Incident #: 17L

28/2001Z

AFTAC NO. ---

AF NO. ---

T NO. ---

DATE OF EVENT ---

TIME OF EVENT 1430

TYPE Disc with well rounded Contours

SIZE 300'-400'

LOCATION Southwest

NO. OF OBJECTS 3 at first - 2 later

SHAPE ---

SKETCHES (1)

LOCATION 5 Mi. East of Harrisville, Mich.

SOURCE USAFB Officer

DATE RECD BY AFTAC ---

COLOR Bright Silvery-Golden Hue

ALTITUDE Well over 500 Ft Max

ALTITUDE 7,500'-8,500'

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 10-15 Seconds

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Aerial

MANEUVERS Executed abrupt turns, flew in line of stern stepped up

Est Reflection

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #134, 134a -- Monroe, Michigan -- 28 May 1948

There is no direct astronomical explanation for this incident.

This investigator wishes to call attention to the fact that the objects observed were seen at essentially the same level as the lower cloud stratum and that there was a high overcast. Could it be that these officers saw successive shafts of sunlight, through breaks in the high overcast, illuminating small portions of the lower cloud stratum? Apparent speed of the objects could then have been a combination of the relative velocity of the C-47 and the projected motion of the break in the overcast.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Incident No. 14 -- 23 May 1948, 1500 hours, Monroe, Michigan. One passenger in a C-47 at 8000 ft observed three disc-like objects and later two more (another observer saw only the two). The objects appeared to descend from above, level off at altitude of C-47 and travel in the opposite direction at front speed. They left no trail, were disc shaped and were "silvery-gold" or "shiny brass" in color. One observer said they were 300-400 feet across with well rounded contours, the other said they were four feet in size. The first observer later said all had a lazy or fuzzy outline. There was an overcast at 15,000 feet and a thin, broken stratus layer at 8000 feet, the level of the aircraft.

ATIC Opinion: Dr. Hynek suggests these individuals could have seen successive flashes of sunlight through breaks in the high overcast illuminating portions of the lower cloud stratum. Apparent speed could be a combination of projected motion of the break in the overcast and the velocity of the C-47. This explanation partially fits the contradictory evidence.

28 Nov 48

With 104 incidents thus eliminated, there remain thirty-four which contain some evidence but have no apparent ready explanation. This statement is true only under the assumption that the evidence is accepted as reliable and accurate. When psychological and physiological factors are taken into consideration, all of these incidents can be explained rationally, as pointed out by Rand Corporation and Headquarters of Air Material Command Aero-Medical Laboratory (see Appendix "B" and "C").

Air Material Command Aero-Medical Laboratory (Dr. Paul [illegible]

212 Incidents considered)

There are sufficient psychological explanations for the reports of unidentified flying objects to provide plausible explanations for most reports not otherwise explainable. These errors in identifying real stimuli result chiefly from inability to estimate speed, distance, and size.

All of the remaining 34 incidents are treated in detail in this report. These incidents form no pattern in regard to area of sighting, type of object, or manner of performance. There are indications, however, that some sightings were influenced by earlier reports, and probably would not have been considered unusual or reported had there been no publicity.

APPENDIX I

Project Grudge

Summary of ATIC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

VII. Summary of ATIC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

The remaining unexplained incidents (see Appendix "I") exhibited few common characteristics. Two of them, by statements of the reporters, could not have been made had the witnesses not read of the Mt. Rainier incident (Incident No. 17). Most were distributed without pattern throughout the United States. A few were outside the U. S. No two descriptions of appearance or performance were exactly alike. The reported sightings occurred at various times of day and year.

APPENDIX I

In the following section of this report, each remaining unexplained incident is considered separately. It is not the intent to generally discredit the character of observers, but each case has undesirable elements, and these cannot be disregarded. The numerical designation is merely the categorical order of the incident in the project files.

1, 10, 17, 21, 29, 35, 37, 40, 51, 58, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84,

111, 122, 134, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 236.

Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

a. High probability:
#26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140, 147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216, 219, 238.

b. Fair or low probability:
#19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100, 112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192, 199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:
#3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115, 126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:
#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107, 108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):
#39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:
#38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118, 125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213, 229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:
#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.