[redacted] Incident #219

PROJECT 10075 RECORD CARD

(UNCLASSIFIED (

ATIC NO. ----- DATE OF INFO 29 Nov 48

AF NO. ----- LOCATION Newburgh, N.Y.

REPORT NO. ---- SOURCE 14 Year old girl

DATE OF REPORT ---- DATE IN TO ATIC ----

TIME OF SIGHTING 2000 EST COLOR Large red ball

SHAPE ball SPEED ---- Estimated

SIZE ----- ALTITUDE ---- Measured

COURSE 270° E to W LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 2 sec

NO. IN GROUP 1 TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

SOUND ---- MANEUVERS -----

PHOTOS ----- SKETCHES ----

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Fireball

RESTRICTED

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #219 -- Newburgh, New York -- 29 November 1948

The object reported in this incident is clearly a slow-moving fireball. Time of day, length of time in sight, and all other data check with the bolide hypothesis.

UNCLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED

29 Nov 52

No. 219: Time of sighting coincides within a few minutes of the release time of the USAF rawinsonde at Newburgh and a pilot balloon sounding at New York. Very little description given that can be interpreted as either being a burning balloon or a meteor. One negative remark was that the object moved from East to West, an impossible situation for a balloon since winds at all levels were westerly.

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 Material 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

Incident: 219

[redacted], age 14, a ninth grade student at North Junior High, Newburgh, N. Y., reported that on the night of 29 November 1948 at precisely 8:00 while standing with two young friends on the corner of Concord St & 1st Street, that she observed a ball of fire with a long tail in the north of the sky. Course of the object was from east to west. It was visible for two seconds and then went below the horizon. She stated that while she had seen many shooting stars that she had never seen anything like this. She also described the astral phenomenon as being a "large red ball speeding thru the heavens." She was convinced that she had seen a blue-tailed comet.

(... filed but not retained in files)

Incident: 219

1. Date of Observation . 29 Nov 48 . . . .

2. Time of Observation . 8:00 P. M. . . . .

3. Where was Object(s) Sighted . . Newburgh, N. Y. . . . . .

4. Observer's Position . . . ground, 1st & Concord St, Newburgh, N. Y. . . . . .
(i.e. ground, air, control tower, etc.)

5. Name and Address of Observer . [redacted] age 14, 325 First St., Newburgh .
. . . & two young friends . . . . . .

6. Occupation and/or Hobbies . ninth grade student at N. Junior High School . . .

. . . . . .

7. Attention Attracted to Object (s) By . . N/S . . . . . .

8. Number of Object(s) Sighted . . 1 . . . . . .

9. Size of Object(s) . . . . "large as life". "large red ball" . . . . . .

10. Color of Object(s) . red . . . . . .

11. Shape (Sketch if Possible) . ball . . . . . .

12. Nature of Luminosity . . Ball of Fire . . . . . .

13. Estimated Distance of Object from Observer . . N/S . . . . . .

14. Speed of Object(s) . . N/S - but extremely fast . . . .

15. Time in Sight . . . 2 seconds . . . . . .

16. Tactics . . horizontal flight - went below horizon . . . . . .

17. Sound Made by Object(s) . . N/S . . . . . .

18. Direction of Flight of Object(s) . . East to West. . . . . .

19. Apparent Construction (Of What Material or Substance) . . . "fire". . . . . .

. . . . . .

20. Effect of Objects on Clouds and/or Exhaust Trail . . long tail. . . . . .
. . Witness thought she saw a blue-tailed comet. . . . . .

21. Weather Conditions Existing at the Time . N/S . . . . . .

22. Peculiarities Noted . . . . Thought it seemed unusual for a shooting star. . . .

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

23. Summary of Incident . . . (over). . . . . .

. . . . . .

. . . . . .

(Attach a Separate Sheet if Additional Space is Needed)

HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY
WEST POINT, NEW YORK

MAGO 452.1-A

/lbf
2 December 1948

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
First Army
Governors Island, New York 4, N.Y.

1. Reference Department of the Army letter CSGID 452.1 dated 1 November, subject as above, and your 1st Indorsement thereto dated 9 November 1948.

2. The inclosed clipping from the 30 November 1948 issue of the Newburgh News, Newburgh, N. Y., is forwarded for your information.

FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT:

R. S. Nourse

R. S. NOURSE
Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

1 Incl
Newspaper clipping

AHFKB-EV
MAGO 452.1-A

1st Ind.

GEC/amcg

Headquarters First Army, Office of the AC of S, G-2, Governors Island, NY 4, NY
6 Dec 48.

TO: COMMANDING GENERAL, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. ATTN: MCI.

1. Forwarded.

2. Please pass to Director of Intelligence, GS, USA, Wash., 25 D. C.,Attn: U. S. Branch.

FOR THE AC OF S, G-2:

[illegible]
ELLIOTT C. GLOVER
Lt. Colonel AGC
Chief, Evaluation Division

1 Incl: n/c

219

City Girl Sees Sky Phenomenon

"Look!"

Doris Croke, 14, of 325 First St. said just that last night at precisely 8 o'clock and she really meant it. Doris said today she was convinced she saw a blue - tailed comet.

A ninth grade student at North Junior High School, Doris said she was with two young friends standing on the corner of Concord St. and First St. when she looked into the north and saw "a ball of fire with a long tail. It lasted for two seconds, shooting from east to west, and going below the horizon. It was as large as life. I have seen shooting stars before but nothing like this."

Doris also declared the 'astral phenomenon was a "large red ball speeding through the heavens." She said her two friends also saw the "comet" and that a Gardnertown girl friend said she, too, had seen it "about 8 o'clock."

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, 38, 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.