

## PROJECT 10073 RECORD

|                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. DATE - TIME GROUP<br>25 May 1949 25/1405(L)                                                 | 2. LOCATION<br>Hill AFB, Utah                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 3. SOURCE<br>Military                                                                          | 10. CONCLUSION<br>AIRCRAFT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS<br>Two                                                                    | No data presented to indicate objects could NOT have been A/C.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION<br>1 Minutes                                                          | 11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS<br>Objects had the sound of a/c in the area. 1 was dullsilver, the other was blue on one side, silver on other side. 1 was circular disc shaped, the other circular. Both objects was traveling to the South. Both objects was reflecting sunlight. |
| 6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION<br>Ground-Visual                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 7. COURSE<br>South                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 8. PHOTOS<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| 9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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

|                                                                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| FROM: IAXS                                                                        | DATE<br>6/16/49           |
| TO: IAXS                                                                          | NO. INCLS. 0              |
| RECORDING<br>DESK                                                                 | AXT-1                     |
| DATE<br>RECORDED                                                                  | 6/21/49 1100              |
| ROUTED TO                                                                         | SUSPENSE DATE             |
| 1 IAXS                                                                            | ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS) |
| 2                                                                                 | DATE                      |
| 3                                                                                 |                           |
| DATE OF REPLY                                                                     | OTHER DISPOSITION:        |
| TRANSMITTAL<br>AMC FORM NO. 10-2<br>(20 NOV. 47)<br>SEE OTHER SIDE<br>FOR REMARKS |                           |

|                        |                                          |                                                                                   |                  |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| CONTROL NO.<br>R - 391 | SUBJECT: Ltr<br>Project GRUDGE<br>CONF.. | DECIMAL FILE NO. R-1000                                                           | FOLLOW UP ON     |
| FROM: 5D-OS            | DATE<br>6/7/49                           | NO. INCLS. 1                                                                      |                  |
| TO: IAXS               | RECORDING<br>DESK                        | AXT-1                                                                             | DATE<br>RECORDED |
| ROUTED TO              | SUSPENSE DATE                            | ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS)                                                         | DATE             |
| 1 IAXS                 | N/R                                      | HW                                                                                | 10 June          |
| 2                      |                                          |                                                                                   |                  |
| 3                      |                                          |                                                                                   |                  |
| DATE OF REPLY          | OTHER DISPOSITION:                       | TRANSMITTAL<br>AMC FORM NO. 10-2<br>(20 NOV. 47)<br>SEE OTHER SIDE<br>FOR REMARKS |                  |



[REDACTED]

16 OSI/HFB/wq

UNCLASSIFIED

16 OSI 24-13

16 June 1949

SUBJECT: Special Inquiry  
Unidentified Aerial Objects

TO: Commanding General  
Ogden Air Materiel Area  
Hill Air Force Base  
Hill Field, Utah

1. Reference is made to report of investigation from this office, file and subject as above, dated 1 June 1949.

2. So much of paragraph 3, subject report, as reads, "When [REDACTED] located the airplane, he said it was an F-81...." should be corrected to read "When [REDACTED] located the airplane he said it was an F-51...."

3. This information is forwarded for information and amendment of your copies of this report.

*Leo M. Christianson*  
LEO M. CHRISTIANSON  
Captain, USAF  
Actg District Commander

cc:

CG, AMC -2  
DO #5 -2  
Hq OSI -2

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

09:58

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[REDACTED]

*Ind. 351*

JUN 21



DETAILS:

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1. This investigation is predicated upon request by Captain PELHAM R. BURNETT, District Commander, 16th District OSI (IO), Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah. Captain BURNETT'S request was based upon a telephone call from 1st Lieutenant [REDACTED] [REDACTED] reported that he saw an object flying at an altitude of approximately nine (9) to ten (10) thousand feet MSL, at 11:00 hours, in a southeasterly direction. A few minutes later, [REDACTED] saw a second object traveling on a parallel course to the first object, at an altitude of approximately nine (9) to ten (10) thousand feet MSL and going in a southeasterly direction. Lt. [REDACTED] called the attention of Mr. [REDACTED] to the first object and in so doing Mr. [REDACTED] saw the second object. (See signed statements of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] attached as Inclosures #2 and #5.) Lieutenant Colonel STUART R. PETERSEN, Inspector General, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, and Mr. J. F. SHANNONESSY, Administrative Inspector, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, were members of the group, but did not see either object.

2. Special Agent JAMES W. DEVALK assisted in this investigation.

3. On 25 May 1949, Lieutenant [REDACTED] (pilot), Salvage Officer, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, was interviewed and stated that he, in the company of three other gentlemen (named in details), were in the West Salvage Yard, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, about 14:05 MST, when the sound of an airplane attracted his attention. When [REDACTED] located the airplane, he said it was an F-51, traveling in a southeasterly direction, approximately eight (8) miles away and about ten (10) thousand feet MSL, high. The object [REDACTED] saw was a little below the airplane and behind it, but traveling possibly forty (40) MPH faster because [REDACTED] could see the object overtaking the airplane. [REDACTED] estimated the speed of object to be three hundred (300) MPH. [REDACTED] then turned to his companion, Mr. [REDACTED] (PETERSEN and SHANNONESSY were standing a short distance away.) and called his attention to the object. [REDACTED] did not see either the first object or the airplane, but did see a second object, globular in shape, traveling in a southeasterly direction. [REDACTED] further stated the airplane turned north and he then kept watching the second object which he said was traveling a parallel course to the first one, but north of it, and lower at a speed of about three hundred (300) MPH. By this time, the first object was out of sight. [REDACTED] described the first object to be circular and disc form, a dull silver color and reflecting the sunlight. [REDACTED] described the second object to be circular, dark blue on one side and silver on the other, reflecting the sunlight.

4. On 25 May 1949, Mr. [REDACTED], Assistant Air Inspector, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, was interviewed and stated that while he was talking to Lt. [REDACTED] in the West Salvage Yard, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, he heard an airplane quite high and looked upward to see it. While doing so, his attention was attracted to a globular object slightly east of south at approximately fourteen thousand (14,000) feet MSL, traveling about the same speed a C-47 airplane would travel. [REDACTED] watched the object for about fifteen (15) seconds, then lost sight of it momentarily. The second view of it lasted for possibly ten (10) seconds. [REDACTED] further stated that this was not the first object which [REDACTED] saw. The time was established as 14:07 MST for the second object, which was globular in shape, dark blue and flashing sunlight. (See signed statement of [REDACTED] attached as Inclosure #3).

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5. On 25 May 1949, Mr. J. F. SHAGHNESSY, Assistant Air Inspector, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, in the company of the gentlemen named in the details of this report, looked at his watch when he heard ~~the~~ and ~~the~~ speaking of the second object. SHAGHNESSY established the time as 1407 MST. SHAGHNESSY did not see either object.

6. On 25 May 1949, Captain FLOYD H. HOGAN, Engineering Officer, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, was interviewed and stated that he was the pilot of an F-51 airplane which took off at 1400 MST on Hill Air Force Base runway #31 and made a shallow climbing turn to the left, completely around the field, then south toward Salt Lake City and back to Hill Air Force Base, landing at 1430 MST. HOGAN stated he was southeast of the field at approximately 1407 MST and about nine thousand (9,000) feet MSL at that time, but did not see any light airplanes or other objects while making this wide circle. HOGAN stated he was particularly vigilant because it had been some time since he had flown a fast airplane.

7. Information gained from the Base Weather Station, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, revealed that a weather balloon was released at 1345 MST. (See Weather Report attached as Inclosure #1.)

8. Information obtained from Hinckley Field, Ogden, Utah, revealed that no weather balloon was released during the afternoon of 25 May 1949.

9. Information obtained from the Weather Station, Salt Lake Municipal Airport #1, revealed a white weather balloon was released at approximately 1400 hours, from their airport.



UNCLASSIFIED

105<sup>th</sup> MER 49 May 25 1345  
GCT 49 May 25 2045

Isension 430  
No.

RADIO DIR FINDER

| EL<br>Angle | Horizontal<br>Angle | Dist<br>Yds. | Other | Wind<br>Dir.<br>Calm | Wind<br>Vel. |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------|-------|----------------------|--------------|
| 56.6        | 033.1               | 180          | 270   | 360                  | 06           |
| 59.2        | 020.9               | 360          | 610   | 360                  | 05           |
| 72.1        | 045.1               | 420          | 1300  | 240                  | 05           |
| 67.0        | 081.5               | 820          | 1940  | 280                  | 23           |
| 56.3        | 081.3               | 1750         | 2620  | 270                  | 22           |
| 48.1        | 085.9               | 3070         | 3420  | 260                  | 21           |
| 44.2        | 081.5               | 4280         | 4160  | 260                  | 19           |
| 42.4        | 079.3               | 5460         | 4980  | 250                  | 24           |
| 40.2        | 078.2               | 6760         | 5710  | 260                  | 22           |
| 39.2        | 078.9               | 7450         | 6080  | 260                  | 21           |
| 38.9        | 079.6               | 7980         | 6430  | 260                  | 18           |
| 38.5        | 078.7 <sup>n</sup>  | 8550         | 6800  | 250                  | 21           |
| 37.9        | 078.0               | 9220         | 7180  | 240                  | 21           |
| 37.7        | 077.1               | 9790         | 7570  | 230                  | 17           |
| 38.0        | 076.8               | 10100        | 7910  | 270                  | 14           |
| 38.2        | 077.0               | 10540        | 8310  | 270                  | 20           |
| 37.6        | 076.6               | 11290        | 8710  | 250                  | 18           |
| 38.0        | 076.4               | 11560        | 9030  | 260                  | 17           |
| 38.1        | 076.2               | 12250        | 9610  | 260                  | 19           |
| 38.0        | 076.4               | 12700        | 9930  | 270                  | 16           |
| 38.0        | 077.4               | 13170        | 10290 | 280                  | 17           |
| 38.0        | 077.9               | 13640        | 10650 | 270                  | 19           |
| 37.7        | 078.5               | 14250        | 11000 | 280                  | 18           |
| 37.7        | 079.6               | 14630        | 11300 | 300                  | 17           |
| 37.6        | 081.0               | 15070        | 11610 | 300                  | 19           |
| 37.2        | 082.3               | 15350        | 12010 | 270                  | 30           |
| 36.2        | 084.0               | 16850        | 12400 | 270                  | 28           |
| 36.1        | 084.8               | 17500        | 12760 | 270                  | 27           |
| 35.5        | 084.3               | 18470        | 13160 | 270                  | 40           |
| 34.3        | 084.9               | 19820        | 13520 | 270                  | 40           |
| 33.7        | 086.0               | 20850        | 13900 | 280                  | 42           |
| 32.6        | 086.4               | 22300        | 14280 | 280                  | 48           |
| 31.7        | 087.4               | 23730        | 14650 | 280                  | 35           |
| 31.7        | 086.4               | 24350        | 15030 | 250                  | 24           |

UNCLASSIFIED

June 1

S/Sgt L. Phelps

Sgt R. Karg

Balloon Burst

Surface Observer



COPY

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HEADQUARTERS  
OGDEN AIR MATERIEL AREA  
Hill Air Force Base

Hill Field, Utah  
25 May 1949

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is in relation to foreign objects I sighted in the air in the vicinity of Hill Air Force Base at approximately 1405 M on 25 May 1949.

I was at the West Salvage Yard of Hill Air Force Base, escorting Lt Colonel Petersen and party on an inspection visit and Mr. [REDACTED] of the Air Inspectors Office and I stopped for a moment to discuss something or other. While talking with Mr. [REDACTED], I was watching an F-51 cruising south of the field, approximately eight miles, when I sighted a dull silver circular object which at first looked as if it were following the F-51. I thought it might be an aerial gunnery sleeve of some kind, but the object was going approximately 40 MPH faster than the F-51 and seemed to be much farther away and higher. Then the F-51 started to turn to the left and the object went straight ahead until it was out of sight.

I turned to Mr. [REDACTED] and asked him to look, and pointed to the direction I had seen it and asked him if he could see anything. He said "No, I can't see anything there, but look over there." To the north of the path of the first object and also going southeast, was another circular object. The side away from the sun looked dark blue and the other side was silver colored and flashed, as if reflecting sunlight. It looked like it was lower than the first object, traveling southeast from the field and could be seen more clearly than the first object. It was about the size of a full moon. Mr. [REDACTED] and I watched it for maybe a minute until it disappeared from view and we wondered if it might be a weather balloon at that time of day with a perfectly clear sky except for a few scattered clouds far to the south.

We walked over to Colonel Petersen and told him what we had seen and he advised us to call the OSI and let them know so they could check on whether they were weather balloons or what they might have been.

/s/ [REDACTED]

1st Lt. USAF  
[REDACTED]

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Incl #2.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

5D-CSI/JEM/fmn

WASHINGTON  
UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, USAF  
5TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, DAYTON, OHIO

IN REPLY REFER TO: 5D 24-21

7 June 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE  
SPECIAL INQUIRY

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

Forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary is  
report of investigation by Special Agent LEO M. CHRISTIANSON, 16th OSI  
District, dated 1 June 1949.

1 Incl  
R/I dtd 1 Jun 49  
(in dup)

*Thomas F. Doyle, Jr.*  
WOS G, 6371  
THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR  
Captain, USAF  
Acting District Commander

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

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1. Date of Observation 25 May 1949 Date of Interview 25 May 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1405
3. Place of Observation Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object Sound of an Airplane in area
6. Number of objects 2
7. Apparent size one
8. Color of object 1. Dull liver 2. Blue one side, silver on other side
9. Shape 1. Circular Disc shaped. 2 Circular
10. Altitude 1. 9,000-10,000' 2. Tower than first object
11. Direction from observer South
12. Distance from observer 8 miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s) SE
14. Time in sight one minute
15. Speed 1. 300 mph (10 miles faster than F51) 2. 300 mph
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail One
18. Luminosity 1. Reflecting sunlight
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Level Flight
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather Conditions Clear, few scattered clouds

(over)

A/c



Name and address of observer: Lt. [REDACTED] Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

**Pilot - Salvage Officer**

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

**NARRATIVE SUMMARY:**

On 25 May 1949, Lt. [REDACTED] (pilot), Salvage Officer, Hill AFB, Hill Fld, Utah, was interviewed and stated that he, in the company of three other gentlemen (names in details), were in the West Salvage Yard, Hill AFB, Hill Fld, Utah, about 1405 HST, when the sound of an airplane attracted his attention. When [REDACTED] located the airplane, he said it was an F-51 traveling in a southeasterly direction, approximately (8) miles away and about ten (10) thousand feet MSL, high. The object [REDACTED] saw was a little below the airplane and behind it, but traveling possibly forty (40) MPH faster because [REDACTED] could see the object overtaking the airplane. [REDACTED] estimated the speed of object to be three hundred (300) MPH. [REDACTED] then turned to his companion, Mr. [REDACTED] (Peterson and Shaughnessy were standing a short distance away,) and called his attention to the object. [REDACTED] did not see either the first object or the airplane, but did see a second object, globular in shape, traveling in a southeasterly direction. [REDACTED] further stated the airplane turned north and he then kept watching the second object which he said was traveling a parallel course to the first one, but north of it, and lower at a speed of about three hundred (300) MPH. By this time, the first object was out of sight. [REDACTED] described the first object to be circular and disc form, a dull silver color and reflecting the sunlight. [REDACTED] described the second object to be circular, dark blue on one side and silver on the other, reflecting the sunlight.



INCIDENT NO. 351A

1. Date of Observation 25 May 1949 Date of Interview 25 May 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 11:07
3. Place of Observation Hill AFB Hill Field, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object
6. Number of objects Observer saw only one of two objects in area (second) object
7. Apparent size Appeared larger than weather balloon
8. Color of object
9. Shape Globular
10. Altitude 14,000
11. Direction from observer East of south
12. Distance from observer 8 miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s) SE (120°)
14. Time in sight 15 secs. then 10 secs.
15. Speed Speed of C-47
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather Conditions Clear scattered clouds

(over)



Name and address of observer: Mr. [REDACTED], Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

Asst. Air inspector

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 25 May 1949, Mr. [REDACTED], Asst. Air Inspector, Hill AFB, Hill Fld. Utah, was interviewed and stated that while he was talking to Lt. [REDACTED], in the West Salvage Yard, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Fld., Utah, he heard an airplane quite high and looked upward to see it. While doing so, his attention was attracted to a globular object slightly east of south at approximately fourteen thousand (14,000) ft ASL, traveling about the same speed a C-47 airplane would travel. [REDACTED] watched the object for about fifteen (15) secs, then lost sight of it momentarily. The second view of it lasted for possibly ten (10) secs. [REDACTED] further stated that this was not the first object which [REDACTED] saw. The time was established as 1407 MST for the second object, which was globular in shape, dark blue and flashing sunlight. (See signed statement of [REDACTED] attached as Inclosure #3).



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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
**REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**

FILE NO. **24-13** DATE **1 June 1949**  
REPORT MADE BY **Special Agent LEO M. CHRISTIANSON**

TITLE  
**SPECIAL INQUIRY  
UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS**

REPORT MADE AT  
**DO #16, Hill AFB, Utah**

PERIOD  
**25, 26 May 1949**

OFFICE OF ORIGIN  
**DO #16, Hill AFB, Utah**

STATUS  
**CLOSED**

SRCH  
INDEX  
SERIAL  
CLSFY  
FILE

CHARACTER  
**SPECIAL INQUIRY**

REFERENCE  
**Verbal request of District Commander, 16th District OSI (IG) Hill AFB, Utah.**

## SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by CAPTAIN PELHAM R. BURNETT, District Commander, 16th District, OSI (IG), Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah. CAPTAIN BURNETT received a telephone call at approximately 1430 hours from 1ST LIEUTENANT WILFRED V. GABEL, AO-2074202, in which he reported having seen two objects which appeared to be shaped like discs, flying south and a little east of Hill Air Force Base, Utah. GABEL stated that MR. O. V. GORDON, Inspector General's Department, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, saw the second object, but did not see the first object. (See attached statements of GABEL and GORDON).

- CLOSED -

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5200.10

## DISTRIBUTION

CG, OGAHA 2  
CG, AHC 2  
DO #5 2  
HQ, OSI 2  
DO #16 (7110) 1

## ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

CG, AHC, Wright-Patterson AFB,  
Dayton, Ohio (Thru DO #5)

## FILE STAMP

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL  
6 JUN 1949  
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION  
5TH DISTRICT  
ROUTE TO FILE

## APPROVED

*Pelham R. Burnett*  
PELHAM R. BURNETT  
Captain, USAF

7-3712-20



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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

On the afternoon of 25 May 1949, I was in the Supply and Salvage Yard with Colonel Petersen and Mr. Shaughnessy of the Air Inspector's Office, and Lt Gable and Mr. Van Leeuwen of Base Salvage. While we were standing in the yard discussing the condition of the Salvage Yard, I heard an airplane overhead, which sounded to me to be quite high. I looked into the sky in the direction from which the sound seemed to be coming and could not discern the plane. However, in scanning the sky, I observed a globular object traveling slightly east of south, at what I estimated to be approximately the same speed that a C-47 travels. I remarked to the company in general that I saw a globular object and Lt. Gable, after asking me the general direction, stated that he saw it also. He also remarked that he saw one a while ago traveling in the same general direction. I only saw the one and did not know that he had seen one previously until I called his attention to the one I saw. We discussed the probability of its being a weather balloon.

With no basis for my judgment other than the fact that when I first saw it, I expected to see a plane, I estimated it to be at least 14,000 feet above sea level. The first view lasted possibly 15 seconds, after which I lost sight of it, then some 15 to 30 seconds later I saw it the second time for possibly 10 seconds. With north as zero, I estimate the first sight was at 4 o'clock. Mr. Shaughnessy stated that he glanced at his watch when I mentioned it and the time was 1407.

The object seemed to me to be over the west slope of the Wasatch Range and slightly south of due east of Hill Field, which if my impression of the height and distance was correct would indicate that the object was considerably larger than a weather balloon.

/s/ Oakley V. Gordon  
OAKLEY V. GORDON, Asst  
Air Inspector

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