[redacted] Incident #158

ATIC NO. ---

AF NO. ---

REPORT NO. ---

DATE OF REPORT ---

TIME OF SIGHTING 1400

SHAPE ---

SIZE ---

COURSE W

NO. IN GROUP 1

SOUND ---

PHOTOS --- SKETCHES 3

DATE OF INFO 1 Aug 1948

LOCATION Gravesport, Ohio

SOURCE Student

DATE IN TO ATIC ---

COLOR ---

SPEED ---

ALTITUDE Very high

Extrapolated
Measured
Estimated
Measured

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED ---

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

MANEUVERS Just exhaust visible

Not (meteor trail)

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jun 52)

[redacted]

[redacted]

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Incident #158 -- Groveport, Ohio -- 1 August 1948

With two essential items missing (speed with which the trail was formed and length of time involved in the formation), it is difficult to come to a definite conclusion concerning the origin of the object observed, but it is entirely possible that it was parts of the smoke trail of a fireball. Fireball trails have been known to act in the manner described. The witness states that the streak was not like an anti-aircraft shell burst or a vapor trail from a plane. He implies that the motion of the object forming the trail was very rapid, and that the distance was considerable. At least, nothing is said which is contrary to the meteoric hypothesis.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

7-2772-8

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 158

1. Date 1 Aug 48

2. Time 2:00 P. M.

3. Location ~~[illegible]~~ Groveport, Ohio

4. Name of observer [redacted]

5. Occupation of observer Student, [redacted]

6. Address of observer [redacted]

7. Place of observation 1 mile west of Groveport, Ohio

8. Number of objects 1

9. Distance of object from observer N/S

10. Time in sight N/S

11. Altitude ~~N/S~~ very high

12. Speed N/S

13. Direction of flight in westerly direction against a light wind

14. Tactics N/S - just exhaust visible - smoke pattern dark & very large dispersed rapidly and appeared again as wide streak a mile or so in length

15. Sound No sound twisted from wide to narrow streak and back.

16. Size N/S - object not seen

17. Color N/S - object not seen

18. Shape Just a streak observed

19. Odor detected N/S

20. Apparent construction ~~N/S~~ An exhaust trail (smoke)

21. Exhaust trails Appeared as black cloud with no definite shape but looked like an anti-aircraft shell a few seconds after it exploded

22. Weather conditions ~~[illegible]~~ Few white clouds - but clear

23. Effect on clouds black cloud silhouetted among them that moved

24. Sketches or photographs 3 figs.

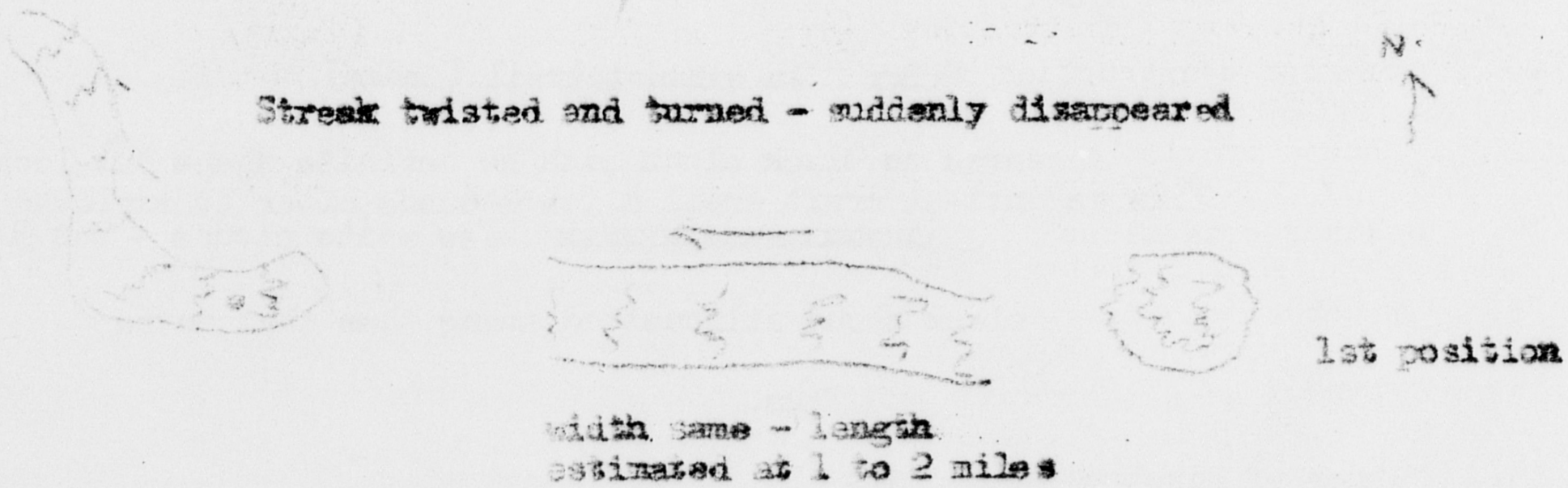
25. Manner of disappearance N/S

26. Remarks: (over)

Observer noticed what appeared to be a small black cloud between two white ones. Seemed peculiar because the weather was clear and there were a few white clouds in the sky - but no other dark clouds or formations of any kind. The black cloud did not have any definite shape but looked like an anti-aircraft shell a few seconds after it explodes. Suddenly it stretched out into a wide streak with smaller vertical streaks, then rapidly turned and twisted, moving into a different direction and disappearing. In three or four seconds, the smoke burst appeared again spontaneously, approximately 20° west of the place where first noticed. Smoke pattern dark, very large, and dispersed rapidly, appearing again as a wide streak a mile or so in length which appeared to twist from a wide to a narrow streak and then back again changing direction as it twisted. Moving in westerly direction against light wind. Plainly visible altho far away and very high. No sound heard. Seemed like a streak that would be made if a flying wing with several engines banking and turning and leaving exhaust trails.

Note: [redacted] was in the war and had seen a lot of anti-aircraft shells burst and many vapor trails from planes but had never observed anything like this. He states: "It was so spontaneous like a rubber band which is round, then suddenly is stretched at length and twisted, and then disappears without a trace."

Agent's Note: [redacted] drew the sketches below



[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT	2. DATE SUBMITTED
SIGHTING OF UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT	9 August 1948
	3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.
	A-1917

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

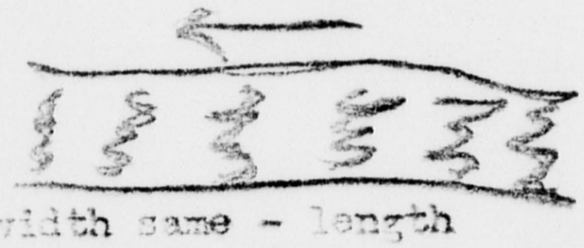
(1) On 2 August 1948, [redacted], student, 26 [redacted] Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, was interviewed concerning an unidentified phenomenon in the sky, and stated in substance:

On Sunday, 1 August 1948, at approximately 2:00 p.m., I was driving east on Groveport Pike with my family. I was about one mile west of Groveport when I glanced up toward the North and noticed what appeared to be a small black cloud between two white clouds. This seemed very peculiar to me because the weather was clear and there were a few white clouds in the sky and no other dark clouds or formations of any kind. The black cloud did not have any definite shape but looked like an anti-aircraft shell a few seconds after it had exploded. Sudienly it stretched out into a wide streak with smaller vertical streaks, then it rapidly turned and twisted, moved into a different direction and disappeared. In three or four seconds, the smoke burst appeared again spontaneously, approximately 20 degrees west of place where I first sighted it. The smoke pattern was dark, very large, and dispersed rapidly, appearing again as a wide streak a mile or so in length whichappeared to twist from a wide to a narrow streak and then back again changing direction as it twisted. It appeared to be moving in a westerly direction against a light wind and it was plainly visible although I would judge it was far away and very high. There was no sound and I can only describe it as a streak that might appear if a flying wing with several engines was banking and turning and leaving exhaust trails. However, I was in the War and have seen a lot of anti-aircraft shells burst and I have seen vapor trails from airplanes but I have never seen anything like this before. I only saw it twice, because I was driving along and almost had an accident, and by the time I stopped my car I had lost track of it. It was so spontaneous, like a rubber band which is round, then suddenly is stretched at length and twisted, and then disappears without a trace. I figured that it was very high where the air is thin and that is why it disappeared so rapidly without any trace remaining.

Agent's Note: [redacted] drew the following sketches:

streak twisted and turned - suddenly disappeared.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10



width same - length
estimated at 1 to 2 miles

- 1st position

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT	6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT
FLOYD S. DUNNING 109th CIC Detachment	/signed/ Floyd S. Dunning

UNCLASSIFIED

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.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT	2. DATE SUBMITTED
SIGHTING OF UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT	9 August 1948
	3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.
	A-1917

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

A.

158

(2) On 2 August 1948, Mrs. [redacted], graphotype operator, Veterans Administration, South Starling Street, Columbus, Ohio, was interviewed concerning the unidentified phenomenon which she witnessed in the sky on Sunday, 1 August 1948, at approximately 2:00 p.m., while traveling east on Groveport Pike with her husband. Her statement was substantially the same as that of her husband and did not disclose any new information or facts concerning this phenomenon. Mrs. [redacted] called the Ohio State Journal shortly after arriving home to inquire if anyone else had witnessed this unusual occurrence. The Journal did not have any information and the editor called Mrs. [redacted] on the same date at approximately 9:00 p.m. to get her statement, which was subsequently published. B-3

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
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UNCLASSIFIED

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT	6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT
FLOYD S. DUNNING 109th CIC Detachment	/signed/ Floyd S. Dunning

[redacted]