

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 28 Jan 53 29/0250Z	2. LOCATION Albany, Ga, Moody Airfield, Ga Turner AFB, Ga., Dobbins, Ga.
3. SOURCE Control Tower Operators	10. CONCLUSION Visual Venus
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 3 Radar 1 Visual	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Visual: Venus Radar Unidentified. (No request for radar analysis made and no data not obtained)
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION (G/Vis 8 min)(Radar 20Min) (A/Vis 25 Min)	Circular obj changing colors from glowing orange to white was observed 15 deg above horizon 8 min before fading out. At approx 2210EST GCA unit called TAFB about 2 stationary objs appearing on radar scope. Visual obj at 250 degree. Radar targets at 300 degrees.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual Air-Visual Ground-Radar	
7. COURSE	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

EXTRACT
REPORT
TRUE ARTICLE

INCIDENT NO. 4—On January 28, 1953, at 9:35 p.m., a jet pilot near Albany, Ga., spotted "an extremely bright light" at 10 o'clock high. At first he thought it was another aircraft or an unusually bright star, but when he went up to 10,000 feet it appeared to be ahead and a bit below him. When first spotted, the light was white, but later it began changing constantly from white to orange and back to white again. The object was in view for 17 minutes. In the last 15 seconds it changed shape from circular to triangular, and then the triangles split into two triangles—one immediately above the other—and both disappeared as if someone snapped off a light.

The pilot called Albany, Ga., but before he could make his amazed report, ground asked him if he had seen anything unusual. They advised him that ground radar had picked up both his jet and a strange target. On the radar scope, when the jet had speeded up, the target had stepped up, too, to maintain its lead on him.

7-3119-21

UNCLASSIFIED

RC9

WPB009

YMA004T

VYC005

VMX203

JESTU 76

PP JEPHQ JEDWP JDEN JEDMH JESBA 555

DE JESTU 40

P 302128Z ZNJ

FM CO ADIV 40 TURNER A GA (Albany)

TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTEL HQ USAF WASH 25 D C

JEDWP/ATECH INTEL CTR WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/CG ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COL

INFO JEDMH/CGSAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

JESBA/CGAF 2 BARKSDALE AFB LA UNCLASSIFIED

~~REDACTED~~ SE O&T 1213. FLYOBRPT. INFO REQUIRED BY PAR 7C
(1) THRU (10), AF LTR 200-5 DTD 29 APR 52 IS AF FOL: (1) ROUND, LARGE,
WHITE TO ORANGE, ONE VISIBLE. THREE SHOWN ON GCA RADAR SCOPE. NO TRAIL,
NO SOUND, NO MANEUVERS. FADED OUT OF SIGHT. (2) 2150 HRS. VISIBL APPROX
EIGHT MINUTES. (3) FIRST VISUAL THEN RADAR SCOPE. SPED UNK. ALTITUDE
APPROX TEN THOUSAND FT. (4) TURNER AFB TWR COORD 84 DEG 6' WEST, 31
DEG 36' NORTH. DUE WEST TWENTY-SIX MILES. ESTIMATE OBTAINED FROM RADAR
SCOPE. (5) OBSERVERS: A/2C DON W FIELDER, TWR OPR, EXPERIENCE TWO
WEEKS. A/2C JOE E STANSELL, TWR OPR, EXPERIENCE TEN MONTHS. A/3C HAROLD
M CORBIN, TWR OPR, EXPERIENCE ONE AND ONE HALF MONTHS. CAPT H E HAYES,

5 - Ground

1 - Radar

Air - Pilot unknown

note mail room
2 Feb
0942Z
Mon 0942EST

4 Feb 53
1330 EST

probably 28 Jan 52

1. Area
2. Area
3. Files

JEDWP/ATECH INTEL CTR WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/CG ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COL

INFO JEDMH/CGSAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

JESBA/CGAF 2 BARKSDALE AFB LA UNCLASSIFIED

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5 - Ground

1 - Radar

Air - Pilot unknown

PAG TWO JESTU 40

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AO ON DUTY, RELIABLE AND EXPERIENCED. (6) WEATHER CLEAR, HIGH SCATTERED
CLOUDS AT TWENTY-FIVE THOUSEAND FT. TEN THOUSAND FT CLEAR. WINDS FORTY
KNOTS THRE HUNDRED DEGREES. (7) NEGATIVE. (8) NEGATIVE. (9) ACFT NO
4039. FROM MOODY AFB TO WARNER ROBINS AFB GA. HAD OBJECTS IN VIEW APPROX
TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES. OBJECT ON HEADING OF 250 DEGREES FROM FLIGHT OF
ACFT. (10) ONLY ACFT IN VICINITY AT THIS TIME. WRITTEN FEPORT ON AF
FORM 112 FOLLOWS.

30/2136Z JAN JES 19 DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

(CLASSIFICATION)

COUNTRY	United States	REPORT NO.	IR-15-53	(LEAVE BLANK)	64 539839
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT					
SUBJECT FLYOBPT					
AREA REPORTED ON South West Georgia			FROM (Agency) Headquarters 40th Air Division		
DATE OF REPORT 3 February 1953		DATE OF INFORMATION 28 January 1953		EVALUATION	
PREPARED BY (Officer) ROBERT P. MONTGOMERY, Colonel, USAF Director of Operations			SOURCE Turner Air Force Base Tower Operators		
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)					

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

On 28 January 1953, at approximately 2150 EST, three airborne objects were reported over southwest Georgia in the general area formed by the Albany, Valdosta, Macon Triangle.

0 INCL.

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

Director Of Intelligence
Headquarters USAF
Washington 25, D.C.

Thru: Commanding General 2nd AF, BarksdaleAFBL
Commanding General Strategic Air Command
Offutt AFB, Nebraska

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(CLASSIFICATION)

UNCLASSIFIED
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

Headquarters 40th Air Division

REPORT NO.

IR-15-53

PAGE

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OF

2

PAGES

At approx 2150 EST, Albany radio called TAFB tower and asked the operators on duty to look west of the field and see if they observed any strange objects.

They looked out and observed what appeared to be a (one) circular object changing colors from glowing orange to white and repeating again and again. They observed this object for a period of 8 minutes, from 2150 EST to 2158 EST, then it appeared to either go out or just fade away.

During this 8 minute period, GCA was contacted, and two maintenance men who were doing preventive maint. on the set, turned it on and they reported that they picked up 3 or 4 objects on the scope. (3 moving, 1 stat.)

Albany radio again contacted the TAFB tower at approx 2200 EST, and related the following information. (source unknown) A USAF aircraft had reported seeing one object, and then reported that it had gone into a triangle formation and now appeared as three objects. This aircraft was enroute from Moody AFB to Warner-Robbins AFB, and reported having the objects in sight for 25 minutes.

The pilot of this aircraft reported that at 10,000 feet the objects were below him and that when he descended to 4,800 feet they were above him.

At approx. 2210 EST, the men at the GCA unit contacted the tower and said they had two stationary objects on the scope, one at 27 miles-300 degrees, and the other at 17 miles-300 degrees.

The three tower operators were unable to sight these two objects with a binoculars, or the naked eye.

Notes:

1. The object sighted west of TAFB, appeared to be standing still or moving away in a direct line.

2. In judging the altitude, it appeared to be about 15 degrees above the horizon. (as judged by the tower men to be approx 2-4,000 feet).

Date:	28 Jan 1953
Time of sighting:	2150-2158 EST
Location:	23-27 miles west of TAFB
Number of Objects:	One
Size:	Estimated larger than C-97
Shape:	Circular
Color:	Changed-Orange to white and repeated
Altitude:	2 to 4,000 feet (approx guess)
Manuvers:	None
Weather:	Clear, Vis. 15 miles, winds 5-6 MPH
Traffic:	None
Persons involved:	3 TAFB tower operators A/2C Fielder A/2C Stansell A/3C Corbin

ROBERT P. MONTGOMERY
Colonel, USAF
Commanding

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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Y 243
P/RR JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN JEDST JWFDL 555
DE JESMY 02Z

SUSPECTED DUPLICATE OF MESSAGE
PREVIOUSLY RELEASED. CHECK
BEFORE TAKING ACTION.

P/R 321900Z ZNW

FM CC HOODY AFB GA

TO JEPHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC ATTN D/I

JEDWP/ATIC WPAFB OHIO ATTN AT/IAA-2C

JEDEN/CG ENT AFB COLO

JEDST/HQ ATRC SCOTT AFB ILL ATTN D/I

INFO JWFDL/CG CTAF RANDOLPH AFB TEX

11144A. FLYOBRPT. FOL ONE SIGHTING WAS OBSR IN SURROUNDING AREA OF
ALBANY GA: ONE: 1. SOURCE STATED OBJ OBSR WAS CIR IN SHAPE. SIZE COULD
NOT BE DETERMINED. LAST THREE (3) MINUTES OF OBSR OBJ CHANGED COLORS,
FR WHITE TO CRANGE REPEATEDLY. LAST FIFTEEN SECONDS OF OBSR OBJ CHANGED
TO DEEP RED COLOR AND TRIANGULAR IN SHAPE. THIS OBJ SPLIT INTO TWO (2)
TRIANGLES ONE (1) IMMED ABOVE THE OTHER AND DISAPPEARED. AERODYNAMIC
FEATURES UNK. NO TRAIL OR EXHAUST OBSR. PRPLN SYS UNK. OBJ DID NOT SEEM
TO MOVE BUT DID STAY IN SAME POSITION TO AIRCRAFT WHICH OBSR WAS FLY
AT 300 MPH. NO SOUND HEARD. OBJ STAYED ALWAYS NW OF ALBANY, GA. 2. ABOVE
SIGHTING WAS FR 2135 HRS TO APPROX 2155 HRS ON 23 JANUARY 1953. 3. VIS

1. Attn
3. Attn
3. files

ATIC

(29-03552)

4 Feb 52

Recd 1330 EST

Visual from air
Radar from Albany Airport
Scanned for 20 minutes

PAGE TWO JESMY 023

OBJR 4. ON A STRAIGHT LINE BETWEEN MOODY AFB AND ROBBINS AFB. NW OF
ALBANY GA. AT A ALT OF BETWEEN 4,325 FT AND 12,325 FT. 5. RELIABILITY OF
SOURCE: EXC, INFO CANNOT BE JUDGED. 6. WEA OVER ALBANY CLEAR, WINDS WNW,
SPEED OF WIND UNK. 7. NEGATIVE. 8. NEGATIVE 9. IFF CHECKED THROUGH
ALBANY AIRPORT. ALBANY AIRPORT REPORTED RADAR CONTACT WITH OBJ DURING
TIMES MENTIONED IN TWO (2). 13. ACFT WERE AIRBORNE IN GEN AREA OF
SIGHTING. THIS REPT IS SEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFL 222-3 DTD: 29 APR 52.
FOL UP REPT WILL BE SEN TO YOUR HQ N/L THAN THREE (3) DAYS.

33/2145Z JAN JESMY

Probably Report from A/C involved
in 2150 EST report from Turner AFB.

cy

UNITED STATES

ATRC IR-2-53

UNCLASSIFIED

FLYBRPT

Albany, Georgia

Wing Intelligence, Moody AFB, Georgia

3 February 1953

28 January 1953

F-6

FRANK C. O'BANNON, Captain, USAF

Major Hal W. Lamb, 9344A

AFL No. 200-5 dtd 29 April 1952: TWX GI 1144A dtd 30 January 1953

On the night of 28 January 1953, at approximately 2135 hours, SOURCE, OIC of Base Operations, saw an unidentified object from a jet airplane and observed it for approximately seventeen (17) minutes. Object remained at same angle in relationship to pilot and aircraft while aircraft was traveling at three hundred (300) miles per hour. The object also changed color the last three (3) minutes of observation. The last fifteen (15) seconds of the observation the object changed to deep red in color, changed from circular in shape to triangular and then split into two (2) triangles. The following report contains information regarding sighting of this object.

APPROVED:

Frank C. O'Bannon, Jr.

FRANK C. O'BANNON, JR.

Captain, USAF

Asst Wing Training and Operations Off

Director of Intelligence, Headquarters USAF, Washington 25, D. C., 1 cy: Chief,
Air Technical Intelligence Center, Attn: ATIAA-2c, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio,
1 cy for information.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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92148

42504

ATRC IR-2-53

UNCLASSIFIED

Wing Intelligence, Moody AFB, Ga.

2

3

1. On 28 January 1953 at approximately 2135 hours, SOURCE observed a unusually bright light northwest of Albany, Georgia. At the time of first sighting, object was circular in shape and SOURCE first thought it was another aircraft or a unusually bright star. Object was white in color. When first sighted, SOURCE was flying on a heading of three five five (355) degrees at four thousand (4,000) feet and the object appeared to be slightly above the aircraft. At the end of the observation SOURCE was flying a ten thousand (10,000) feet and the object appeared to be slightly below the aircraft. At the time of the first sighting, object was white in color, but the last three (3) minutes of the observation object constantly changed color, from white to orange and back. The last fifteen (15) seconds of observation the object changed from circular in shape to triangular and to a deep red color. The triangle then split into two (2) triangles one (1) immediately above the other. This lasted only seconds and then they disappeared. In comparison SOURCE stated it was like turning a electric light off. At 2230 hours SOURCE reported to Albany radio, requesting Moody AFB weather, Albany radio queried SOURCE on position and then asked if any unusual objects had been sighted. When SOURCE answered affirmative they stated that an object as described had been sighted and that radar contact had been made. This radar contact had been made at the approximate hours mentioned above. No apparent movement of the object was seen, however, it appeared to maintain the same relationship to the SOURCE who was flying at three hundred (300) miles per hour. The aerodynamic characteristics could not be determined, nor was there any trail or exhaust visible.

2. SOURCE observed the object for approximately seventeen (17) minutes, at 2135 hours, 28 January 1953.

3. SOURCE observed the object visually.

4. The point of observation was from a jet type aircraft (T-33) when East South East of Albany, Georgia. (31/05N-84/10W) Object was on a direct line from Albany, Georgia to Columbus, Georgia. Appeared at all times to be Northwest of Albany, Georgia. Object, in relationship to SOURCE, stayed always at a forty-five (45) degree angle at ten (10) oclock high.

5. SOURCE appeared willing, in fact he set down his narrative without benefit of questions by the interviewer. No questions on sighting were asked, just questions about personal history. His powers of observation seem to be excellent. SOURCE has eleven (11) years service all of this as a rated officer. He is now a senior pilot with over three thousand one hundred (3100) hours and is currently assigned as OIC of Base Operations.

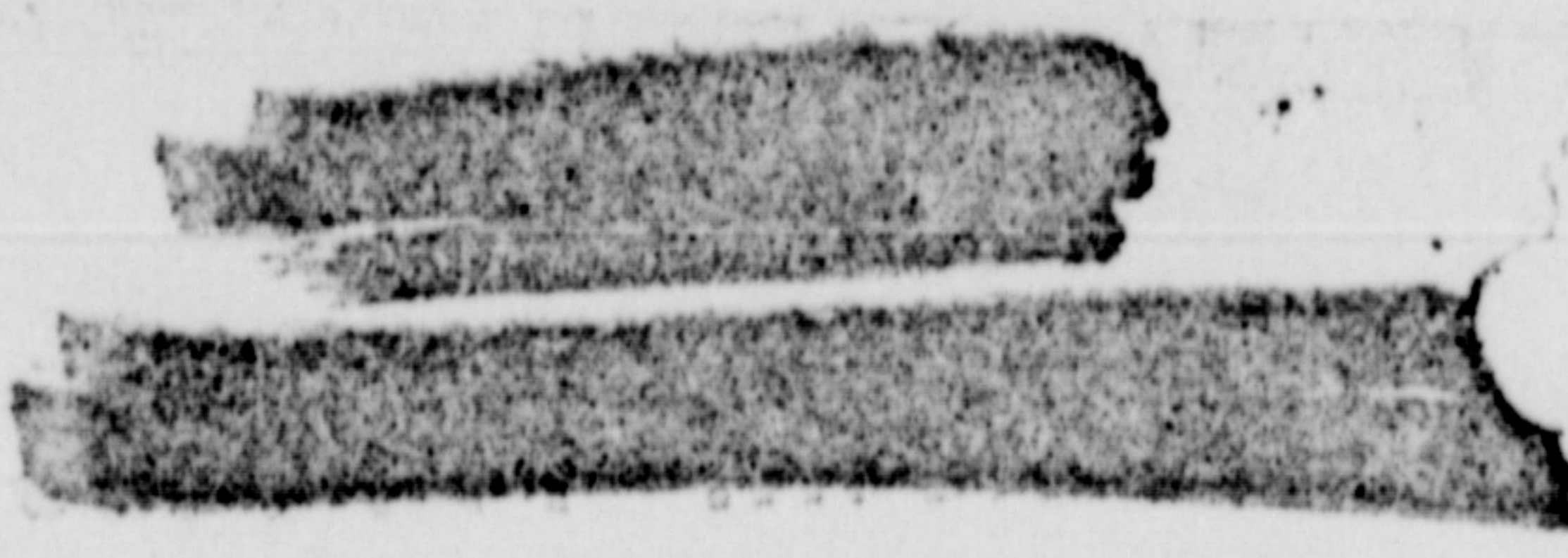
6. A check with the Moody Air Force Base weather station confirmed the weather conditions on the night of the sighting to be scattered clouds at ten thousand (10,000) feet. Visability was eight miles and winds aloft condition, speed unknown, direction West North West. A full moon was present at the time of the sighting.

7. Negative

8. A radar contact was made with object by Albany.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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ATRC ZR-2-53

UNCLASSIFIED

Wing Intelligence, Moody AFB, Ga.

3

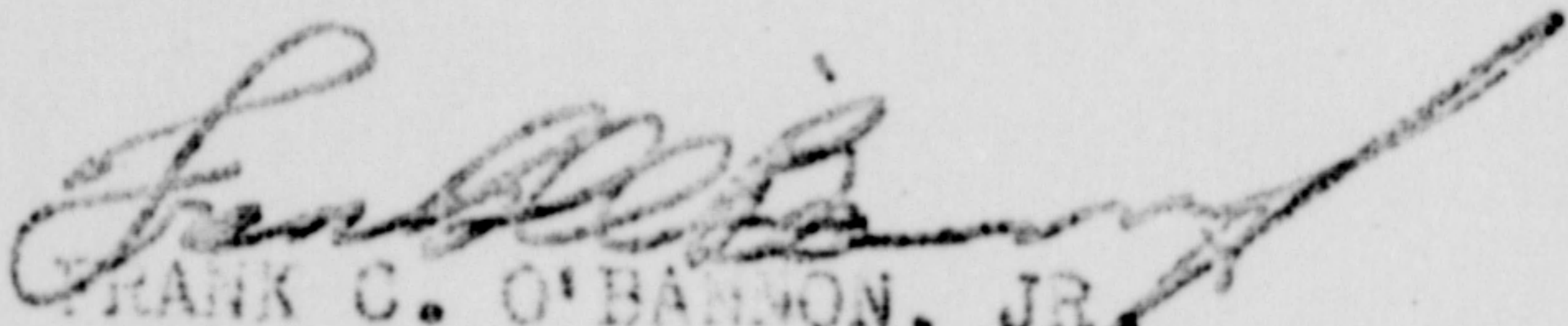
3

9. Negative. SOURCE made no attempt to intercept or home in on object considering it for some time as a possible hazard to flight. Other aircraft were in the area. Saw nothing unusual in the object except its brilliance until such time as it began its rapid change of colors and as this lasted for less than three (3) minutes there was no chance for interception.

10. Confirmation was received from the Base Operation at Moody Air Force Base that aircraft were airborne at the approximate time in the general area of the sighting of the object.

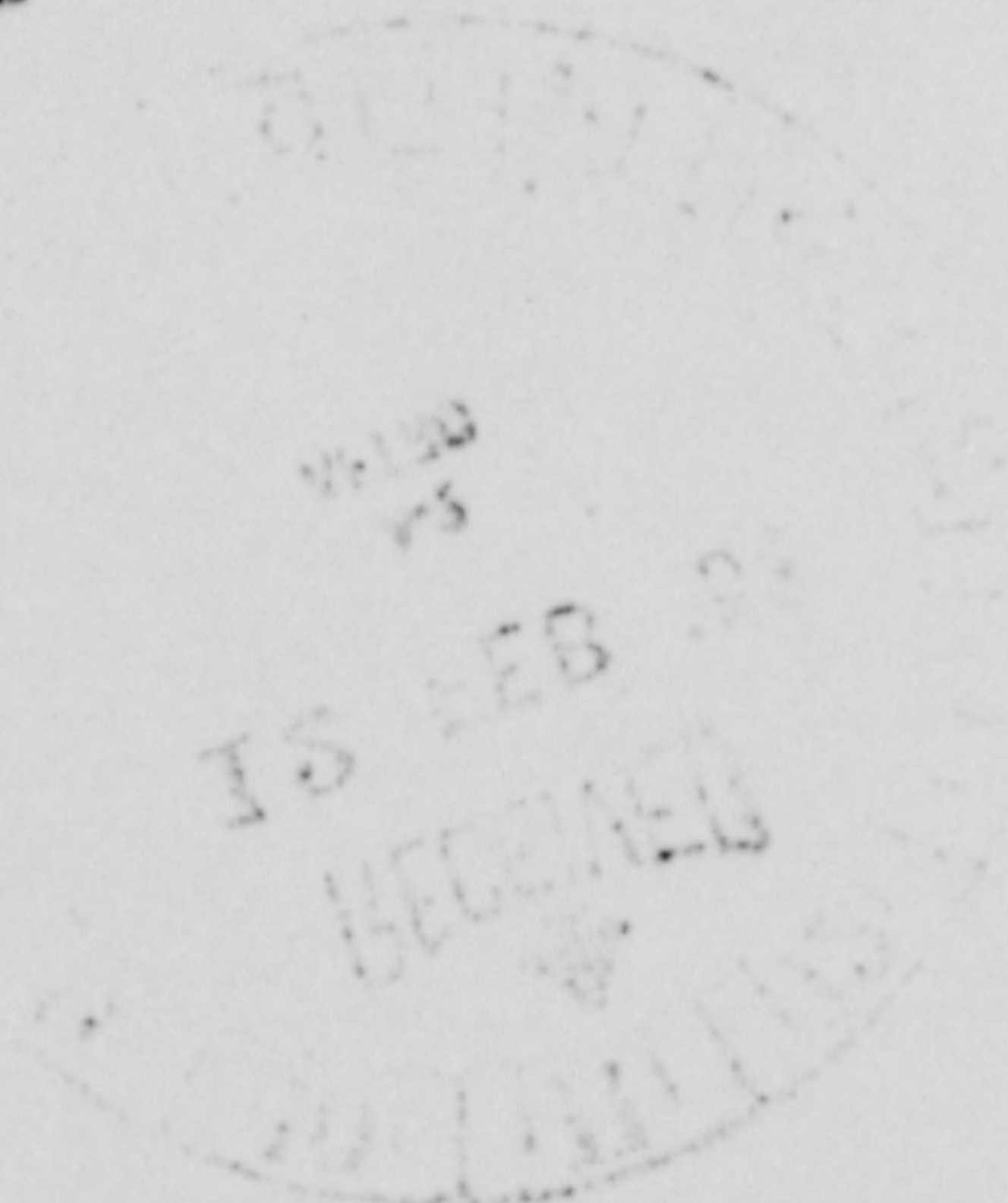
COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER:

1. SOURCE was cooperative and sincere in his statements. He gave his narrative all at one time and did not change his mind on any thing. His powers of observation seemed above average, perhaps accountable to eleven (11) years as a rated officer. SOURCE could not identify the object that he had sighted.

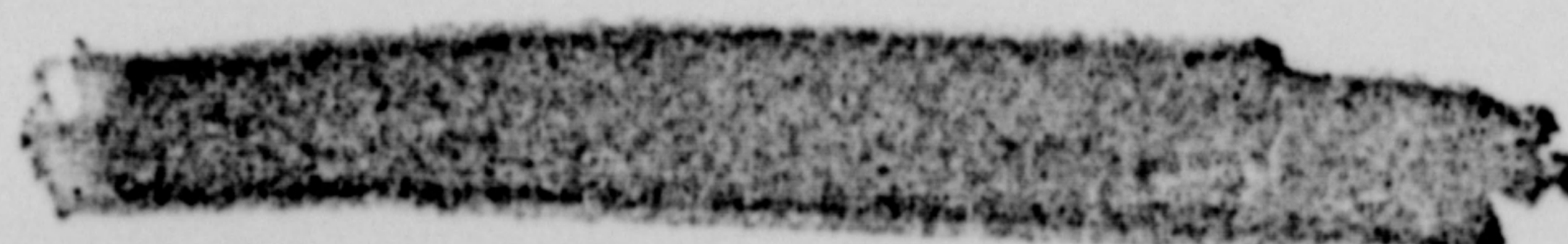

FRANK C. O'BANNON, JR.
Captain, USAF
Asst Wing Training and Operations Off

COMMENTS OF APPROVING OFFICER:




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JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

17
UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: (Originator)

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

DATE-TIME GROUP

SECURITY

PRECEDENCE
FOR:

ACTION

INFORMATION

TO:

CG LANSON AFB FT BENNING GEORGIA

INFO:

☐ BOOK MESSAGE☐ ORIGINAL MESSAGE☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES☐ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: AFOW-ATIAF-2-4-E FOR BASE WEATHER OFFICE

ATIC is contacting your station regarding an unidentified aerial object sighted northwest of Albany, Ga., at 29/0355Z Jan 53. It is hoped that you may be able to assist ATIC in explaining this sighting. The object was described as 1) round, 2) changing color repeatedly from white to orange, 3) stationary and observed by Albany Airport radar, visually from the ground and visually from the air.

ATIC requests that you supply any information on possible 0300Z weather balloon launches on this date and include winds aloft, track of the balloon, time of burst, position and altitude at time of burst, lighting of the balloon and possible existence of radar reflector on balloon.

ATIC would appreciate prompt attention to this matter as it feels that such a release may explain subject sighting.

In reply cite Project Blue Book.

COORDINATION:

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DOD DIR 5200.10

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

TELEPHONE

TELEPHONE

OFFICIAL TITLE

ROBERT C. BROWN, MAJOR, USAF

DD FORM 1 OCT 49 173

REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 44
WHICH MAY BE USED.

UNCLASSIFIED

16-55221-3 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

ATIAF-5 File

ACTION

1. Otha
3. Otha
30 files

1958 FEB 13

08:42

RE 12

WEE126E

VYE334

JESPE 342

RR JEDUP

DE JESPE 14

R 121333Z

FM EVA DET 25-6 25TH WEA SQ LAFB FT BENNING GA

TO CC ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

ATTN/ BLUEBOOK 464TH193PD REURTT ATIAE-2-4-E FORECASTER THIS DETACHMENT

OBSERVED SAME PHENOMENON WITH SAME DESCRIPTION 23/2325Z JAN 53 PD NO

WEATHER BALLOON RELEASED FROM THIS STATION AT THAT TIME PD SUGGEST

CONTACT WEATHER OFFICE MAXWELL AFB SINCE NORTHWESTERLY FLOW ALOFT THIS

DATE WITH POSSIBLE DRIFT OVER ALBANY AREA PD NO RADAR CONTACT WITH

OBJECT FROM THIS STATION PD

12/2122Z FEB JESPE

to be reevaluated

ay/

PROJECT 10073 WEATHER DATA SHEET

1. DATE OF OBSERVATION 29 Jan 53		2. TIME OF OBSERVATION 0300 Z		3. STATION OBSERVING Dobbins AFB, Ga	
4. WINDS ALOFT:					
ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)	ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)
0	10	300	25,000	74	280
1,000			30,000	80	290
2,000	20	320	35,000	86	270
3,000	26	330	40,000	105	270
4,000	26	330	45,000	98	280
5,000	27	330	50,000		
6,000	27	330	55,000		
7,000	26	320	60,000		
8,000	31	310	65,000		
9,000	41	290	70,000		
10,000	52	290	75,000		
12,000	60	290	80,000		
14,000	71	290	85,000		
16,000	81	290	90,000		
18,000	75	290	95,000		
20,000	75	280	100,000		
5. WAS AN INVERSION LAYER NOTED? (If yes, at what altitude? _____)			☐ Yes ☐ No		
6. WERE ANY THUNDERSTORMS NOTED IN AREA? (If yes, at what quadrant? _____)			☐ Yes ☐ No		
7. CLOUD COVER:				8. VISIBILITY WAS	
_____ tenths at _____ feet.		_____ tenths at _____ feet.		_____ MILES.	
_____ tenths at _____ feet.		_____ tenths at _____ feet.			
9. COMMENTS:					

290
75
365

0300 Z