

4602D AISS UFOB LCG

1 REPORT NO. AISS-UFOB-224-55	2 DATE/TIME OF SIGHTING 15/2000Z July 1955	3 RECD HQ 4602D 18 July 1955
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4 LOCATION OF SIGHTING New York City, New York

5 MEANS RECD No / Phone Call TT Msg/ From ATIC	6 ACTION Investigation Authorized	9 ASSIGNING OFFICER Capt Bronstein
7 INVES UNIT Det 3	8 DATE INVES ASSIGNED 21 July 1955	

10 DATE IR RECD HQ 18 July 1955	11 DATE IR APPROVED 21 July 1955	12 DATE IR TO ATIC 30 July 1955
13 AISOP FORM 5 21 July 1955		

14 COMMENTS See AF Form 112 on this case for the comments of Preparing Officer and Approving Officer. ATIC called on this requesting a follow-up investigation by this organization. Det 3 was assigned this follow-up with conclusions by that activity as listed below:

15 CONCLUSIONS OTHER: Probably hoax, pictures also probably fraudulent

AISOP FORM 7 (2 Apr 55)

AF FORM 122

APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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COUNTRY USA	REPORT NO. D3-UFOB-3-55	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT UFOB		
AREA REPORTED ON New York City, New York	FROM (Agency) Det 3, \$ 4602d AISS, SAFB, Newburgh, NY	
DATE OF REPORT 30 June 1955	DATE OF INFORMATION 30 June 1955	EVALUATION
PREPARED BY (Officer) JOHN A. QUINN, Capt, USAF	SOURCE See contents below	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) Telecon AISOP 29 JUN 55		
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.)		
I. CONTENTS PART ONE: Description of sighting by [REDACTED] New York (GEOREF HJBL 0044). PART TWO: Description of sighting by Miss Jeannine BOUILLER, 7 West St., New York City, New York PART THREE: Supplementary Investigative Efforts PART FOUR: Comments of Preparing Officer II. SUMMARY: 29/2000Z JUN 55, Det 3 was instructed in telephone conversation with Hq, 4602d AISS, to institute a follow-up investigation of a UFOB sighting that occurred at [REDACTED], New York, N.Y. (GEOREF HJBL 0043) 15/2000Z MAY 55. [REDACTED] a resident of the address given above, was on the roof of the apartment house preparing to take pictures of [REDACTED] with a camera he had rented for the occasion. While he adjusted the camera, [REDACTED] and pointed at something in the western quadrant of the sky. [REDACTED] turned to observe. He stated that he saw a large, opaque, airborne object to the west at an elevation of 45°. The object hovered momentarily, then moved very rapidly to the north on a bounce. It returned to its original position with the same bouncing motion and the process was repeated a second time. It then disappeared in the northern sky. When first sighted, the object was opaque, becoming almost translucent as it moved to the north. It gleamed in the sunlight as though metallic. At no time during the 1½ minutes of sighting was there any sound or visible exhaust trail. [REDACTED] utilized the rented camera to take pictures of the object in flight. III. INVESTIGATORS: CAPT JOHN A QUINN AO 2074783 S/SGT SYLVESTER E CASTILLO AF 15281554 <i>John A. Quinn Capt.</i> for and in absence of WILLIAM C VAN NORMAN Major, USAF Officer in Charge 4 INCL. 1. Flight Path of UFOB 2. Newspaper Clipping 3. Negatives (5) 4. Position of UFOB Observer DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR D/I, USAF; Comdr, ATIC; D/I, 26 ADiv; Comdr, 4602d AISS; OIC, Det 3, 4602d AISS		

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AF FORM 112-PART II

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
Det 3, 4802d ATSS	D3-UFOB-3-55	1A	12	

APPROVED:

John M. White Jr.
JOHN M. WHITE JR
Colonel, USAF
Commander

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AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Det 3, 4602d AISS	REPORT NO. PART ONE D3-UFOB-3-55	PAGE 2	OF 12	PAGES
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I. SOURCE: Warren SIEGMOND

Age: 31

Occupation: Television Technician

Education: Two years college

Qualifications: Antiaircraft Gunner, ETO 1943-45

II. RELIABILITY: SOURCE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] recounting the events surrounding the sighting. He had been somewhat disappointed that the Air Force had apparently abandoned further inquiry into the "Flying Saucer" and expressed satisfaction and enthusiasm that investigation was to be reinstituted. He stated that as soon as the negatives of the "Saucer" were developed, he took them to the offices of "Life" magazine and to the New York Journal American. Both organizations declined to publish them, the latter insisting that water vapor on the camera lens had caused the "Saucer" effect. Finally, the New York World Telegram agreed to publish the pictures together with an article on the sighting. Source stated that subsequent to publication of the article, he received many requests for prints of the picture of the "Saucer" and that he was currently filling these requests on a cost basis. In the course of conversation, Source mentioned that he had been interested in "Saucer Phenomena" for some time prior to the actual sighting. He is now participating more actively, attending "Saucer Club" meetings, etc. Continuing in this vein, the Source demonstrated more than a cursory knowledge of the terminology and more notorious names of "Flying Saucer" literature, e.g. Adamski, Keyhoe, Vaeth. Throughout the interview, it was obvious that Source was enjoying the publicity and speculation caused by his sighting. In view of the above, and considering what might be termed a neurotic susceptibility to give credence to "Flying Saucers," Source is considered to be of extremely dubious reliability.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING:

1. Sunday, 15 May at 1600 Eastern Daylight Saving Time, Source and companion, [REDACTED], had gone to the roof of their residence - a four-story apartment building in downtown Manhattan - to take some snapshots.

2. Source was using a rented English reflex sighting box camera. The camera had two (2) f. settings (apertures); f:11 and f:8. Two speed settings were available; 1/25th second and 1/75th second. Focus determined by visually estimating range and adjusting distance setting. No range finder accompanied or was attached to the camera.

3. Source faced south-east, preparing to take [REDACTED] picture. While adjusting the camera, Miss BOUILLER gasped and excitedly pointed in the direction of the northwest quadrant of the sky. Source turned and saw an object he estimated to be at an altitude of 7,000 feet. The object was dark in color and elliptical in shape. Azimuth and altitude of the object when first observed were 270° and 45° respectively. The object moved to the north at great speed, describing an arc in its flight-path (See incl), coming to rest momentarily in the north at 45° elevation. It then returned along the same arc to its original position (Point A). Almost immediately, the object repeated the cycle (Point B) and upon reaching its northern position, hovered momentarily and rose vertically in the northern sky and disappeared (Point C).

4. Upon sighting the object, the Source immediately set the camera at f:8 and shutter speed of 1/75th second. Focus was set at infinity. He repeatedly shot the object while it was visible. Although he exposed ten (10) frames, only five (5)

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ORIGINATING AGENCY

Det 3, 4602d AISS

REPORT NO.

D3-UFOB-3-55

PART

ONE

PAGE

3

OF

12

PAGES

were returned; the druggist explained that the remainder were no good.

5. While in the western position, the object was dark in color. As it progressed northward, it became brighter and became almost transparent. It gleamed brightly in the sun, like the aluminum skin of an aircraft. There was no sound accompanying the object nor did it display an exhaust pattern or condensation trail. The object's size was estimated to be two hundred feet or a quarter size at arm's length. Distance appeared to be "several miles."

6. The object was observed for approximately one and one-half minutes before disappearing. The sky was clear in bright sunlight and the temperature was relatively high.

7. Source was emphatic in belief that the object was physically real and not an optical phenomenon. He did not think it could possibly have been a balloon because of its extreme velocity and arc-like trajectory.

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Det 3, 4602d AISS

REPORT NO.

D3-UFOB-3-55

PART
TWO

PAGE

4

OF

12

PAGES

I. SOURCE: [REDACTED]

Age: 28

Occupation: [REDACTED]

Education: Unknown

II. RELIABILITY: Source apparently occupies same apartment as Mr. Siegmund. She was present during the interview with the latter. She remained silent during the conversation and did not volunteer any additional, original information on the sighting. Although she appeared to be calm and confident, Source conferred with [REDACTED] before venturing an answer to questions posed by the investigators. She indicated reluctance to discuss her occupation, etc, and efforts in this direction were not pressed. Her description of the sighting coincided identically with that of [REDACTED]. In view of her obvious "rapport" with the opinions of [REDACTED], Source is considered unreliable.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: As stated above, Source's account parallels exactly that of [REDACTED]. See PART ONE of this report.

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

REPORT NO.

PART

Det 3, 4602d AISS

D3-UFOB-3-55

THREE

PAGE

5

OF

12

PAGES

SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS

1. 30/1500Z JUN 55, investigators visited the Office of Special Investigations, District #2 at 111 East 16th St., New York City, N.Y. The sighting had been reported to this office by Source - [REDACTED], several days after it occurred. Mr. Frank Auld - Special Agent - was detailed to make an investigation and accordingly collected preliminary information on the sighting from Source. A file, summarizing this information, was prepared by Mr. Auld and was retained at District #2. No preliminary report, as prescribed by AFR 200-2, was transmitted. OSI had obtained the negatives for examination, but failed to establish any significant data. The file prepared by OSI was consulted by the investigators prior to interviewing the Source. No deviations were noted. No attempt at identification of the sighting was made in the OSI report..

2. COC, EADF, Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N.Y. indicated that there was no unusual air activity in the Manhattan area at the time of the sighting. Specific inquiry was made with regard to balloons or dirigibles with a negative reply. However, one incident of note had occurred in the metropolitan area on the same afternoon at an earlier hour. At 15/1713Z MAY 55, the 26th Air Division reported a sighting that had occurred at 15/1630Z MAY 55 at position HJBL 1156. The object - like a red watermelon, was observed by [REDACTED] - a GOC Observer of [REDACTED] Mount Vernon, N.Y. Altitude was given at 1,000 feet to the south of observer's position. This object was positively identified as a balloon by Lt. Curry, Intelligence Watch Officer of 26th Air Division.

3. The 12th Weather Squadron of Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N.Y. furnished the following summary of weather conditions for 15/2000Z MAY 55: LaGuardia at 2030Z reported scattered clouds at 2,500'; visibility 15 miles; temperature - 72°F; dew point - 36°F; wind from the north at 6 MPH; barometer - 30.14. Floyd Bennett reported clear sky; temperature 70°F; dew point 43°F; wind from the east at 2 MPH. At 2130Z Lakehurst reported clear sky; temperature - 67°F; dew point - 45°F; wind from the southeast at 10MPH. Mitchell AFB 2100Z winds aloft, reported as follows:

1,000'	180°/05	knots
2,000'	220°/06	"
3,000'	300°/07	"
4,000'	320°/10	"
5,000'	330°/17	"
6,000'	330°/19	"
7,000'	350°/19	"
8,000'	360°/19	"
9,000'	360°/17	"
10,000'	350°/19	"
12,000'	350°/25	"
30,000'	350°/45	"
35,000'	360°/50	"

4. Interviewed Mr. [REDACTED] publisher of
New York City, N.Y. [REDACTED] stated that he does not personally know [REDACTED], but added that he would publish an article on the sighting in his magazine. [REDACTED] was certain that the sighting was authentic [REDACTED] probably from a neighboring planet.

5. Submitted the negatives of the sighting furnished by [REDACTED] to M/Sgt Busch, Stewart AFB Photo Lab, for inspection and evaluation. The camera

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

REPORT NO.

PART
THREE

PAGE

6

OF

12

PAGES

Det 3, 4602d AISS

D3-UFOB-3-55

was adjudged to be of inferior quality. The negatives showed no evidence of retouching. Absence of clarity and definition in the negatives thought to be caused by camera motion as well as imperfect exposure.

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ORIGINATING AGENCY

Det 3, 4602d AISS

REPORT NO.

D3-UFOB-3-55

PART

FOUR

PAGE

7

OF

12

PAGES

COMMENTS OF PREPARING OFFICER.

1. The possibility that the balloon identified in PART THREE par 2 of this report accounts for the sighting is extremely remote. Position of the balloon was fixed at a point approximately seventeen miles northeast, three and one half hours earlier than the sighting in question. The average wind between 1,000 feet and 10,000 feet was reported at 325° at 15 knots. The balloon would logically have traveled well beyond the metropolitan area in the specified time interval. At standard rate of ascent, moreover, the balloon would have disintegrated long before 2000Z. The sighting has been described as varying in color from dark to gleaming aluminum. The balloon is described as red. Time of the sighting was one hour prior to scheduled radiosonde releases (2100Z); therefore, it is considered unlikely that activities of other weather stations is significant. The peculiar trajectory pattern ascribed to the sighting cannot rationally be collated with that of the balloon.

2. No significant radar plots can be established for the time of the sighting. Dirigible activity has been reported in the negative.

3. Celestial phenomena are considered unrelated to the sighting. The sun, in relation to the observer's position, was at true azimuth 254.5° , observed altitude - 44.5 degrees. Mars, Mercury and the bright star Aldebaran had already transited the observer's meridian and were too close to the sun for observation. Venus lay to the west but was very low on the horizon.

4. Source's estimate of size, distance and altitude of sighting are equivocal. Inspection of negative #3 reveals that the length of the object is almost $1\frac{1}{2}$ times greater than the TV tower atop the Empire State Building. The tower is known to be 200 feet long. The Source stated that the object was several miles distant. At a range of three miles, the object would measure about 750 feet across. It is inconceivable that an object of such size, flying over a city inhabited by 8,000,000 people, would be seen by only two individuals.

5. The Source fixed the position of the original sighting at 270° , observed altitude - 45° . The sun's position is calculated at 254.5° , observed altitude - 44.5 . In a clear sky, within 15° of the sun, the object would hardly be discernible, possibly invisible. Although the object was described as opaque in the west, becoming brighter as it progressed to the north, the negatives do not support this claim. In negative #2, the object is opaque, with maximum delineation; in negative #3, oriented in the same direction, the object appears as an amorphous, colorless blob.

6. Disregarding the slight blurring effect produced by camera movement, all the buildings shown in the negatives are in focus. The water tower shown in negative #2 is not more than 300 feet from the camera lens. It is sharply outlined. The object is never in focus, nor can its shape be determined with any degree of certainty. The Source stated that the exposures were made with the range element of the camera set at infinity. Objects at a distance greater than 15 feet to 20 feet should be in focus. Therefore, it may be postulated that the object was less than 15 feet from the camera lens. Consequently, the object was relatively minute, probably less than six inches across.

7. Optically, such an effect might be produced by the hysteretic effect of lens accommodation of the human eye, when focusing from a proximate to a distant object. Both Sources first observed the object visually without any optical instrument. The camera, however, is not subject to such an effect, focus being permanently fixed. This hypothesis is accordingly discarded.

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Det 3, 4602d AISS

REPORT NO.

PART
D3-UFOB-3-55 FOUR

PAGE

8 OF 12

PAGES

8. In view of the discrepancies noted above and on the basis of those equivocal items which cannot be resolved, it is considered that the "object" and the accompanying pictures were conscientiously manufactured. [REDACTED] of the Source, [REDACTED] material, it is herewith submitted that the "object" described in this report and the photographs of it are fraudulent.

4 Incls.

1. Flight Path of UFOB
2. Newspaper Clipping
3. Negatives
4. Position of UFOB Observer

John A. Quinn
JOHN A. QUINN
Capt, USAF
Preparing Officer

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
Det 3, 4602 AISS	D3-UFOB-3-55	3A	12	

COMMENTS of Approving Officer:

1. Concur with the opinion of the Preparing Officer that the object described in this report and the photographs of it are fraudulent for the following reasons:

a. The inclosed photographs were taken to the local U.S. Weather Bureau and Air Force Weather Station for analysis. It is the opinion of the above agencies that the object cannot be attributed to cloud activity.

b. The day (Sunday) of the sighting coupled with the fact that the area of sighting is highly unionized would tend to eliminate the possibility of smoke or steam. Also, there is no railroad activity in the area.

c. Commercial and Air Force photographers were contacted concerning the possibility of manufacturing the inclosed photographs with the type camera used by the source. In all cases it was agreed that it would be possible by placing a small object within 15 to 20 feet of the camera lens and setting the range element at infinity, thereby giving a blurred effect to any object within the 15 to 20 foot range.

d. The fact that the source is a "saucer fan" and was particularly interested in publicity seems to substantiate the possibility of a hoax.

e. Although the object was given a rapid rate of speed by the source, he managed to snap ten pictures (of which only five were returned) in one and one-half minutes, which do not, by position, give a rapid movement to the object.

2. This report and pictures are forwarded to ATIC for further analysis and evaluation.

Jmcw

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Det 3, 4602d ATSS

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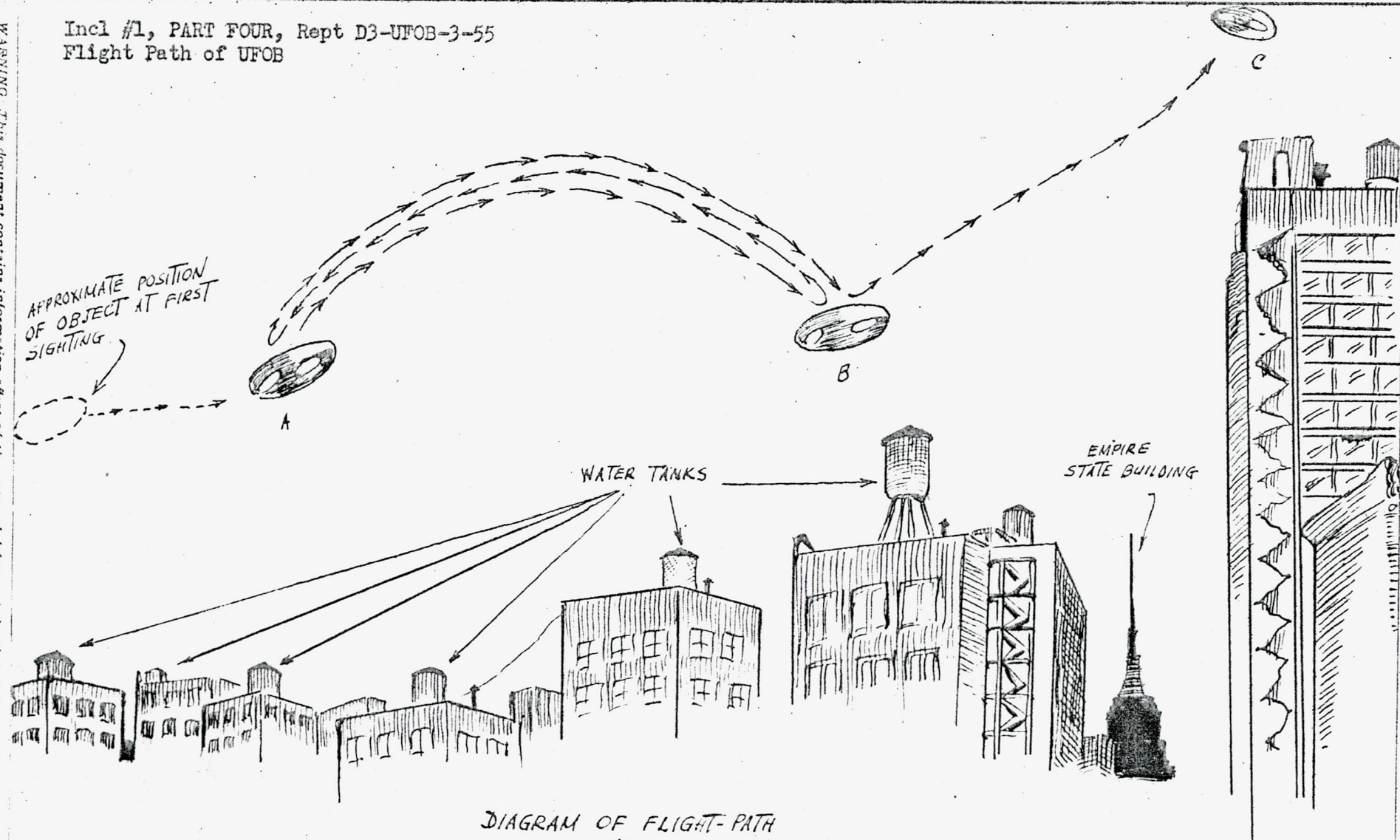
D3-UFOB-3-55 FOUR

PART

PAGE

9 OF 12

PAGES



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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Det 3, 4602d AISS

REPORT NO.

D3-UFOB-3-55

PART

FOUR

PAGE

10

OF

12

PAGES

Incl #2, PART FOUR, Rept D3-UFOB-3-55
Newspaper clippings

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INCL # 2



New York World-Telegram and The Sun

IN TWO SECTIONS
SECTION ONE

Local Forecast: Mostly cloudy, warm and humid today, tonight and tomorrow, with showers in afternoon and evening.

VOL. 122—NO. 220—

Entered as second class matter.
Post Office, New York, N. Y.

NEW YORK, MONDAY, MAY 23, 1955.

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By New York World-Telegram Corp. FIVE CENTS

Sphere We Go Again; It's Flying Saucer Season

INCL # 2



New York V

The

IN TWO SECTIONS
SECTION-ONE

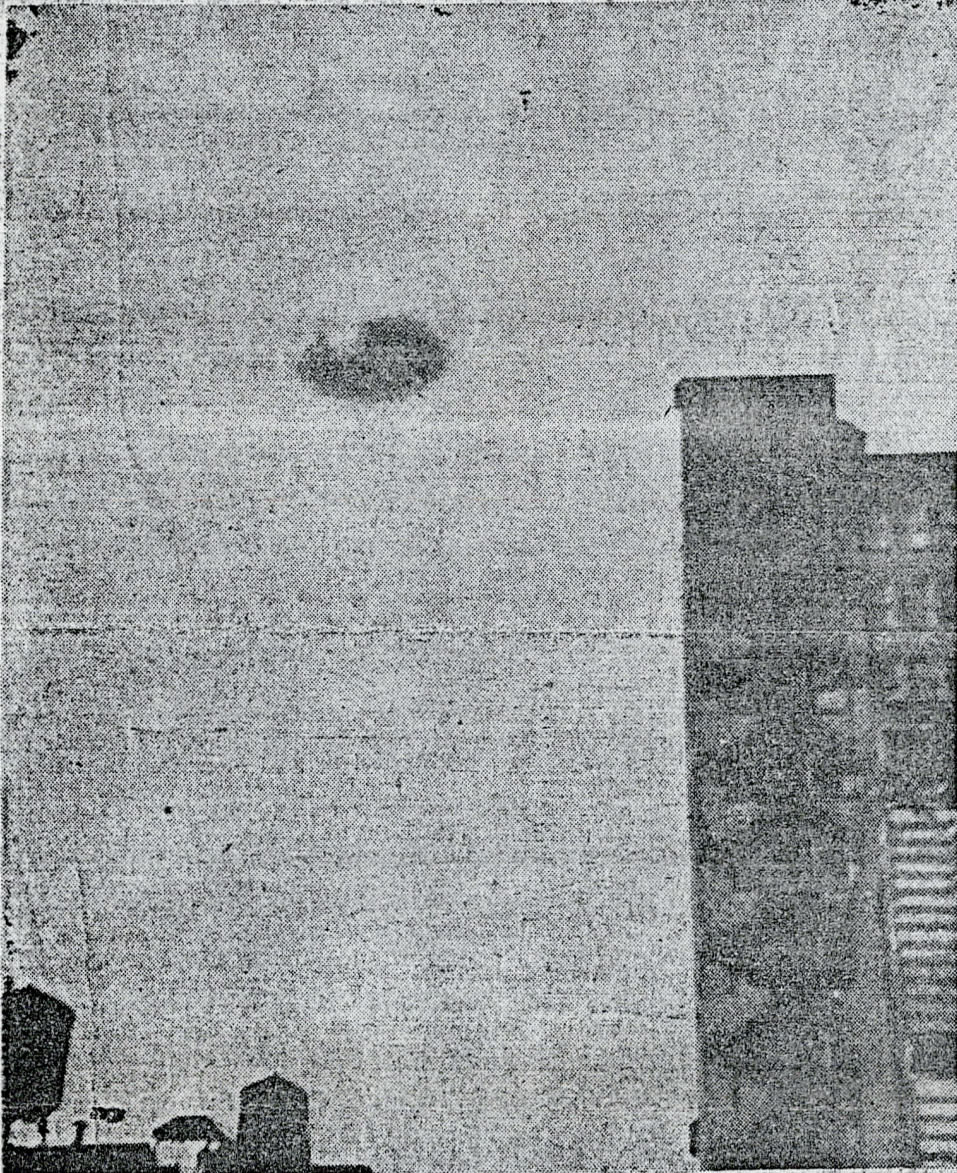
Local Forecast: Mostly cloudy, warm and

VOL. 122—NO. 220—

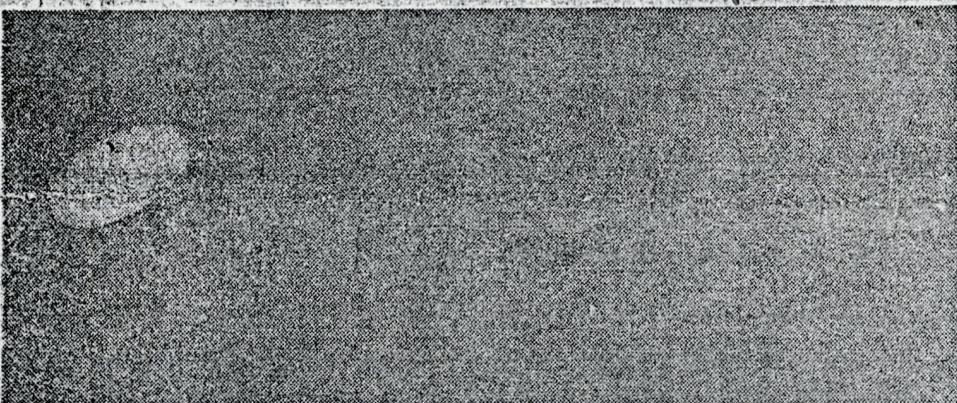
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NEW Y

Sphere We Go Again; It's Flying Saucer Season



... it wheeled soundlessly, became a blur and vanished.



... it wheeled soundlessly, became a blur and vanished.



Wooshing Object Sighted in City Is Just One of Those Things

The flying saucer season, usually as unpredictable as an oboe player's moods, has arrived in New York at last.

So quietly, indeed, did the season arrive—Sunday, May 15, at 4 p.m., if you're interested in making a note of the time—that it might well have gone unnoticed had it not been for the alertness of a young television technician named Warren Siegmund and an attractive French girl, who as it turned out—well, there's no point in going into that.

What happened was simply this: Mr. Siegmund rented an English reflex-type camera for \$1.25 on May 13 and bought two rolls of films to make pictures of the attractive French girl, whose name is Jeannine Bouillier and who works for the French Government Tourist Office.

Taking Pictures on Roof.

On the Sunday afternoon when the flying saucer season opened they were in Mr. Siegmund's apartment at 7 W. 15th St. when he suddenly said the only decent place to take pictures was on the roof. Up they go. Mr. Siegmund begins making pictures of Miss Bouillier, he clicking, she smiling, when she gasps and cries out, at the same time pointing.

There in the skies above the familiar water tanks, grimy roofs and angular structures of the Union Square neighborhood was a spherical object without markings. It moved rapidly. Obviously it was in the hands of a skillful pilot, and a daring one, moreover, since the risks of saucer flying in the Union Square area are so well known. (Apparently familiar with police regulations

against low flying, the pilot kept well above the legal limits, indicating to Mr. Siegmund that he was a disciplined flier.)

Film Developed.

Mr. Siegmund, himself a well-disciplined young man—he served from 1943 to 1945 as a gunner in an anti-aircraft battalion in England—shifted his camera quickly and began taking pictures. The strange aircraft wheeled, its sharp metallic glitter faded, it became a blur and vanished.

Dazed but gallant, Mr. Siegmund helped Miss Bouillier downstairs and had the film developed at a drugstore. Then he brought the negatives to the World-Telegram and Sun.

The pictures were shown to an Air Force officer familiar with the inquiry into flying saucer reports. "Whatever it was, it was moving," he said cryptically. Moreover, that was all he'd say.

To get a less austere reaction, a W-T & Sun reporter showed the pictures to Mrs. Margaret Rigsberg, president of the Flying Saucer News Club, an organization of people who watch the skies for flying saucers.

Mrs. Rigsberg runs a little bookshop at 1597 Third Ave. where books on metaphysics, occultism and spiritualism are prominently displayed.

Spoke With Authority.

Mrs. Rigsberg looked at Mr. Siegmund's pictures and said, "Ah-h-h." Of course, they weren't the first photos of flying ships she has seen. Man over in New Jersey has some; sells them at \$1 each.

As the owner of the largest bookstore to deal in flying saucer material, Mrs. Rigsberg



spoke with authority. Her husband is vice-president of the club. Mrs. Rigsberg has never seen a flying saucer, probably because she is too busy with her books.

But her husband saw one last month. About 6 in the evening as he was leaving a small eatery where he works as a daytime counterman. (This would place the arrival of the season earlier than May 15, but Mrs. Rigsberg didn't care. Let somebody else claim the credit if he wants to.)

Even Lightning Turns TV Critic

By the Associated Press.

TREVIGLIO, Italy, May 23.

—Lightning ripped through a television antenna during a storm here yesterday, blasted the set and knocked nine spectators from their chairs in a public bar.

Glasses and bottles were overturned. The spectators suffered only minor burns and fright.

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

Det 3, 4602d AISS

REPORT NO.

D3-UFOB-3-55

PART

FOUR

PAGE

11

OF

12

PAGES

Incl #3, PART FOUR, Rept D3-UFOB-3-55
Negatives

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1 OCT 52

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AF FORM 112--PART II

APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

Det 3, 4602d AISS

REPORT NO.

D3-UFOB-3-55 FOUR

PART

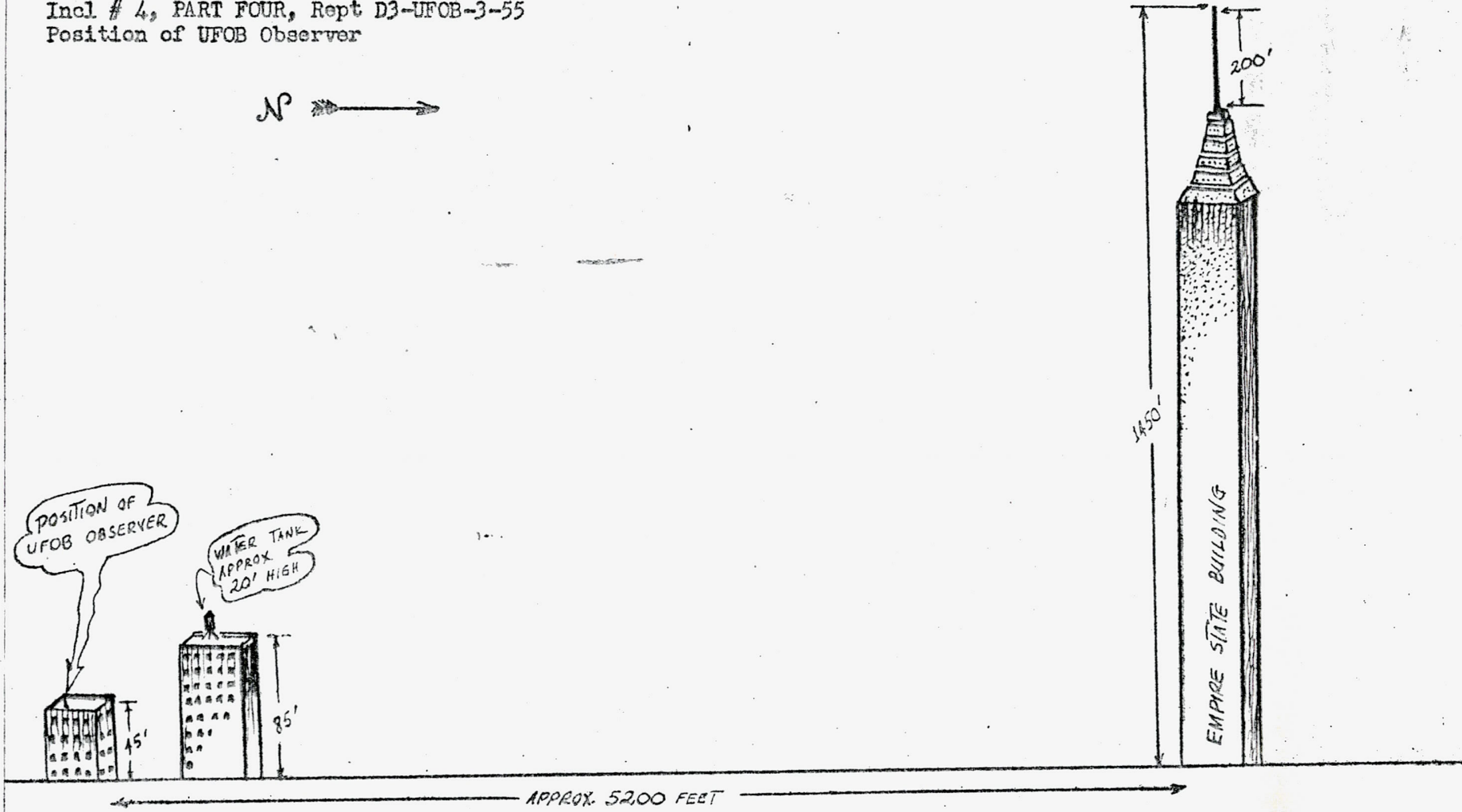
PAGE

12

OF

12

PAGES

Incl # 4, PART FOUR, Rept D3-UFOB-3-55
Position of UFOB Observer

RELATIVE POSITION OF UFOB OBSERVER TO EMPIRE STATE BUILDING.

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

JUN 29 10 05 '55

FILE NO. AISOP	SUBJECT Long Distance Telephone Call
TO Comdr., 4602d AISS	FROM AISOP
	DATE 29 June 1955 0815 hours
COMMENT NO. 1	

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

1. Telephone conversation between Captain Bronstein and T/Sgt Drepperd, Captain Hardin's office, ATIC.

2. General Watson desires a follow-up investigation of a UFOB sighted on 15 May 1955, New York City, New York. The source was identified as [REDACTED] New York City. This report was not received by this headquarters. *OSI Report: D/O #2 (Theodorakis) 11 W 16th St, NYC*

3. The principal item for the follow-up investigation is the procurement of negatives from the source. ATIC was informed that a follow-up investigation would be initiated. [REDACTED]

RB

ROBERT BRONSTEIN, Captain, USAF
Assistant Operations Officer

*Notified Det 3
my. Wma
20 June '55*

TO	DT	INIT	TO ACT.	TO COPY
	AISCR			
	AISDC			
	AISAD			
	AISPR			
	AISDD			
	AISOP			
	AISOC			
	AISPC			
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	AISCA			
	AISCM			
	AISMS			
	AISUP			
	1/SGT.			
	O CLK			
	DETS			
	FLTS			
	FILE			

supplied
Capt Hardin's asst

15 May '55

NY City

Photos released to

OSI report on incident
pictures

Genl Watson wants more information:

① obtain negs on loan basis, if poss
& be returned to source

② Source:

NY City

Smile + exposure

Film used

syke camera

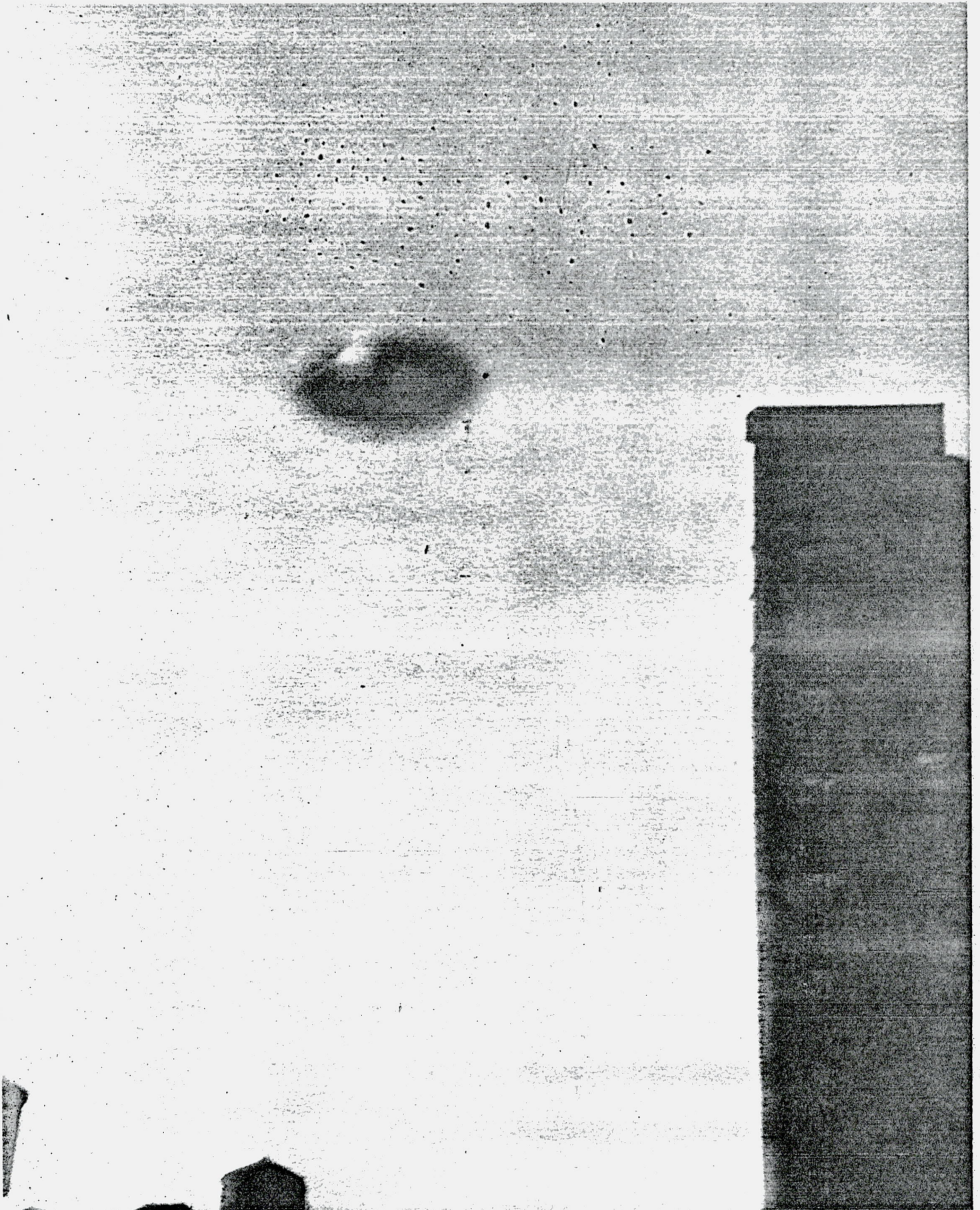
Dist. Off #2 - Michael Theodorakis

(A)

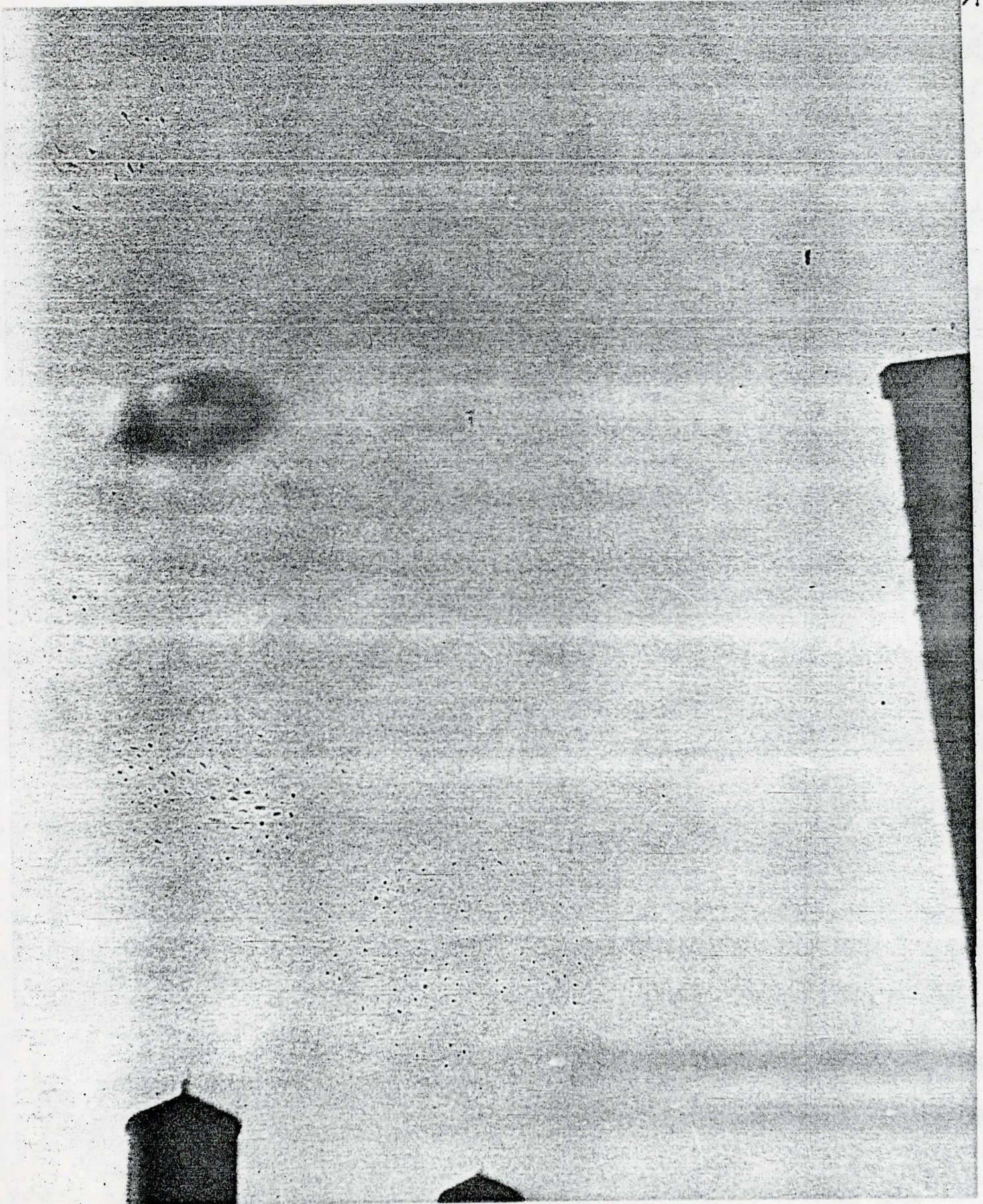
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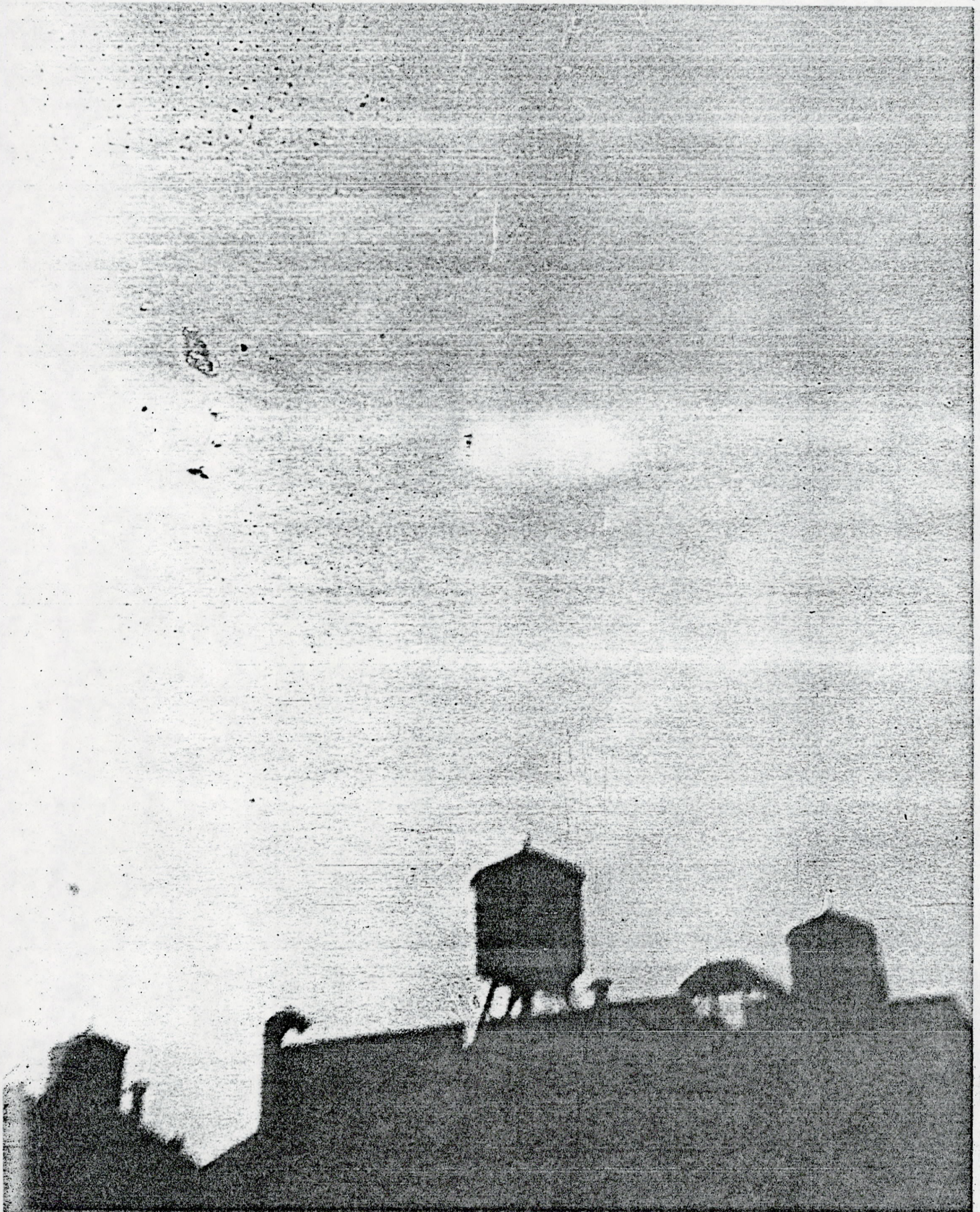
NY 3, NY

Assign to Oct 3



2.





4.

