

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 12 Dec 52	2. LOCATION LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO	12. CONCLUSIONS ☒ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☒ Probably Astronomical (METEOR) ☐ Possibly Astronomical
3. DATE TIME GROUP Local 12/1915 ST GMT 13/0215Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Civ male	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 3 sec	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	9. COURSE ☐ Other ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Round, bright luminous, bluish-white object followed by a trail of sparks was observed approx 3 seconds before disappearing suddenly. Object was shaped like a tennis ball wrapped in a handkerchief.		11. COMMENTS 1. Three seconds, gave off sparks.

8

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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

IN REPLY REFER TO: 5D-24-21

UNCLASSIFIED

13 January 1953

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S)
Sighting of Unidentified Aerial
Object Over Los Alamos, New Mexico
12 December 1952
SPECIAL INQUIRY - AERIAL PHENOMENA

TO: Commanding General
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio
ATTN: ATI

1. Transmitted herewith is one copy of closed Report of Investigation by Special Agent ARTHUR W. WATTS, 17th OSI District (IG), Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico, dated 31 December 1952, File No. 24-8-46, subject as above.

2. Attention is invited to Paragraph 7, AFR 205-1, dated 14 March 1949, which prohibits the disclosure of classified information to unauthorized personnel.

1 Incl (in dup)
R/I, DO #17, dtd 31 Dec 52

Copy to:
Hq OSI, w/o incl

D. G. North
D. G. NORTH
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

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

FILE NO.
24-8-46

DATE
31 December 1952

REPORT MADE BY

S/A ARTHUR W. WATTS

lm

REPORT MADE AT

DO #17, Kirtland AFB, N. M.

PERIOD

13 December 1952

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

DO #17, Kirtland AFB, N. M.

STATUS

CLOSED

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S) Sighting of
Unidentified Aerial Object Over
Los Alamos, New Mexico
12 December 1952

UNCLASSIFIED

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY - AERIAL PHENOMENA

REFERENCE

None, this is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation initiated by District Commander upon receipt of information concerning the observation of round, luminous, aerial object over Los Alamos, New Mexico, on 12 December 1952. Object resembled a tennis ball with a handkerchief around it.

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

Disclosure of the nature, sources, or even the existence of the information in this report to persons not normally entitled to such information may be made only when expressly authorized by the Director of Special Investigations, IG, or higher authority. Unauthorized disclosure of such information will be considered to be a violation of AFR 205-1.

DISTRIBUTION

✓CG, Air Technical Intell
Center, Ohio
(Action)

2

DSI

2

CO, 34th Air Div (Info)

1

File

2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commanding General
Air Technical Intelligence
Center
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

APPROVED

James C. Borden
Capt USAF

JAMES C. BORDEN
Lt Col, USAF

District Commander.

FILE STAMP

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

DETAILS:

1. This investigation opened at the direction of the District Commander, predicated upon information furnished by [REDACTED] Los Alamos Field Office, Atomic Energy Commission, Los Alamos, New Mexico, concerning observation of unidentified aerial object.

2. On 13 December 1952, Mr. [REDACTED] Los Alamos, New Mexico, reported that he had sighted a round, bright luminous, bluish-white, unidentified aerial object over Los Alamos, New Mexico, at approximately 1915 hours, 12 December 1952. The object was shaped like a tennis ball wrapped in a handkerchief. The object was in sight approximately three (3) seconds, disappearing suddenly. The object left a trail of sparks from the rear.

CLOSED

UNCLASSIFIED

Los Alamos, New Mexico

12 December 1952

I. Description of Incident

At approximately 1915 IST an Atomic Energy Commission security employee sighted an unusual phenomenon consisting of an object which appeared to him as a white tennis ball leaving a trail of sparks. The object was in sight approximately 3 seconds, disappearing suddenly.

II. Discussion of Incident

The description above closely resembles many others submitted to ATIC which have been evaluated as astronomical phenomena. The short time in sight and the "sparks" are significant.

III. Conclusion

Probably meteor.

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