2

Incident #210

UNCLASSIFIED

ATIC NO. ----

AF NO. ----

REPORT NO. ----

DATE OF REPORT ----

TIME OF SIGHTING 0500 EST

SHAPE Conventional a/c

SIZE Fighter a/c

COURSE 270°

NO. IN GROUP 3

SOUND ----

PHOTOS ----

SKETCHES ----

DATE OF INFO 10 Nov 48

LOCATION Boston, Mass

SOURCE Civilian

DATE IN TO ATIC ----

COLOR Pale white

SPEED 150 mph

ALTITUDE 2,000'

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 5 seconds

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

MANEUVERS ----

Estimated x
Measured
Estimated x
Measured

Temporary ATIC Form 309
(2 Jan 52)

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Incident #210 -- Boston, Massachusetts -- 10 November 1948

There is no astronomical explanation for this incident. The objects seen were apparently conventional aircraft. It is rather surprising that, in the dim light, the observer could identify them as single-engine planes, and yet could hear no sound from them.

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7-8112-12

HEADQUARTERS
AIR WEATHER SERVICE
Andrews Air Force Base
Washington 25, D. C.

In Reply
Refer To: AWS DSS 11 May 1949

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

TO : Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

1. Reference is made to letter from your headquarters, MCIAXS, dated 9 March 1949, subject "Unidentified Flying Objects," and first indorsement thereto by this headquarters, dated 31 March 1949.

2. The incident summaries 173 through 233 have been checked against routine weather-balloon ascents made by the Air Force, Navy and Weather Bureau. Comments based on this review are inclosed.

3. It is recommended that the "Guide To Investigation Of Unidentified Aerial Objects" be changed as follows: Item 13, "Direction of Flight of Object," should be clarified so that vertical and horizontal motions are distinguished if possible, and so that motion is specified as the direction towards which the object appears to move. "Relative to Radar Settings" should include a statement of the type of radar set used.

FOR THE CHIEF, AIR WEATHER SERVICE

/s/ W. A. West
W. A. WEST
Lt. Col., USAF
Adjutant General

2 Incls:
1 - Incident Summaries
2 - Comments 173 thru 233

10 Nov

No. 210; Summary sheet missing; no altitude given; time incompatible with scheduled balloon release times. If direction is correct, objects were flying into the wind. Cannot be determined conclusively. Inclined to believe objects were Jet aircraft.

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INCIDENT NO. 210

1. Date of Observation Approx 11 Nov 48 Date of Interview 6 Jan 1949
2. Exact time (local) Approx 11 Nov 1948 0500
3. Place of Observation Boston Mass - down-town Beacon Hill Section
4. Position of observer From west side of an apartment house - window
5. What attracted attention to object & - motion
6. Number of objects 3
7. Apparent size 40 ft
8. Color of object very light to white
9. Shape high wing monoplane
10. Altitude 2000 ft
11. Direction from observer directly overhead
12. Distance from observer 2,000 ft
13. Direction of flight of object(s) West
14. Time in sight 5 seconds
15. Speed 150 mph
16. Sound and odor no sound - N/S
17. Trail
18. Luminosity No lights visible
19. Projections No projections visible for radio antenna
20. Maneuvers high-wing monoplane - believed of conventional type level flight
21. Manner of disappearance Faded from view
22. Effect on clouds N/S
23. Additional information concerning object Middle plane seemed to weave back and ~~forxx~~ forth
24. Weather conditions CAVU

(over)

Name and address of observer: [redacted]q., Boston 8, Mass

Occupation and hobbies: Retired organizer - formerly with American Foudation ~~(Quaker)~~ Quaker, United World Federalist, Toward Freedom, etc. Sobed small type aircraft

Comments of Interrogator relative to int. intelligence and character of observer(s):

Mr [redacted]n is of average intelligence and character but could have easily been mistaken in an observation such as this. Except for the fact there was no sound or lights (supposedly) his description was that of conventional type aircraft. As it was not possible to determine the date of sighting exactly, it is not known whether any aircraft of the type supposedly observed were in the vicinity at the time, which might have accounted for this sighting.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

"Dear Sirs: I was awake last night about 5:00 A. M. - sitting by the window gazing up at the stars when suddenly there came into view, flying east to west over the Charles River Basin, three fast-flying single-engine planes. The planes had no lights - but city lights made them visible like three pale moths. The two outside ones going in a straight line, the middle one weaving back and forth - although at no great height. There was no sound."

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11 November 1948

Dear Sirs:

I wasawake last night about 5:00 A. M.-sitting by the window gazing up at the stars when suddenly there came into view, flying east to west over the Charles River Basin, three fast-flying single-engine planes. The planes had no lights-but city lights made them visible like three pale moths. The two outside ones going in a straight line, the ~~xxxxxx~~ middle one weaving back and forth-although at no great height. There was no sound.

Yours very truly

[redacted]

Boston, 8, Mass.

Sent to:

Army Intelligence Service
Washington, D. C.

fwrd to: Hq USAF

Incl 210

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MCIAXO-3

MCIAXO-3/EWS/ej
10 December 1948

[redacted]
Boston 8, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

Your card of 11 November 1948 concerning the three unidentified aircraft observed by you has been forwarded to this Command.

Your patriotic interest and prompt action in reporting this matter to the proper authorities is greatly appreciated.

In the event future information is desired, you will be contacted. In the future, please send such reports directly to Commanding General, Eq Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, ATTN: MCIAXO-3.

Sincerely yours,

W. R. CLINGERMAN
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Tech Intelligence Division
Intelligence Department

Incl 0 # 210

[redacted]

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5D 24-4
(24 Jan 49)
Subj: PROJECT SIGN

1st Ind

5D-OSI/JWF/fmn

5th District OIS (IG), Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, 2 Feb 49

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, ATTN: MCIAKO-3

Forwarded as a matter pertaining to your office.

1 Incl
N/C (1 cy w/d)

H. B. Gibson
H. B. GIBSON
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

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

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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210

[redacted]

[redacted]

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SRCH
INDEX
SERIAL
CLSFY
FILE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

HJJ/HAJ/lh

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, USAF
1ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
WESTOVER AIR FORCE BASE, WESTOVER FIELD, MASS.

1D-OSI-24-9

24 January 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT SIGN
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Acting District Commander
5th District OSI (IG)
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio

1. In compliance with your request for investigation, designating this district as office of origin, contained in letter your office dated 17 December 1948, Subject: Project Sign Special Inquiry, attached hereto, find two copies of closed report 24-9, dated 19 January 1949.

2. All logical investigative leads have been exhausted and results of investigation herein forwarded to your office for information and any action deemed appropriate.

1 Incl.
Report of Investigation
24-9 (in dup)

HARRY J. JENKINS
Major, USAF
District Commander

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24-0-1

[redacted]

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24 | 4

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
27 JAN 1949
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
5TH DISTRICT

ROUTE TO | FILE

2/0

[redacted]

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

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REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 214

DATE: 19 January 1949

REPORT MADE BY: PRESTON W. EASLEY

REPORT MADE AT: DO #1, Westover AFB

PERIOD: 6 January 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN: DO #1, Westover AFB

~~DO #5, Wright Patterson AFB~~

STATUS: CLOSED

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS: (3)
Boston 8, Mass. o/a 25 Nov. 1948

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Lett from DO #5, Wright Patterson AFB, dated 17 December 1948

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by DO #5, Wright Patterson AFB. Information was received by that office o/a 10 December 1948 to the effect that a Mr. John [redacted] or [redacted] observed three low flying airplanes over Boston, Mass. Investigation of informant revealed his name to be Mr. [redacted] Informant could not give any information of value.

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DISTRIBUTION	ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP
CO, Wright Patterson (Action Copy) 2 OSI, Hq. 2 File 2	CO, Wright Patterson AFB	

APPROVED

HARRY J. JENKINS
Major, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

210

AFOSI FORM 23 JULY 48 4

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

16—56428-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

[redacted]

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Project "Sign"

5D OSI NCILKC-3 10 Dec 48 1.
ATTN: Major Farrell

1. The following is quoted from a card received by this office and is forwarded for your information:

"Dear Sirs: I was awake last night about 5:00 A.M. - sitting by the window gazing up at the stars when suddenly there came into view, flying east to west over the Charles River Basin, three fast-flying single-engine planes. The planes had no lights - but city lights made them visible like three pale moths. The two outside ones going in a straight line, the middle one weaving back and forth - although at no great height. There was no sound."

Yours very truly

[redacted]
Boston 8, Massachusetts

2. It is requested your office take action to have this incident investigated.

3. An Essential Elements of Information form is inclosed to be used as a guide in conducting the investigation. It is particularly desired that information as outlined in the General Section of this form be obtained.

4. Interested personnel should be advised to avoid publicity in this matter. All data should be considered confidential.

1 Incl
EEI Form

W. R. CLINGERMAN
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Tech Intelligence Division
Intelligence Department

HMS/ej
65310
P 202
B 283

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2/0

[redacted]

[redacted]

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DETAILS:

1. This investigation was requested by letter from District Office #5, Wright Patterson AFB, dated 17 December 1948, predicated upon a post card received at their office. Information on post card is extracted below:

"Dear Sirs: I was awake last night about 5:00 A.M. - sitting by the window gazing up at the stars when suddenly there came into view, flying east to west over the Charles River Basin, three fast-flying single-engine planes. The planes had no lights - but city lights made them visible like three pale moths. The two outside ones going in a straight line, the middle one weaving back and forth - although at no great height. There was no sound."

Yours very truly

[redacted]

Boston 8, Massachusetts

AT BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

2. This investigation was conducted by Captain PRESTON W. EASLEY.

3. Investigation was initiated by this writer 6 January 1949 and it was found that the correct name of informant is Mr. [redacted] who resides at [redacted], Boston 8, Mass. Mr. [redacted] was interviewed with reference to his sighting unidentified aerial objects. Very little information of any value was obtained, one factor being Mr. [redacted] inability to give the date on which the aircraft was sighted. Except for the fact that there was supposedly no sound or lights, his description was that of conventional type aircraft. Further information is set as follows:

1. Date of sighting:

   Believed to be some day during the last week in November.

2. Time of sighting:

   0500

3. Where sighted:

   A. Ground

   Sighted over Boston, Massachusetts, down-town Beacon Hill Section, from the west side of an apartment house.

   B. Air

   Monoplane type aircraft, estimated speed 150 MPH at 2000 feet, heading due west.

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[redacted]

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4. Number of objects:

3 aircraft, approximately 500 feet apart, lined abreast, with middle aircraft weaving.

5. Distance of object from observer:

Aircraft passed directly over observer approximately 2000 feet, clearly visible, light color.

6. Time in sight:

5 seconds

7. Appearance of object:

A. Color: Very light to white.

B. Shape: High-wing monoplane.

C. Apparent construction: Normal.

D. Estimated size: 40 feet range spread.

8. Direction of flight:

West.

9. Tactics or maneuvers:

Aircraft passed over in level flight.

10. Evidence of exhaust:

Not applicable.

11. Effect on clouds:

Weather C A V U

12. Lights:

No lights visible.

13. Support:

High-wing monoplane, believed to be conventional type.

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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14. Propulsion:

Believed to be single-engine conventional type prop.

15. Control and Stability:

Normal.

16. Air ducts:

Non-visible.

17. Speed:

Estimated speed 125 - 150 MPH.

18. Sound:

No sound heard.

19. Radio antenna:

No projections visible.

20. Manner of disappearance:

Faded from view.

Relative to the Observer

1. Name of observer:

Mr. [redacted]

2. Address:

[redacted], Boston, Massachusetts

3- 4. Occupation - Place of business:

Retired organizer, formerly with the American Foundation, Quaker, United World Federalist, Toward Freedom, etc.

5. Hobbies:

Seeking a substitute for war.

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6. Ability to determine:

Mr. [redacted] has soloed a small type aircraft, otherwise no knowledge or experience.

7. Reliability of observer:

Unknown. No records Police Department or FBI, no former employer available. Mr. [redacted] is not well known in the vicinity, and the landlady (or owner) of [redacted] was very uncooperative and would give no information. Upon checking FBI files it was found that she has been connected with numerous radical organizations predominantly German.

8. Notes relative to observer:

Observer's attention was drawn to objects by their motion.

9. Witnesses:

None.

10 Comments of interrogator re intelligence and character of person interrogated:

Believe Mr. [redacted] to be of average intelligence and character, but on the other hand believe him to be a type of person who could very easily be mistaken in an observation such as this. As it was not possible to determine the date of sighting, it is not known whether any aircraft of the type supposedly observed were airborne in the vicinity of Boston, Massachusetts.

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[redacted]

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.