

AISOC

Return of Negative

OIC, Flt 1-C, 4602d AESS

Comdr, 4602d AESS

13 Dec 56
J.A. Machyowsky/vva/4542

1. Attached is the negative of the photograph taken of a UFOB by [REDACTED] San Bernadino, California.
2. Request WO Holm, your unit, return the negative personally to the Source and give the Source the Air Force's apologies for retaining the negative for so long, explaining that such delay was necessary to complete analysis of the sighting.
3. Extreme discretion must be exercised to avoid any unfavorable reflection on the Air Force. Information received at this headquarters indicates that this sighting has received wide-spread unfavorable publicity.
4. Should the Source question Mr. Holm on the result of his sighting, Mr. Holm [REDACTED]
5. If the Source requests a copy of the statistics, he should be told to write to the Air Technical Intelligence Center at Wright-Patterson AFB for a copy.
6. It is recommended that the D/I, 27th Air Division be notified that the negative has been returned.

1 Incl
NegativeCHARLES W. GODSEY, Captain, USAF
Assistant Adjutant

DEC 28 1956

11 December 1956

AISOC

SUBJECT: Negative of UFOB

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
ATTN: AFOLN LEL
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio

1. Inclosed is a letter from Commander, 27th Air Division (DEF), Norton AFB, California, forwarded for your information and appropriate action.

2. The subject negative was recently forwarded to your organization attached to the UFOB Index Card for AISS-UFOB-469-56.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl
Ltr fr Comdr 27th AD
w/1 Incl

CHARLES W. GODSEY
Captain, USAF
Assistant Adjutant

DEC 026

AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO

AFOIN-4E4

10 DEC 1956

SUBJECT: Analysis of UFO Report, IR-01-56

TO: Commander
4602d Air Intelligence Service Squadron (ADC)
Ent Air Force Base
Colorado Springs, Colorado

1. Reference 4602d AISS UFOB Report Nr. 469, originally submitted under AF Form 112, IR-01-56, from Headquarters, 27th Air Division, 8 August 1956.

2. Attached hereto is a negative and photograph of an unidentified flying object photographed by source, [REDACTED] over San Bernardino, California on 19 July 1956. Also appended are three "contrast" print enlargements of varying densities used in the analysis of the object photographed.

3. Comments of this Center, on the basis of a review of the information submitted and a photo analysis of the photo material submitted, are as follows:

a. With a negative size of 2 9/16 by 1 11/16 inches, the focal length of the lens are assumed to be approximately 3 inches (75 MM). This is based on the general rule that the focal length is usually equal or larger than the diagonal of the negative size.

b. The image size of the object on the negative is 5/16 inch, over-all size.

c. The distance of the object as given by the source in the report is estimated at 600 yards i.e. 1800 feet. On the basis of the focal length, the object would then be approximately two-thirds the size of a football field, or over 200 feet in diameter.

d. An object of such size appearing over a populated city or area of California would certainly have been noticed, and reported, by a large number of persons. No reports on UFOs were received for this particular day or area.

e. A study of the photograph shows that the foliage in the foreground, the leaves on the tree in the background, and the two

DEC 024

Ltr, ATIC, Subj: Analysis of UFO Report, IR-01-56 10 DEC 1956

slender wire lines between these two points are all clear and in sharp focus, in contrast to the object which is somewhat fuzzy and indistinct in outline.

f. Photo analysis strongly suggests that the out-of-focus, indistinct appearance of the object is not caused by any apparent motion through space, but because of its very close proximity to the camera. As any optical experiment will show, an object will appear lighter in color as it recedes into the distance. The object here, alleged to be approximately 2000 feet or over one-third of a mile away, is as dark or darker than any object in the field of view.

g. The direction of the light and shadows on the object does not appear to be consistent with that of the surrounding objects, as a study of all the photographs attached indicate.

h. A magnification of the image into three different densities reveals an object just inside the left edge of the print and on the object which resembles a thumb or some odd protrudance.

i. The opinion submitted in the IR that the sighting may have been caused by a "temperature inversion" cannot be remotely considered as creating the optical phenomenon, i.e. the object. While such inversions can create spurious objects or blips on radar scopes, the object shown here is a dark, solid, tangible one and against a fairly clear sky. Optical phenomena created by unusual weather or temperature conditions and inversions usually tend to blend in, or have the general coloration or hue of, the sky or cloud formation which they are a part of.

4. In view of the foregoing, the opinion of this Center is that the photographs [REDACTED] and typical of the many it receives, resulting in a considerable [REDACTED]

5. In accordance with established policies for providing field units and related agencies with guidance and assistance on UFO matters, suggest the following be considered in the investigation of sightings of this type involving UFO photographs:

a. Investigative and interviewing personnel "mentally" frame or study the immediate area and surroundings shown within the UFO photograph.

Ltr, ATIC, Subj: Analysis of UFO Report, IR-01-56 10 DEC 1956

b. Exact time of the exposure, if possible. This will assist in determining the sun's position at that time and whether the sun was out among other factors, statements of the source to the contrary notwithstanding, as our case files often disclose.

c. The direction and angle of elevation which the camera was facing. Not given in AF 112.

d. The type, make, lens size of the camera, shutter speed, and exposure settings used. In all cases, where the source states he does not know what "f" stop or speed used, the minimum and maximum scale of these camera gradients should be obtained, and given in the AF 112.

e. Type of film used.

f. Where an object is not shown in mid air, as in this case, [REDACTED]

g. [REDACTED] his opinion or interest regarding "flying saucers"; whether any motion pictures having this subject as their theme were recently shown in his location; and whether he has done any extensive reading on "flying saucer" books. This information can only be determined at the source location, and is pertinent as supplementary data for formulating sound conclusions. There are at the present time 10 to 15 science-fiction motion pictures, and almost 20 books dealing with "flying saucers." [REDACTED]

h. Refer to AFR 200-2, "Intelligence Photography," for guidance on collection involving photography, with specific reference to paragraph 137 and Appendix C. This manual is also used by investigative units of the Army, Navy and FBI.

FOR THE COMMANDER



ROBERT E. O'CONNOR
Captain USAF
Assistant Adjutant

1 Incl
4 prints w/neg

Copy furnished:
Cmdr Hq, 27th Air Div. (Def)
Norton AF Base, California

HEADQUARTERS
27TH AIR DIVISION (DEFENSE)
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
NORTON AFB, CALIFORNIA

2701

5 DEC 1956

SUBJECT: Negative of UFOB

TO: Commander
Air Defense Command
Ent Air Force Base
Colorado

1. Reference is made to Air Intelligence Information Report (Form 112) No. IR-01-56, dated 8 August 1956, with source: [REDACTED] San Bernardino, California. A photographic negative of the Unidentified Flying Object was attached to this report. A specific request was made in the report to the effect that this negative should be returned to the source at the address given in the report. At the time of the initial investigation, the observer was reluctant to give up the negative and did so only upon the express assurances of the reporting officer that subject negative would be returned as soon as possible. As of this date, subject negative has not been returned as requested; the source is now concerned about the possibility of never receiving this negative.

2. On 14 October 1956, an article appeared in the "Aviation News" column of the Los Angeles Examiner newspaper based upon the possible significance of the Air Force's retention of this UFOB negative belonging to [REDACTED]. This article has been clipped from the newspaper and is attached to this letter.

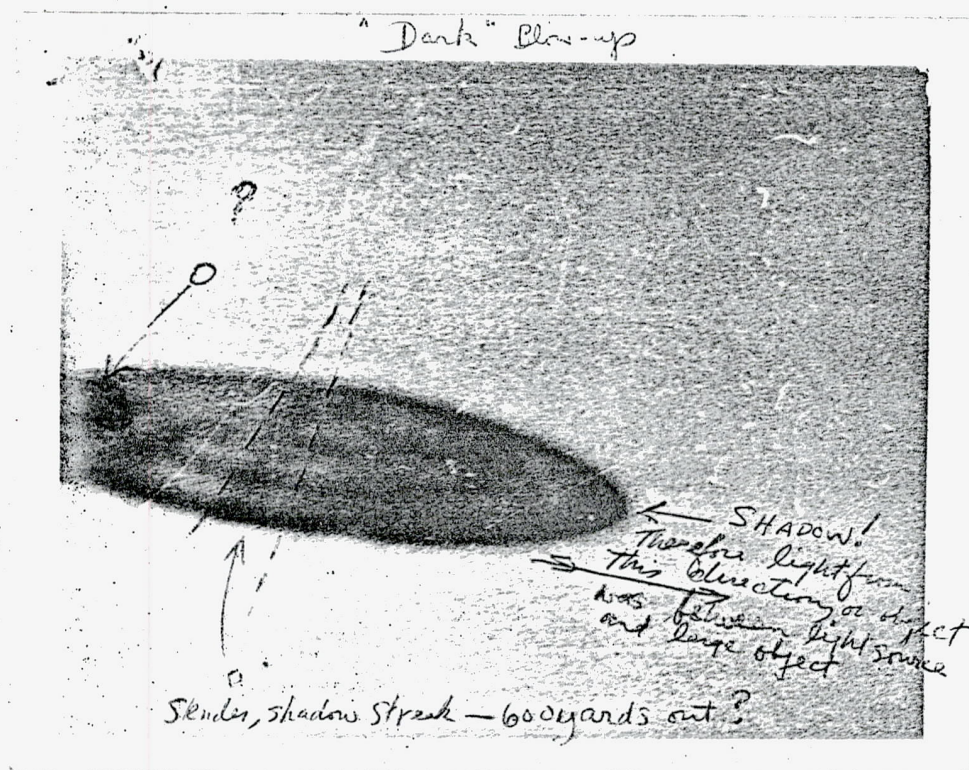
3. It is possible that considerable publicity adverse to the best interests of the Air Force could result from this situation if subject negative is not returned to the "source" as soon as practicable.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl
Newspaper Clipping

WESLEY M. YOUNG
CWO, W-2, USAF
Asst Adjutant

Dec 026

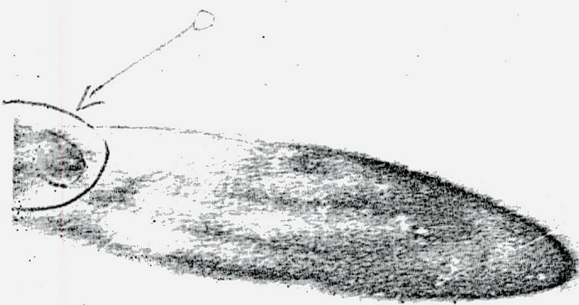


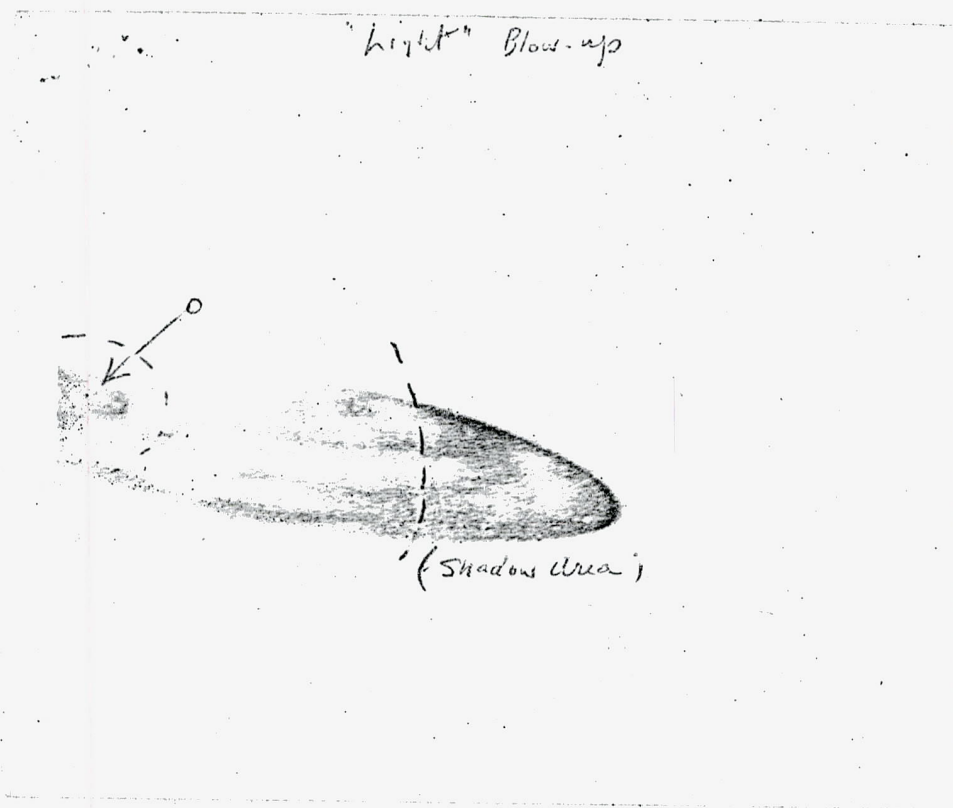
Shel #1, 4

Slender shadows on
object indicates that
it was near some tall or
slender object like a
tree, pole, etc. and
quite unusual if object
was $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ mile out and
in midair. Shadows
require some object to
cast them, and wholly
unlikely in space, particularly
if object (disk) is almost
200 feet in diameter.



Medium Blowing





AF RM 112—PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948UNCLASSIFIED
(CLASSIFICATION)

COUNTRY U.S.	REPORT NO. IR-01-56	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Unidentified Flying Object		
AREA REPORTED ON San Bernardino, California	FROM (Agency) Hq 27th Air Division (Defense)	
DATE OF REPORT 8 August 1956	DATE OF INFORMATION 27 July 1956	EVALUATION B-2
PREPARED BY (Officer) Major John M. Ahlstrom	SOURCE [REDACTED] San Bernardino, Calif.	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)		
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], San Bernardino, California (GEOREF EJDE1309). PART TWO: Supplementary Investigative Efforts. PART THREE: Comments of Preparing Officer. II. SUMMARY: This report contains information on the sighting of an unidentified flying object over San Bernardino, California on the afternoon of 19 July 1956. The information was obtained from the observer of the sighting and from an investigation conducted to determine the possible cause. III. INVESTIGATORS: 2dLt Charles R. Hoskins, AO 3031819 and W/O Richard A. Holm, 954099E.		
4602D AISS UFOB REPT. 469 DATE-TIME GROUP 19 JUL 56 SAN BERNARDINO, CALIF. PROB HOAY		
APPROVED: <i>John H. Jeffus</i> JOHN H. JEFFUS Colonel, USAF Commander		
1 INCL. (See Part ONE)		
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR		

NOTES: 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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AF RM 112—PART II
APP'D 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Hq 27th Air Division (Defense)	REPORT NO. IR-01-56	PAGE 2 OF 5 PAGES
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PART ONE

I. SOURCE:

Address: [REDACTED] San Bernardino, California
Age: 15 years
Occupation: Student
Education: 9th Grade
Qualifications: None

II. RELIABILITY: Good. In a personal interview, [REDACTED] appeared to be sincere and positive in all his statements. He was calm and completely relaxed and rational in his thinking of the object.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: Source was lying on the grass in the backyard of his home taking pictures with a new camera when a movement was observed to the left. The single disk-shaped object was receding rapidly from approximately 600 yards to the North of position of source. Source took a picture (Refer Incl 1, PART ONE this report) immediately and tried to get another shot but turned film advance control beyond the next frame in the attempt to watch object and set camera. The object seemed to dwindle or disappear directly away from source upward in a due North direction (at approximately a 50 degree angle). Object was observed for 15 to 30 seconds and did not move behind any other object during the entire sighting. The object was not brighter than the background of the sky and its edges were fuzzy or blurred. There was no sound heard and object was silvery-gray or metallic in color. Object appeared to be the size of a nickel held in the hand at arm's length and source estimated its size to be 30 feet in its longest dimension. Source described its shape as a third of an orange placed on top of another third of an orange.

Source's description of weather conditions at the time of sighting was hazy, hot, dry and a slight breeze was blowing. Source had no explanation of what object might have been except he did not believe it to be a balloon and believed it was made of metal.

Incl #1 Negative and 2 prints
of UFOB. (NOTE: To be
returned to Source at address
given in this report).

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PART TWO

SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS:

1. [REDACTED] was interviewed on 27 July 1956 and photograph negative of object was obtained on 29 July 1956. (See Incl #1, PART ONE of this report).
Note: Source requests the return of this negative upon completion of analysis.

2. Capt B. Beattie, Operations Plans, Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards Air Force Base, California was questioned as to the possibility of test aircraft in the vicinity at the time of sighting with negative results of experimental aircraft from that base in the vicinity at the time of sighting.

3. Detachment 7, 6th Weather Group, Norton Air Force Base was contacted and the following information was obtained:

a. Two (2) temperature inversions were recorded on the 19th of July 1956 at the Los Angeles Weather Office.

(1) Inversion at 191500Z Jul 56 was between 1,000 feet at 14.8°C and 3,200 feet at 22°C. Winds aloft during that inversion follows:

Altitude (In ft)	Wind Direction (In degrees)	Wind Speed (In Knots)
2,000	140	10
3,000	120	10
4,000	120	13
5,000	150	10
6,000	170	10
7,000	170	10
8,000	170	10
9,000	160	10
10,000	130	10
15,000	130	15
20,000	120	15
25,000	170	10
30,000	170	10
35,000	180	15
40,000	190	30

(2) A double inversion existed at 192100Z July 1956. The first between 500 feet at 17°C and 1300 feet at 24.5°C and the second between 8,000 feet at 13°C and 9,000 feet at 14°C. Winds aloft during those inversions follows:

Altitude (In ft)	Wind Direction (In degrees)	Wind Speed (In Knots)
1,000	190	10
2,000	190	10
3,000	200	10
4,000	190	5
5,000	200	5
6,000	200	5
7,000	310	10
8,000	070	10

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PART TWO, Cont'd

9,000	090	10
10,000	120	10
15,000	120	10
20,000	110	10
25,000	070	5
30,000	110	10
35,000	110	10
40,000	140	15

b. Surface winds recorded at Norton Air Force Base were as follows:

Time (Z)	Wind Direction (In degrees)	Wind Speed (In Knots)
192128 Jul 56	250	10
192229 Jul 56	225	10
192328 Jul 56	225	12
200029 Jul 56	250	8
200127 Jul 56	250	6
200228 Jul 56	250	8

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APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948UNCLASSIFIED
(CLASSIFICATION)

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PART THREE

COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER:

1. It is the opinion of the preparing officer that the temperature inversion which was recorded at Los Angeles (Refer to par 3b, PART TWO of this report) could have moved to the area of sighting for a possible optical phenomena solution to this sighting.

Charles R. Hoshins 2/58
for JOHN M. AHLSTROM
Major, USAF
Dir of Intelligence

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