHLIN was a little vague when reporting certain details concerning the sighting, however, in general, he seemed to be intelligent and a level-headed person.

8. On 16 June 1952 three (3) residents of the Harris Creek Road area in the vicinity of the sighting, were interviewed and advised that they had observed no unusual aerial phenomenon and could not recall observing any unusual aircraft in that vicinity on the date of reported sighting. Those interviewed were:

Mrs O GARLAND COSBY
Bay View Manor
Harris Creek Road

Mrs W L SAMS
Harris Creek Road

Mr CARLSON FLOYD (Age Approximately 17 yrs)
Harris Creek Road

9. This information was coordinated with the Office of Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Collection Division, Tactical Air Command, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia, on 13 June 1952.

10. Inquiry at the Langley AFB GCA Unit on 14 June 1952 failed to reveal the presence of any unidentified aircraft in the area for the period of 1000 to 1200 hours on 13 June 1952.

11. On 16 June 1952 Capt C W JACKSON, 4424th Helicopter Flight, Langley AFB, Va., advised that at approximately 1030 hours on 13 June 1952, he was returning to Langley AFB piloting an H-19 type Helicopter. His flight path to the base was on a line from Phoebus, Virginia, to Langley AFB and he stated that this route took him directly over the Fox Hill area at an altitude of approximately 300 feet.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

21st Dist OSI (IG), LAFB, Va.
Subj: Unusual Aerial Object

25 June 1952
24-O

12. This office contemplates no further inquiry into subject sighting unless specifically requested by the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command or Director of Special Investigations, Headquarters OSI, United States Air Force.

Carl M Skinner
Maj USAF
for DWIGHT J SCOVEL
Lt Colonel USAF
District Commander

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
JUN 26 12 20 '52

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

FLYING SAUCERS IN NORFOLK
Washington Daily News
16 July 52

Pilots Spot 8 Saucers Flying in Norfolk Area

Eight "glowing, red-orange" flying saucers have been spotted 150 miles south of Washington, zipping along in formation at supersonic speed, it was reported today.

United Press said Pan American Airways pilots W. B. Nash and W. H. Fortenberry saw the discs Sunday night between Newport News and Norfolk.

They told military officials the saucers maneuvered too sharply for human endurance at a speed "far above 1000 miles an hour" and climbed from 2000 to 10,000 feet in a matter of seconds.

BIG

"We judged they were approximately 100 feet in diameter and between 10 and 15 feet thick," Nash said. "As they neared us they appeared to be solid bodies of light, but they had definite outlines."

Nash and Fortenberry were flying a DC-4 at about 8000 feet. They said 10 company officials who were aboard couldn't see the "things" because of the angle at which the saucers flew.

Visibility was excellent, the pilots said.

Suddenly they spotted six of the discs, flying in an echelon—a diagonal straight line—at about 6000 feet.

As the DC-4 passed above them, the discs veered sharply westward and were joined by two more.

CONTROLLED

Then all eight zoomed upward to 10,000 feet. The glowing light "pulsated off," and the saucers disappeared into the sky.

The whole operation lasted "between 10 and 12 seconds," the pilots said.

"We would judge the eight objects were definitely intelligently controlled," Nash said. "Whether from within or without, we couldn't say.

"Whoever was in those things had capabilities far beyond our own. Those things absolutely did not contain any human beings as we know them. None of use could endure the centrifugal force that would be imposed when turns of such violence are made."

Both men concluded that saucers must be from out of this world.

TWO WITNESSES

"We feel, because of the way the missles acted and because of all the other reports that have been heard, that they must be from some extra-terrestrial source," Nash said.

"If either of us had seen the things alone, we would have hesitated to tell anyone, but we watched the whole thing together."

Nash has logged 10,000 hours in the air as a Navy transport pilot and in his 10 years with Pan-American. Fortenberry is a former Navy fighter pilot. He has been with P-AA since the war.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

THE WASHINGTON POST
16 July 1952

SUBJEct: Flying Saucers Reported Over Norfolk, Virginia

2 Pilots Report 8 'Saucers' In Formation Over Norfolk

MIAMI, Fla., July 15 (AP).—Two veteran Pan American Airways pilots reported today they saw eight huge "flying saucers" flying at a 1000-mile-and-hour clip near Norfolk, Va. last night.

W. B. Nash said he and W. H. Fortenberry saw six of the strange craft, estimated to be 100 feet in diameter and "glowing orange-red like hot coals," fly in formation some 6000 feet beneath their DC-4.

The six "things" turned westward sharply when the PAA plane passed overhead and were joined by two other similar flying discs, Nash said. The eight "saucers" zoomed upward to an estimated 10,000 feet altitude before the glowing light emanating from them "pulsated off' and they disappeared into the sky, Nash said.

Nash, 35, estimated that he and Fortenberry, 30, "watched the whole maneuver" for between 10 and 12 seconds.

Appeared "Controlled"

"Both Fortenberry and I have read other reports on so-called 'flying saucers' and have respect for the judgment of some of the astronomers and observers who have reported them," Nash said. "Our experience last night is in line with those reports."

Nash, a first officer for PAA and a flying employe for 10 years, said he and Fortenberry "would judge that the eight objects were definitely intelligently controlled — whether from within or without, we couldn't say.

"Also," said Nash, "we can be reasonably positive that none of us—as we know pilots—could physically endure the centrifugal force that would be imposed on the occupants when making turns of such violence as these objects made.

"We feel, because of the way the missiles acted and because of all the other reports that have been heard, that they must be from some extra-terrestrial source."

In Echelon Formation

Nash said their DC-4, carrying 10 company personnel, was flying southward between Newport News, and Norfolk when the first six saucers appeared to the southwest. Nash said they were flying in an echelon formation—a diagonal straight line — at about 2000 feet altitude..

He said the other passengers were sitting where they could not have seen the eight missiles.

"Giving consideration to the difference in our altitude and theirs, we judged that they were approximately 100 feet in diameter and between 10 and 15 feet thick," Nash said.

"As they neared us, they appeared to be solid bodies of light, glowing orange-red like red-hot irons," Nash said. "But they had definite outlines."

Nash, a Navy transport pilot in World War II, is a veteran of 10,000 air hours. Fortenberry, formerly a Navy fighter pilot, has been an employe of PAA since the war.

24-185-214 X3
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
24-185
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
M 21 JUL 1952

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AF447810

24-185

(Unclassified) Unusual Aerial Phenomenon, Vicinity of Ft Eustis, Va., 17 April 1952 - SPECIAL INQUIRY

UNCLASSIFIED

Collection Control Branch, Collection Division
Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O

1

Counter Intelligence Div, Dir. of Special Investigations, The Inspector General

Lt. Col. Barnard/in/AFCSI-6
Code 192, X-140

For your information, there is attached a Spot Intelligence Report from DO #21, dated 28 April 1952, in connection with the above subject.

1 Incl
Spot Intell Rpt, DO #21,
dtd 28 Apr 52

GILBERT R. LEVY
Chief, Counter Intelligence Div
Dir. of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

LeROY H. BARNARD
Lt. Colonel, U. S. Air Force
Chief, Sabotage and Espionage Br.
Counter Intelligence Div
Dir. of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

When final No. 1 is (are) withdrawn or not attached this classified [illegible] will be cancelled in accordance with par 26 c, AFR 205-1.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

UNCLASSIFIED

24-185

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28 JUN 1952

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24-185-21

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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4 JUN 1952
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

AF447810

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

24-0 23 April 1952

SUBJECT: Unusual Aerial Phenomenon, Vicinity of Fort Eustis, Va., 17 April 1952
SPECIAL REQUEST

TO: Commanding General
Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTENTION: MCIS

Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to DO #21 TWX, OSI 282, dated 18 April 1952.

2. This report pertains to the observation of an unusual aerial phenomenon by five (5) persons at Fort Eustis, Virginia, at approximately 2125 hours 17 April 1952.

3. On 18 April 1952 Lt Colonel [redacted] MILLER, O-403582, AC/S C-2, Fort Eustis, Virginia, reported to this office that at approximately 2125 hours, 17 April 1952, five (5) persons at Fort Eustis, Virginia, had observed a luminous object, elliptical or spherical in shape approximately 45 degrees above the horizon, traveling northeast to northwest in a straight line, and that the object traversed 90 degrees of the horizon in 8-10 seconds.

4. On 18 April 1952 S/Sgt ALLAN H PATTERSON, RA 19810483, was interviewed and gave in substance the following information concerning the incident: PATTERSON and Sgt JOHN S SKALAMERA had been watching a baseball game at the Fort Eustis ball park for approximately two (2) hours when they observed S/Sgt [redacted] HOOD and his wife leaving the ball park. PATTERSON and SKALAMERA proceeded to the parking lot, located to the rear of the park, and overtook Sgt HOOD and his wife. While conversing with Sgt HOOD, PATTERSON who was facing northeast, observed a luminous object in the sky approximately

[redacted]

Encl #1

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

the size of a baseball, slightly elliptical in shape, luminous (magnesium) white in color with a greenish blue tail or exhaust, the length of which was approximately ten (10) times the size of the object. The tail or exhaust appeared to taper. The contours of the object appeared to be smooth. PATTERSON heard no noise in connection with the object. The object traveled in a straight line from northeast to northwest covering 90 degrees of the horizon in approximately 8-8½ seconds. The tail or exhaust appeared to be of constant length during the period of observation. After traversing 90 degrees of the horizon, the object disappeared as if it had gone behind an obstacle, although PATTERSON did not observe any obstacle between himself and the object. PATTERSON was not able to estimate the speed of travel, but stated that the object appeared to travel "very fast".

b. On 18 April 1952 Sgt JOHN C SKALAMERA, RA 15253245, was interviewed and gave in substance the following information concerning the incident: SKALAMERA's attention was called to the object by PATTERSON. During SKALAMERA's period of observation the object traversed approximately 90 degrees of the horizon in approximately one (1) second before it disappeared. SKALAMERA's description of the object coincided with that given by PATTERSON, except that SKALAMERA described the object as being spherical in shape and he could not recall whether the exhaust or tail tapered. Additional information given by SKALAMERA in relation to the sighting was identical to that given by PATTERSON.

c. On 18 April 1952 Sgt DASCON E MOORE, RA 35760878, was interviewed and gave in substance the following information concerning the incident: MOORE's attention was called to the object by PATTERSON. MOORE described the object as being luminous, green in color, with seated contours. The object had a luminous white tail or exhaust, the length of which was five to six times the size of the object. MOORE stated that he had observed the object for approximately 2 seconds when it seemed to fade suddenly, with the exhaust disappearing first. Additional information given by MOORE in connection with the sighting coincided with that given by PATTERSON and SKALAMERA.

d. On 18 April 1952 Mrs DASCON E MOORE, wife of Sgt MOORE was interviewed by Lt Colonel MILLER and stated that the object appeared to be a bright round ball the size of an automobile headlight, with a bluish colored tail, approximately the same length of the object. Mrs MOORE further stated that the object appeared to be flying "low and straight". Mrs MOORE advised that she observed the object for two or three seconds and that it disappeared suddenly. Mrs MOORE could not estimate the elevation of the object above the horizon.

e. On 21 April 1952 Lt Colonel ANTHONY W LOMP, 0-276018, was interviewed and gave in substance the following information concerning the incident. Colonel LOMP was sitting in a stand located directly behind the backstop of the Fort Eustis ball field on the evening of 17 April 1952. Some time after 2000

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

21st District OSI (1-0), Langley AFB, Va. 23 Apr 62
Subj: Unusual Aerial Phenomenon 24-0

hours, Colonel LOSB observed a luminous, greenish-blue colored object to the northeast, approximately 45 degrees above the horizon. The object appeared to have parabed contours and was approximately the size of a baseball. The shape of the object appeared to be spherical or slightly tear drop in shape. Colonel LOSB did not observe any exhaust connected thereto. The object was moving in a straight line toward the northeast and traversed approximately 25 degrees of the horizon before it appeared to fade into the glare of the ball park lights. Colonel LOSB advised that he observed the object for two to three seconds before it disappeared. Colonel LOSB heard no sound in connection with the object nor could he estimate the distance away or the speed of travel. Colonel LOSB stated that he could not be certain of the exact time of the sighting, but that he was sure it was after 2000 hours and could have been after 2100 hours. Colonel LOSB further advised that he thought the object was a large bug flying toward the ball park lights. Therefore, dismissed the incident from his mind.

6. On 18 April 1962 Langley Air Force Base Operations advised that there were no aircraft from Langley Air Base flying in the vicinity of Fort Eustis, Va. this, on the evening of 17 April 1962.

7. On 18 April 1962 the office of the District Intelligence Officer, 5th Naval District, Norfolk, Virginia, advised that subject sighting was typical of a Navy jet pilot in one of his after burner for a quick burst of speed, but that no Navy aircraft equipped with an after burner were flying in the vicinity of Ft Eustis on the evening of 17 April 1962.

8. Weather Observance reports from Langley AF Base, which is located fifteen (15) miles southeast of Ft Eustis, for 2040 hours and 2100 hours 17 April 1962 are as follows:

a. 2050 hours: Clear; Visibility - 8 miles; Wind from South South East at 5 knots; Temperature - 60 degrees; Dewpoint 44 degrees.

b. 2130 hours: Clear; Visibility - 8 miles; Wind from South South West at 10 knots; Temperature 60 degrees, Dewpoint 43 degrees.

7. In relation to the witnesses of subject sighting, the following information is submitted to aid in evaluation their credibility:

a. 1. Name: S/Sgt [redacted] Passport

2. Address: HQs Company, Transportation Training School, Ft Eustis, Virginia

3. Occupation: Administrative NCO

4. Pertinent Hobbies: Autography and Model Airplane Building

5. PATTERSON had been watching the baseball game for approximately two (2) hours prior to the sighting. Prior to the ball game PATTERSON and

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

21st District OSI (IG), Langley AFB, Va. 28 Apr 62
Subj: Unusual Aerial Phenomenon 24-0

SKALAMERA had engaged in a game of tennis for one (1) hour. PATTERSON stated that he had not partaken of any intoxicants prior to the sighting. PATTERSON does not wear glasses.

5. PATTERSON related details of the sighting in a clear, straightforward manner. In the opinion of Colonel MILLER and the writer PATTERSON appeared to be a reliable witness.

6. a. 1. Name: Sgt JOHN S SKALAMERA

2. Address: Hqs Company, Transportation Training School, Fort Eustis, Va.

3. Occupation: Draftsman, Training Aids Dept

4. Pertinent Hobbies: Stamp Collecting

5. SKALAMERA had been watching the baseball game for approximately two (2) hours prior to the sighting and had played tennis for one (1) hour prior to the ball game. SKALAMERA does not wear glasses, and stated that he had not partaken of any intoxicants prior to the sighting.

6. SKALAMERA related details of the sighting in a clear, straightforward manner. In the opinion of Colonel MILLER and the writer, SKALAMERA appeared to be a reliable witness.

a. 1. Name: Sgt EDGAR E MOORE

2. Address: 715 Transportation Operating Battalion, Ft Eustis, Va.

3. Occupation: Motor Mechanic

4. Pertinent Hobbies: None

5. MOORE had been watching the baseball game for approximately 45 minutes prior to the sighting. MOORE had not been on duty on 17 April 1952. MOORE stated that he had not partaken of any intoxicants prior to the sighting. MOORE does not wear glasses.

6. MOORE appeared to have difficulty in expressing his description of the object, and seemed hesitant about doing so. The writer believes that MOORE did in fact observe the object, but does not believe MOORE's description of the object to be as accurate as that given by PATTERSON and SKALAMERA.

d. 1. Name: Lt Colonel ANTHONY J POSEY

2. Address: Fort Eustis, Virginia

4

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

21st District OSI (1Cv), Langley AFB, Va. 23 Apr 52
Subj: Unusual Aerial Phenomenon 24-0

3. Occupation: Acting Provost Marshal, Ft Eustis, Va.

4. Pertinent Hobbies: None

5. Colonel LOBB stated that he at one time held a pilot's license, but that he had not operated an aircraft for twenty (20) years.

6. Colonel LOBB advised that his past experience included eight (8) years with the U. S. Secret Service and five (5) years with the New York State Police. Colonel LOBB related details of the sighting in a clear straight forward manner. Considering Colonel LOBB's previous investigative experience the writer considers him to be a very reliable witness.

8. This office contemplates no further inquiry into subject sighting unless specifically requested by the Commanding General, AMC, or directed by Headquarters OSI, USAF.

DWIGHT J SUDDEL
Lt Colonel USAF
District Commander

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Wrtn. 5 May 52

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24-185

(Unclassified) Unusual Aerial Phenomenon, Vicinity of Ft Eustis, Va., 17 April 1952 - SPECIAL INQUIRY

Collection Control Branch, Collection Division
Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O

8 MAY 1952

1

Counter Intelligence Div, Dir. of Special Investigations, The Inspector General

Lt. Col. Barnard/in/AFCSI-6
Code 192, X-140

For your information, there is attached a Spot Intelligence Report from DO #21, dated 28 April 1952, in connection with the above subject.

1 Incl
Spot Intell Rpt, DO #21,
dtd 28 Apr 52

GILBERT R. LEVY
Chief, Counter Intelligence Div
Dir. of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

When Incl No. 1 is (~~are~~) withdrawn or not attached the classification of this correspondence will be cancelled in accordance with par 25 e, AFR 205-1.

LeROY H. BARNARD
Lt. Colonel, U. S. Air Force
Chief, Sabotage and Espionage Br.
Counter Intelligence Div
Dir. of Special Investigations
The Inspector General

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

OUT 8 MAY 1952 MANAGEMENT DIV. OSI

24-185-21 4

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DATE 6 DEC 1955

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

DATE 5 DEC 1975

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

24-0 28 April 1952

SUBJECT: Unusual Aerial Phenomenon, Vicinity of Ft Eustis, Va., 17 April 1952
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commanding General
Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTENTION: MCIS

Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

97630 = TWX Number

1. Reference is made to DO #21 TWX, OSI 292, dated 18 April 1952.

2. This report pertains to the observation of an unusual aerial phenomenon by five (5) persons at Fort Eustis, Virginia, at approximately 2126 hours 17 April 1952.

3. On 18 April 1952 Lt Colonel BEN W MILLER, O-403582, AC/S G-2, Fort Eustis, Virginia, reported to this office that at approximately 2125 hours, 17 April 1952, five (5) persons at Fort Eustis, Virginia, had observed a luminous object, elliptical or spherical in shape approximately 45 degrees above the horizon, traveling northeast to northwest in a straight line, and that the object traversed 90 degrees of the horizon in 2-2½ seconds.

a. On 18 April 1952 S/Sgt ALLAN H PATTERSON, RA 10610462, was interviewed and gave in substance the following information concerning the incident: PATTERSON and Sgt JOHN S SKALAMERA had been watching a baseball game at the Fort Eustis ball park for approximately two (2) hours when they observed S/Sgt DASCOE MOORE and his wife leaving the ball park. PATTERSON and SKALAMERA proceeded to the parking lot, located to the rear of the park, and overtook Sgt MOORE and his wife. While conversing with Sgt MOORE, PATTERSON who was facing northeast, observed a luminous object in the sky approximately

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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the size of a baseball, slightly elliptical in shape, luminous (magnesium) white in color with a greenish blue tail or exhaust, the length of which was approximately ten (10) times the size of the object. The tail or exhaust appeared to taper. The contours of the object appeared to be smooth. PATTERSON heard no noise in connection with the object. The object traveled in a straight line from northeast to northwest covering 90 degrees of the horizon in approximately 2-2½ seconds. The tail or exhaust appeared to be of constant length during the period of observation. After traversing 90 degrees of the horizon, the object disappeared as if it had gone behind an obstacle, although PATTERSON did not observe any obstacle between himself and the object. PATTERSON was not able to estimate the speed of travel, but stated that the object appeared to travel "very fast".

b. On 18 April 1952 Sgt JOHN S SKALAMERA, RA 13334249, was interviewed and gave in substance the following information concerning the incident: SKALAMARE's attention was called to the object by PATTERSON. During SKALAMARE's period of observation the object traversed approximately 30 degrees of the horizon in approximately one (1) second before it disappeared. SKALAMARE's description of the object coincided with that given by PATTERSON, except that SKALAMARE described the object as being spherical in shape and he could not recall whether the exhaust or tail tapered. Additional information given by SKALAMARE in relation to the sighting was identical to that given by PATTERSON.

c. On 18 April 1952 Sgt DASCON E MOORE, RA 35780279, was interviewed and gave in substance the following information concerning the incident: MOORE's attention was called to the object by PATTERSON. MOORE described the object as being luminous, green in color, with seated contours. The object had a luminous white tail or exhaust, the length of which was five to six times the size of the object. MOORE stated that he had observed the object for approximately 2 seconds when it seemed to fade suddenly, with the exhaust disappearing first. Additional information given by MOORE in connection with the sighting coincided with that given by PATTERSON and SKALAMERA.

d. On 18 April 1952 Mrs DASCON E MOORE, wife of Sgt MOORE was interviewed by Lt Colonel MILLER and stated that the object appeared to be a bright round ball the size of an automobile headlight, with a bluish colored tail, approximately the same length of the object. Mrs MOORE further stated that the object appeared to be flying "low and straight". Mrs MOORE advised that she observed the object for two or three seconds and that it disappeared suddenly. Mrs MOORE could not estimate the elevation of the object above the horizon.

e. On 21 April 1952 Lt Colonel ANTHONY W LOBB, O-276013, was interviewed and gave in substance the following information concerning the incident. Colonel LOBB was sitting in a stand located directly behind the backstop of the Fort Eustis ball field on the evening of 17 April 1952. Some time after 2000

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hours, Colonel LOBB observed a luminous, greenish-blue colored object to the northeast, approximately 45 degrees above the horizon. The object appeared to have serated contours and was approximately the size of a baseball. The shape of the object appeared to be spherical or slightly tear drop in shape. Colonel LOBB did not observe any exhaust connected thereto. The object was moving in a straight line toward the northwest and traversed approximately 20 degrees of the horizon before it appeared to fade into the glare of the ball park lights. Colonel LOBB advised that he observed the object from two to three seconds before it disappeared. Colonel LOBB heard no sound in connection with the object nor could he estimate the distance away or the speed of travel. Colonel LOBB stated that he could not be certain of the exact time of the sighting, but that he was sure it was after 2000 hours and could have been after 2100 hours. Colonel LOBB further advised that he thought the object was a large bug flying toward the ball park lights, therefore, dismissed the incident from his mind.

4. On 18 April 1952 Langley Air Force Base Operations advised that there were no aircraft from Langley AF Base flying in the vicinity of Fort Eustis, Virginia, on the evening of 17 April 1952.

5. On 18 April 1952 the office of the District Intelligence Officer, 5th Naval District, Norfolk, Virginia, advised that subject sighting was typical of a Navy jet pilot's use of his After Burner for a quick burst of speed, but that no Navy aircraft equipped with an After Burner were flying in the vicinity of Ft Eustis on the evening of 17 April 1952.

6. Weather Sequence reports from Langley AF Base, which is located fifteen (15) miles southeast of Ft Eustis, for 2030 hours and 2130 hours 17 April 1952 are as follows:

a. 2030 hours: Clear; Visibility - 8 miles; Wind from South South East at 6 knots; Temperature - 80 degrees; Dewpoint 44 degrees.

b. 2130 hours: Clear; Visibility - 8 miles; Wind from South South West at 10 knots; Temperature 80 degrees, Dewpoint 42 degrees.

7. In relation to the witnesses of subject sighting, the following information is submitted to aid in evaluating their credibility:

a. 1. Name: S/Sgt ALLAN W PATTERSON

2. Address: Hqs Company, Transportation Training School, Ft Eustis, Virginia

3. Occupation: Administrative NCO

4. Pertinent Hobbies: Photography and Model Airplane Building

5. PATTERSON had been watching the baseball game for approximately two (2) hours prior to the sighting. Prior to the ball game PATTERSON and

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SKALAMERA had engaged in a game of tennis for one (1) hour. PATTERSON stated that he had not partaken of any intoxicants prior to the sighting. PATTERSON does not wear glasses.

6. PATTERSON related details of the sighting in a clear, straightforward manner. In the opinion of Colonel MILLER and the writer PATTERSON appeared to be a reliable witness.

b. 1. Name: Sgt JOHN S SKALAMERA

2. Address: Hqs Company, Transportation Training School, Fort Eustis, Va.

3. Occupation: Draftsman, Training Aids Dept

4. Pertinent Hobbies: Stamp Collecting

5. SKALAMERA had been watching the baseball game for approximately two (2) hours prior to the sighting and had played tennis for one (1) hour prior to the ball game. SKALAMERA does not wear glasses and stated that he had not partaken of any intoxicants prior to the sighting.

6. SKALAMERA related details of the sighting in a clear, straightforward manner. In the opinion of Colonel MILLER and the writer, SKALAMERA appeared to be a reliable witness.

c. 1. Name: Sgt DASCON E MOORE

2. Address: 716 Transportation Operating Battalion, Ft Eustis, Va.

3. Occupation: Water Technician

4. Pertinent Hobbies: None

5. MOORE had been watching the baseball game for approximately 45 minutes prior to the sighting. MOORE had not been on duty on 17 April 1952. MOORE stated that he had not partaken of any intoxicants prior to the sighting. MOORE does not wear glasses.

6. MOORE appeared to have difficulty in expressing his description of the object, and seemed hesitant about doing so. The writer believes that MOORE did in fact observe the object, but does not believe MOORE's description of the object to be as accurate as that given by PATTERSON and SKALAMERA.

d. 1. Name: Lt Colonel ANTHONY W LOBB

2. Address: Fort Eustis, Virginia

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CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

21st District OSI (IG), Langley AFB, Va. 28 Apr 52
Subj: Unusual Aerial Phenomenon 24-0

3. Occupation: Acting Provost Marshal, Ft Eustis, Va.

4. Pertinent Hobbies: None

5. Colonel LOBB stated that he at one time held a pilot's license, but that he had not operated an aircraft for twenty (20) years.

6. Colonel LOBB advised that his past experience included eight (8) years with the U. S. Secret Service and five (5) years with the New York State Police. Colonel LOBB related details of the sighting in a clear straight forward manner. Considering Colonel LOBB's previous investigative experience the writer considers him to be a very reliable witness.

8. This office contemplates no further inquiry into subject sighting unless specifically requested by the Commanding General, AMC, or directed by Headquarters OSI, USAF.

DWIGHT J SCOVEL
Lt Colonel USAF
District Commander

24-185-21-4
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
APR 30 1400 '52
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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FROM: 21ST DISTRICT OSI IG LANGLEY AFB VA

TO : C/S HQS USAF WASH DC ATTN: DIR OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

INFO: CG AMC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO ATTN: MCIS

[redacted] 18 Apr 52 (DTG [redacted]

Spot report details - Lt Col Miller, Ft Eustis, Va G-2 reported info unidentified object sighted 2125 hrs 17 Apr 1952. Object sighted east of Ft Eustis 45 degree elevation for approximately 4 seconds in which time it traversed 90 degrees of horizon object described as both spherical and eliptical giving forth magnesium white light with a greenish exhaust ten times the length of object. Height, size and distance undetermined speed rptd as very fast. Objects flight path level and straight light disappearing suddenly as tho shut off or going behind a barrier. No noise noted. Weather clear, no clouds. Spot report made by Col Miller who requested OSI interview witnesses. Action taken - agents dispatched.

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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

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[redacted] (19 Apr 52)

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECURITY INFORMATION

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

FILE NO. 24-60

DATE 29 FEB 1952

REPORT MADE BY PELHAM R BURNETT, S/A sy

REPORT MADE AT DO #21, Langley AFB

PERIOD 27 February 1951

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB

STATUS REFERRED UPON COMPLETION

TITLE

AERIAL OBJECT (Unidentified)
Norfolk, Virginia
18 February 1952

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE NONE - This is an initial report

UNCLASSIFIED

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested telephonically by Special Agent JAMES T BOYCE, DO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio. Unidentified aerial object was reported to have exploded near Norfolk and subsequent investigation under jurisdiction of United States Coast Guard resulted in determination that the aerial object was a meteorite which exploded when entering the earth's atmosphere.

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

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DO #5 1
Hq OSI 2
File 2

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APPROVED
Pelham R. Burnett Capt.
for: DWIGHT J SCOVEL
Lt Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP

24-185-21-3

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
MAR 4 1952 08 '52
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

OSI 21-4

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Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

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ISO MANAGEMENT DIV. OUT 6 MAR 1952
OUT 7 MAR 1952 CI DIV OSI

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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File: 24-60

DETAILS:

1. This investigation was initiated by the telephonic request of Special Agent JAMES T BOYCE, DO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio. This district was requested to investigate reports that a "ball of fire" was sighted near Norfolk, Virginia by Mr J P MOLEN of the U.S. Weather Bureau.

AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

2. On 27 February 1951 inquiry at the Offices of the United States Weather Bureau, revealed that the only person known as J. P. MOLEN was JAMES P. MOLEN, Supervisor of the Weather Bureau's Greensboro, North Carolina Office. Weather Bureau personnel advised that the sighting of an unidentified aerial object had been investigated by the U. S. Coast Guard at Norfolk on 18 February 1952.

3. On 27 February 1951, contact with Lt EARL REINHARDT of the U. S. Coast Guard, revealed that their office had acted as the coordinating agency for an air search and investigation following receipt of a report that a "jet plane" had exploded in flight over Whaleyville, Virginia at about 1145 hours 18 February 1952. Review of the Coast Guard log book revealed the following sequence of events:

"18 February 1952

1155 hours - Received call from Langley AFB that a Mr. SPIVEY (FNU) at Whaleyville, Va. reported he saw a jet aircraft explode over Whaleyville at 1145 hours. Immediately vectored all available Air Force, Navy and Coast Guard aircraft to the scene and started search of Dismal Swamp area. A Mrs MILLER (FNU) called from Holland, Va. and reported seeing a white flash above here at 1145 and saw pieces falling to the ground. Preliminary reports from Air Search negative. Helicopter landed and interviews with SPIVEY and MILLER revealed no further information.

1500 hours - Norfolk CAA reports that pilot of Eastern Air Lines Flight 602 reported that he was climbing on a south heading just south of Lake Drummond on the Virginia State line and noticed a bright flash pass ahead and above his plane. Initial sighting was 80° above horizon and flash continued until it disappeared at a point off his left wing at about 20° above the horizon. A trail of black smoke was left in the wake of the flash. Pilot stated the sighting was "some kind of comet".

1501 hours - Norfolk and Richmond Seismographs reported a disturbance south of Norfolk between 1130 and 1200 hours.

1503 - Mr WHITNEY at Norfolk Weather Bureau reports a deviation on his Seismograph at about 1100 hours and a pressure surge on the barograph at 1145 hours.

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File: 24-60

1531 - Associated Press reported that the Weather Bureau at Greensboro reported sighting a meteorite which exploded approximately 100 miles North-North East of Greensboro at an altitude between 40,000' and 80,000'.

1552 - Captain HURST, District Intelligence Office, 5th Naval District, passed evaluation of incident as a meteorite sighting.

1600 - Air search terminated with negative report regarding sightings on ground."

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AF FORM 112—PART I
1 JUNE 1948

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(CLASSIFICATION)

of 409168 (1)

U.S.A.

REPORT NO. IR-14-51E

(LEAVE BLANK)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT NEAR ORANGE, VIRGINIA

REPORTED ON: EADF

FROM (Agency): D/I EADF

DATE OF REPORT: 30 OCTOBER 1951

DATE OF INFORMATION: 30 SEPTEMBER 1951

EVALUATION: F-6

PREPARED BY (Officer): 2nd Lt. CLIFFORD C. NORSE

SOURCE: LETTER FROM OBSERVERS

UNCLASSIFIED

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

ADC LTR 200-1

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

On 30 September 1951 at 2000Z (3 P.M. EST) three (3) high school boys of Woodberry Forest, Virginia, observed from the top of a fifty (50) foot silo one unidentified object about eight (8) to ten (10) miles away over a small mountain / or about three (3) miles southwest of Orange, Virginia.

APPROVED:

BRUCE K. BAUMGARDNER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Director of Intelligence

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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF

5 DEC 1975
DATE

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24-185-21-2

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

7 MAR 1952

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

2 cys - CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio (Attn: MCIS)
1 cy - CG, ADC, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo. - Attn: Deputy for Intelligence

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

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

Confidential

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
D/I EADF	IR-14-51E	

The following is a copy of the statement made by the three boys.

"Woodberry Forest School
Oct. 1, 1951

I. When seen clearly, object was circular, whether like a plate or like a ball couldn't be told. We think it was probably flat because at times only a thin line, sometimes horizontal, sometimes vertical could be seen. It was at all times surrounded by a haze of brownish-black smoke. When it moved the haze trailed behind.

II. When it moved, its movements were violent and it traveled at a high speed, stopped suddenly when it did stop, at times became very hard to see. Although no sound was heard a person would have heard even a piston-engined plane at the distance it seemed to be from us. No plane could have done the maneuvers it did at the speed at which it seemed to be traveling.

III. From the top of the 50 ft. silo on which we were standing it seemed to be about 8 to 10 miles away, (about 3 miles southwest of Orange, Va.) over a small mountain. It stayed in an area of about 4 square miles. Seen Sept. 30 about 3 P.M.

The three who saw it were Robt. W. Daniel, Jr., 15; Frank Walker, Jr., 15 and Peter Simmons, 17. We are telling only what we are sure we saw, and what we have written above is exactly what saw.

s/t/ Peter M. Simmons
Robert W. Daniel, Jr.
Frank Walker, Jr."

Clifford C. Norse

CLIFFORD C. NORSE
2nd Lt., USAF
Intelligence Duty Officer

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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

LHJ/ns

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, LANGLEY FIELD, VIRGINIA

14 February 1950

File No: 24-0

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: The sighting of an unconventional type of aircraft while driving northwest on U. S. Highway 17 between Fredericksburg and Winchester, Virginia, on 28 December 1949 was reported by JOHN F REBOLT, 2nd Lt., USAF of Ellington Air Force Base, Houston, Texas.

2. DETAILS: On 12 January 1950, 2nd Lt JOHN F REBOLT submitted a statement to the 10th District Office of Special Investigations which in substance contained the following information:

a. On 28 December 1949, at approximately 1200 hours EST, while driving on Highway 17 about 20-25 miles northwest of Fredericksburg, Virginia, Rebolt noticed a flying object, traveling west at an estimated altitude of 2500 feet and speed of between 50-100 miles per hour. It passed from his field of vision to the west and a few minutes later reappeared from the west and turned in a north westerly direction toward Winchester, Virginia.

b. After approximately an hour and fifteen minutes later the object was again sighted by Rebolt over Winchester, Virginia, where people on the streets appeared to be watching this same object.

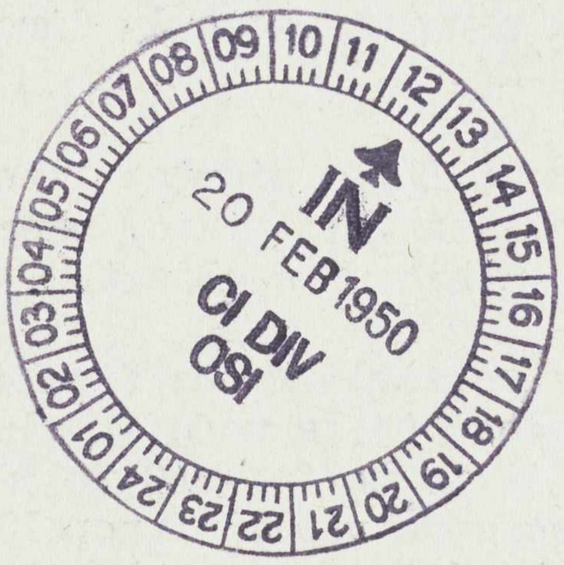
c. Rebolt described the object as resembling the fuselage of a C-82 aircraft, had a bright color and appeared to be made of aluminum without any visible markings. He estimated it to be from 40 to 50 feet long and 10 to 15 feet in diameter. There were no visible propellers, rotors, wings, stabilizers, etc., nor could he detect any exhaust or flame.

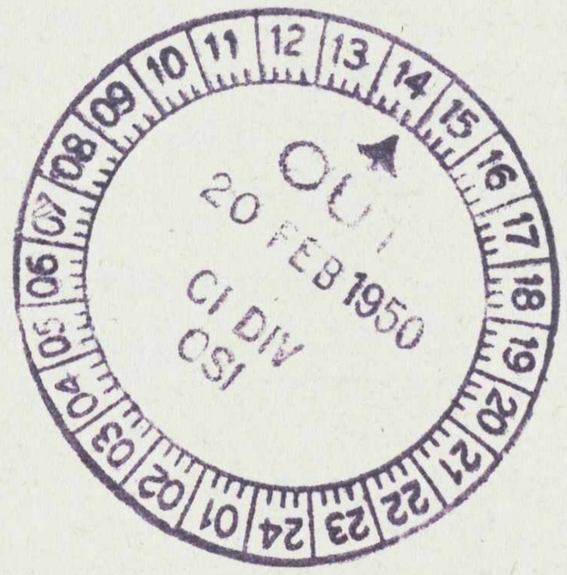
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
INSPECTOR GENERAL
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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007





Declassification Authority: NND 923007

d. The weather was clear during the periods when the flying object was observed.

e. The object maintained the same altitude and was always in level flight when it was observed.

f. At the times Rebolt sighted the object, he had been driving for approximately two and a half hours and was in excellent physical condition.

3. ACTION: From Rebolt's statement, it appears that he has sufficient knowledge of the appearance of conventional U. S. aircraft to distinguish them in flight. No investigation has been conducted by this office to further evaluate the credibility of the information contained in the attached statement of Rebolt.

1 Incl:
Statement of Rebolt
(in trip)

LEO H JOHNSON
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

Ellington AFB
Houston, Texas
12 January 1950

S T A T E M E N T

My name is JOHN F. REBOLT, 2nd Lt, USAF, AO 591035, 3606th Navigator Training Squadron, Military, Box 249, Ellington AFB, Houston, Texas.

On 28 December 1949, at approximately 1200 hours EST, I was in my automobile driving northwest on U.S. Highway 17 between Fredericksburg and Winchester, Virginia. I was accompanied by my mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. REBOLT, Box 203, Templeton, Pennsylvania, (who are an oil salesman and school teacher), and a Marine and a Sailor. The Marine's name and address can be furnished by my mother; the Sailor's name and address I do not know but he is stationed at Portsmouth, Virginia. We were approximately 20 or 25 miles out of Fredericksburg, driving along the highway at a moderate rate of speed, when an object that resembled the fuselage of a C-82 aircraft came into my field of vision traveling west at an estimated altitude of 2500 feet. This object had the bright color and appeared to be made of aluminum without any visible markings. This object was in sight of us the first time located at an approximate 45 degrees to the horizon as it crossed in front of us. I would estimate the size of the object to be from 40 to 50 feet long, perhaps 10 to 15 feet in diameter. The object passed from our field of vision to the west and again in a few minutes it reappeared from the west, recrossed the highway in front of us and then turned in a northwesterly direction toward Winchester. The last time I saw the object was approximately an hour and fifteen minutes later over Winchester. When we arrived there people on the streets appeared to be watching the same object. The object maintained approximately the same altitude and was always in level flight when I saw it. The weather was crystal clear all this time. As I was traveling in my automobile, I failed to notice any sound from this object and I did not stop to observe. I tried to determine if there was anything protruding from this object and there were no visible propellers, rotors, wings, stabilizers, etc. Neither could I detect any exhaust or flame. This object traveled at speeds from 50 to 100 miles an hour; I would say like a light aircraft except at times it seemed to go slower than most light aircraft.

At the time I sighted this object I had only been driving approximately two and a half hours after a night's rest and I consider my physical condition at this time as excellent. I have been stationed at U. S. air fields for the past year and have observed and read enough about aircraft that I should be able to recognize any of our conventional aircraft at this speed and altitude. I do not believe that this was a conventional aircraft and that it should be brought to the attention of proper authorities.

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