PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 9 May 49 09/2130Z	2. LOCATION Tuscon, Arizona 337
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION UNIDENTIFIED
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS Two	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 6-10 seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Observer sighted a round, silvery, flat object. They were heading to the Northeast at a very high rated of speed. Its flight was level. The objects were in formation. The objects were in view for a few seconds. Observer could have been influenced by recent sightings in the Area
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Northeast	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FTD FORM SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-8

DATE 19 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY EDWIN L. DOOLEY

REPORT MADE AT DO #17, Kirtland AFB

PERIOD 13, 16, 17, 18 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #17, Kirtland AFB

STATUS PENDING

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S)
(AERIAL PHENOMON)

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

On 9 May 1949 M/Sgt [redacted] rd Air Refueling Sq, 43rd Bomb Wg, Davis-Monthan AFB sighted two objects in the air at approximate altitude of 10,000 feet. Objects were round and flat with diameter approximately 25 feet. Objects traveled at an excessive rate of speed (750 to 1000 miles per hr.). Investigation in and around Tucson did not result in finding witnesses or possible explanation of objects.

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

DISTRIBUTION		ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP
CO, Kirtland AFB	4	Commanding Officer Kirtland Air Force Base New Mexico	
OSI, Hq	2		
File	2		

APPROVED

Doyle Rees

DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander.

UNCLASSIFIED

AFHQ FORM 15 JAN 49 O-208 Replaces AFCSI Form 4, 23 Jul 48, which may be used.

[redacted]

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

7-3712-14

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

DETAILS

1. Date of sighting - 9 May 1949.

2. Time of sighting - Approximately 1430 hours.

3. Where sighted:

   a. Ground

      (1) Tucson, Arizona
      (2) Approximately 3 miles from center of town
      (3) From front yard
      (4) Not applicable

4. Number of objects - Two objects maintaining distance of approximately 50 feet apart at all times during period of sighting.

5. Distance of objects from observer

   a. Directly overhead

   b. From directly overhead to approximately 60 degrees

   c. Approximately 10,000 feet.

6. Time in sight - Between six and ten seconds.

7. Appearance of object

   a. Silvery

   b. Round and flat

   c. Opaque

   d. Size

      (1) Approximately 25 feet in diameter
      (2) Similiar to wash tub

8. Direction of flight - Originally sighted coming from SW traveling NE

9. Tactics or maneuvers - Objects maintained approximately same altitude without variance, banked once to the north with abrupt left bank, traveled a mile in this direction, then banked abruptly to NE. They did not appear to be osciallating or fluttering.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

10. Evidence of exhaust - Absolutely no exhaust discernible.

11. Effect on clouds - Object did not come in contact with any clouds during sighting.

12. Lights - Object gave off reflected light especially in the process of banking.

13. Support - There was no visible support.

14. Propulsion - There was no visible means of propulsion.

15. Control and stability - No fins or stabilizers were apparent.

16. Air Ducts - No ducts or slots or openings were discernible.

17. Speed - Object traveled at a speed approximately 750 to 1000 miles per hour.

18. Sound - No sound heard.

19. Manner of disappearance - Objects faded from view.

RELATIVE TO THE OBSERVER

1. Name of observer - [redacted]

2. Address - [redacted]ona

3. Occupation - M/Sgt, USAF

4. Place of business - 43rd Air Refueling Sq, 43rd Bomb Gp, 43rd Bomb Wg, Davis-Monthan AFB.

5. Hobbies - Aircraft mechanic

6. Ability to determine color, speed and size of moving objects at a distance - Observer is able to determine color and based on his history is believed to be a fair judge of speed of moving objects and their size at a distance.

7. Reliability of observer

a. Sources

(1) A neighborhood check was accomplished in the vicinity of observer's home, but due to isolated location of his home, no neighbors were found who knew Putman. A thorough check was made.

(2) Name files of Police Department and Pima County Sheriff's Office, Tucson, Arizona revealed no record of observer.

(3) Local FBI revealed no record of Putman.

(4) The following persons were contacted at Observer's parent organization: Major DONALD F. FOSTER, Executive Officer, who stated that he has had contact with observer and has flown with observer on many occasions since observer's assignment to his unit, he has always found observer to be

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

reliable. 1st Sgt [redacted] has had contact with observer since assignment to his unit and has always found him to be truthful and reliable. Lt [redacted] in the same unit with observer at Spokane, Washington. Lt. [redacted] is now moving into a duplex apartment next to observer. He has been assigned to the same flight crew with observer for the last three months and would trust him implicitly. He is inclined to believe the statements made by the observer due to his knowledge of the observer's character and veracity.

8. Notes relative to observer on

a. Sightings in general - Observer has never sighted any other objects similar to the above described.

b. How attention was drawn to objects - Due to the fact observer was laying on his back on his front lawn and was looking directly overhead when he saw them pass.

9. Witnesses - There were no other witnesses to the occurrence.

10. Comments - The observer, upon interview, appeared to be of good character, normal intelligence and with a fairly rounded education.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Weather conditions -

a. Ceiling unlimited
b. Sky clear
c. Visibility 50 miles
d. Sea Level Pressure - 77B-1008.5 milibars
e. Temperature 91° F.
f. Dew point - 17° F.
g. Wind - SSW from 10 knots or 12 miles per hour
h. Altimeter - 990
i. Gusts of wind to 22 knots
j. Wet Bulb - 56° F
k. Relative humidity - 6%
l. Station pressure 27.190 inches

2. Winds aloft report

8,000', 230 degrees, 20 knots
10,000', 200 degrees, 15 knots
12,000', 220 degrees, 20 knots

UNCLASSIFIED

3. Local flight schedules

a. Military - C-47 departing for Phoenix at 1412 hours
T-16 departing for Phoenix at 1447 hours
C-47 departing for Hill Field at 1453 hours

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

C-47 departing for Kelly AFB at 1503 hours
B-25 departing for Ft Worth at 1443 hours

b. Commercial - American Airlines flight to Phoenix & San Francisco 1435 hrs
flight to Phoenix & Los Angeles 1630 hrs
The 1435 flight was airborne at 1420 hours.

c. Private - No record of any aircraft in air at or about 1430 hours on 9 May 1949 in a check with Gilpin Air Service, Airzona Helicopter Service and Tucson Air Park.

4. A check with the weather bureau, Municipal Airport #2, Tucson, Arizona, discloses that weather baloons were released at 0200 hours, 0800 hours, 1400 hours, 1800 hours on May 9, 1949. A check with Base Weather, Davis-Monthan AFB disclosed that weather baloons were also released at 0200 hours, 0800 hours, 1400 hours and 2000 hours, 9 May 1949. A thorough check of all agencies in this vicinity did not disclose any other testing devices released.

5. Object did not contact earth.

6. Objects did not come near aircraft or other objects.

7. A sketch of terrain and surrounding sight point of unidentified object is attached hereto as exhibit "A".

8. A signed statement of M/Sgt. [redacted] attached hereto as exhibit "B"

9. No physical evidence available.

10. No antenna or projections discernible.

INCLOSURES:

FOR EACH COPY OF REPORT

1. Exhibit "A", Sketch of Flight of objects.

2. Exhibit "B", Statement of Putman.

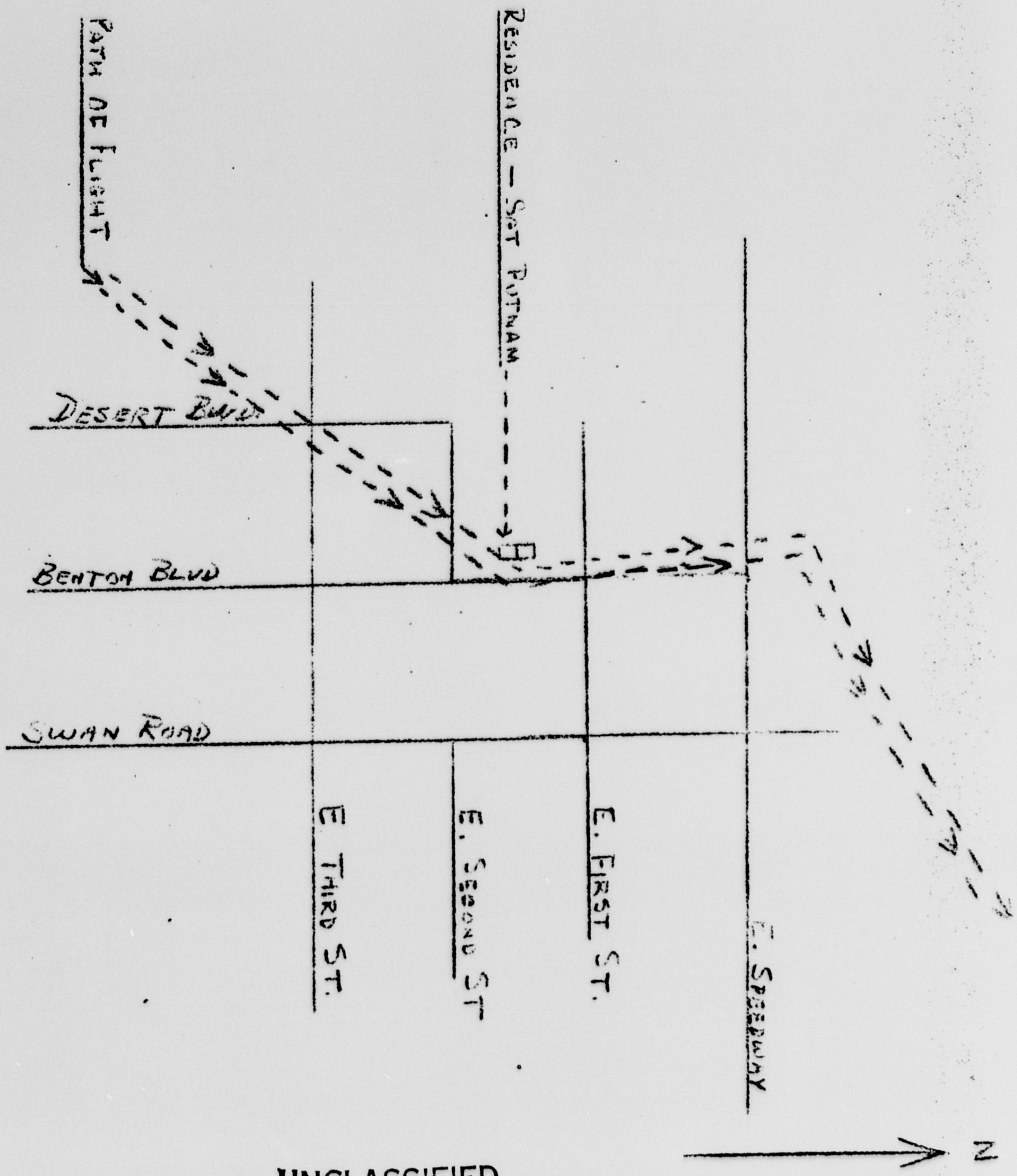
- PENDING -

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED



UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

18 May 1949

UNCLASSIFIED

STATEMENT

On 9 May 1949 at approximately 1430 hours, while reclining on the front lawn of my residence at 939 Benton Blvd, Tucson, Arizona, I had occasion to notice two objects in the air overhead, these objects came into view from a southwesterly direction traveling northeast. When approximately directly overhead, the objects banked to the left and went in an approximately in a northwesterly direction, continuing in this direction for approximately one mile and then banking abruptly to the right and headed northeast towards the Catalina mountains. They continued in this northeast direction, gradually fading from view until they finally disappeared from my sight.

337

The size of these objects, to my estimation, was approximately 25 feet in diameter with a thickness of approximately one foot and their size in relation to a known object as they appeared to me in the air was approximately the size of a wash tub. I would place their altitude at approximately 10,000 feet. There was no discernible variation in this altitude during the time they remained in my sight. The distance between these two objects which did not vary considerably was approximately 50 feet. When I first saw them, they were directly overhead and appeared perfectly round. When they banked to the left and then to the right I was able to see both sides of them.

There was no apparent means of motivation, no vapor trail, exhaust and absolutely no sound. The surface appeared to be smooth and symetrical. They did not appear to vary in thickness toward the center from the outer edge. The color appeared silvery and very shiney when reflecting the sun. This particular day was a very clear sunshine day. The objects seemed to be traveling between 750 and 1,000 miles an hour.

I have been associated with aircraft the major portion of my life, having spent the last eight years in actual duties connected with aircraft and presently am a flight engineer on flying status. I have observed all conventional typse of aircraft and jet fighter aircraft in the sky and this object seemed to be considerably faster than I have ever seen any aircraft travel. My home is located in the residential section of Tucson in the NE portion of that city. Approximate distance from my home to the Catalina Mountains in a northeast direction is six miles. From the direction I first sighted the objects come from, they would have come over a more densely populated portion of the city of Tucson, but not necessarily over the business center. Upon initially sighting these objects in the air, I called to my wife to come out of the house, but she did not get outuntil they disappeared. The whole occurrance from the time I initially sighted the objects until I lost sight of them was between 6 and 10 seconds.

J.L.P.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

To my cognizance, none of the neighbors in the vicinity of my house sighted the objects. However, I have made no inquiry of the neighbors. I did tell my nearby neighbor who were not home at the time, about this occurance.

I reported this to my Squadron Security Officer on Tuesday, 10 May 1949. I have read various comments and articles concerning objects of this nature but never put much stock in the information.

These objects appeared opaque in nature. I can think of no possible explanation as to what these objects were nor what kept them in the air or how they could travel at such an excessive rate of speed. I was fully awake when I saw them and can vision them perfectly in my mind at this time.

[redacted]

43rd Air Refueling Sq
43rd Bomb Gp, 43rd Bomb Wg.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

18

INCIDENT NO. 337

1. Date of Observation 9 May 1949 Date of Interview 18 May 1949

2. Exact Time (local) 1430

3. Place of Observation Tuscon, Arizona

4. Position of observer Ground

5. What attracted attention to object

6. Number of objects 2 objects 50 feet apart

7. Apparent size 25 feet diameter, 1 foot thick

8. Color of object silvery

9. Shape Round flat

10. Altitude Directly overhead to 60° 10,000 feet

11. Direction from observer S. Westernly

12. Distance from observer 10,000 feet

13. Direction of flight of object(s) SW-NE

14. Time in sight 6-10 Seconds

15. Speed 750-1,000 mph

16. Sound and odor none

17. Trail none

18. Luminosity reflected light

19. Projections none

20. Maneuvers Level flight banked once to north with abrupt left bank traveled 1 mile in that direction, then abruptly banked to NE

21. Manner of disappearance Faded from view

22. Effect on Clouds

23. Additional information concerning object

24. Weather Conditions ceiling unlimited 50 miles visibility

(over)

Unidentified

Incident 337

Name and address of observer: M/Sgt. T[redacted]d., Tuscon, Arizona

Occupation and hobbies:

M/Sgt. USAF

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

Appears of normal intelligence and good character

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 9 May 1949 at approximately 1430 hours, while reclining on the front lawn of my residence at [redacted], Tucson, Arizona, I had occasion to notice two objects in the air overhead, these objects came into view from a southwesterly direction traveling northeast. When approximately directly overhead, the objects banked to the left and went in an approximately a northwesterly direction, continuing in this direction for approximately one mile, and then banking abruptly to the right and headed northeast towards the Catalina mountains. They continued in this northeast direction, gradually fading from view until they finally disappeared from my sight.

The size of these objects, to my estimation, was approximately 25 feet in diameter with a thickness of approximately one foot and their size in relation to a known object as they appeared to me in the air was approximately the size of a wash tub. I would place their altitude at approximately 10,000 feet. There was no discernible variation in this altitude during the time they remained in my sight. The distance between these two objects which did not vary considerably was approximately 50 feet. When I first saw them, they were directly overhead and appeared perfectly round. When they banked to the left, and then to the right I was able to see both sides of them.

There was no apparent means of motivation, no vapor trail, exhaust and absolutely no sound. The surface appeared to be smooth and symetrical. They did not appear to vary in thickness toward the center from the outer edge. The color appeared silvery and very shiney when reflecting the sun. This particular day was a very clear sunshine day. The objects seemed to be traveling between 750 and 1,000 miles an hour.

I have been associated with aircraft the major portion of my life, having spent the last eight years in actual duties connected with aircraft and presently am a flight engineer on flying status. I have observed all conventional types of aircraft, and jet fighter aircraft in the sky, and this object seemed to be considerably faster than I have ever seen any aircraft travel. My home is located in the residential section of Tucson in the NE portion of that city. Approximate distance from my home to the Catalina Mountains in a northeast direction is six miles. From the direction I first sighted the objects come from, they would have come over a more densely populated portion of the city of Tucson, but not necessarily over the business center. Upon initially sighting these objects in the air, I called to my wife to come out of the house, but she did not get

Name and address of observer:

Occupation and hobbies:

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

out until they disappeared. The whole occurrance from the time I initially sighted the objects until I lost sight of them was between 6 and 10 seconds.

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
17TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

DR/RMA/web

File No: 24-8 25 May 1949

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena)

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

1. Reference is made to previous Reports of Investigation from this headquarters, regarding the aerial phenomena which have been sighted in this area.

2. Attached for your information are two (2) copies of Report of Investigation, this district, dated 19 May 1949, subject as above.

3. This investigation is continuing and future sightings will be made the subject of reports, copies of which will be forwarded to your headquarters.

1 Incl
Rpt of Inv (dup)

DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

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

UNCLASSIFIED

Disposition?

337

[redacted]

6-1