

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

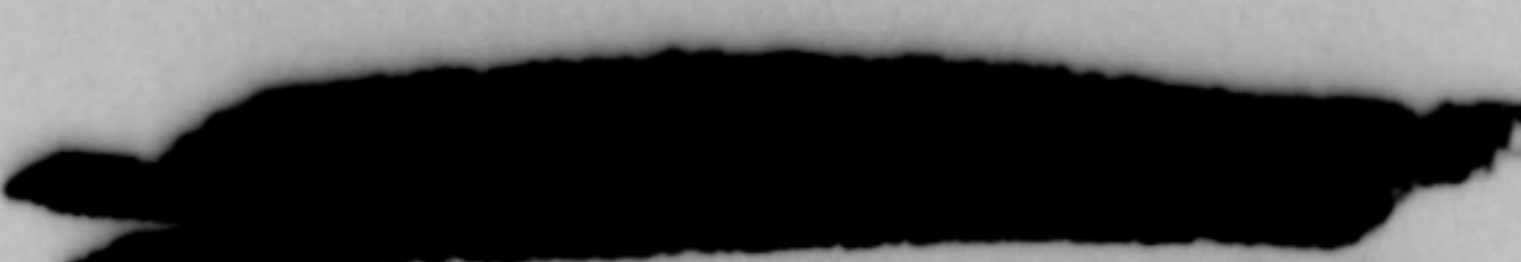
1. DATE - TIME GROUP 15 July 1953	2. LOCATION Richland, Washington
3. SOURCE	10. CONCLUSION INFORMATION ONLY
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS This case was reported in March-April 1966. Since the actual sighting had occurred some time ago it is almost impossible to check it out. Also due to the time lag the pertinent data has probably become distorted. Therefore this case is considered <u>Information Only</u> .
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION	
7. COURSE	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☐ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☐ No	

FORM

FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE)

Previous editions of this form may be used.

15 July 1953


Richland, Washington 99352

29 Mar 66

Major H. Quintanella Jr.
Commanding Officer
Project Bluebook
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Sir,

I am forwarding copies of correspondence I initiated some 13 years ago in the hope that I might be of assistance to your program. I have never had the slightest expectation that the local security office would do any more than file this reference. At the time, photographs were few and far between and I believed my training as a professional engineer and NRA marksmanship instructor might be taken seriously. I have never had the courtesy of a reply for my trouble.

Due to the present reawakening of interest, I thought that the attached might lend some additional data, or because of the time interval deserve some unclassified explanation.

Very truly yours,


COPY For

COMPANY

Richland, Washington

16 July 1953

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Building 762
Hanford Works
Richland, Washington

Gentlemen:

On the afternoon of July 15th, 1953 I had taken off the afternoon to entertain guests from Portland and was engaged in small talk about the various target shooting equipment I have accumulated. My guest and I spotted an object in the sky which appeared to be a large kite. We turned my 30 power Bausch and Lomb observation telescope on the object and it turned out to be a large sheet of brown paper at about 10,000 feet elevation. Having been impressed with the tremendous resolving power of the instrument we scanned the skies with our naked eye for other objects such as birds at high altitude. Our reward for this observation was most remarkable.

At about 14:30 hours we sighted a bright shimmering speck at very extreme altitude, perhaps 30,000 feet perhaps much lower. This speck hovered at a north azimuth to Richland of about 80 degrees. I tried to pick up the object in the telescope and while trying to locate it in the very small field, about 15 minutes angle, my friend located another similar speck a short distance away. At this time we were convinced that they were birds, but had not yet sighted one in the glass because of the small field. Suddenly another speck ceased hovering and darted off to the west and disappeared. Still not giving this much thought I continued to search for the original object. After about three minutes searching I was able to bring it under observation and hold it continuously for a period of two minutes until 14:44 hours.

At first I thought I had found a large bird, but closer examination proved to be an unusual object. The first glances gave an impression of a helicopter with the rotor stationary, but I was soon convinced I had never seen anything like this before. No helicopter has wings too, nor hovers with a stationary rotor. I shouted to my guests and all four held the bright speck under observation until it eventually disappeared. As I examined the object in the glass very carefully it seemed as though the white parts were surface features of a transparent disc-like body. I cannot be sure as the object only covered about one fortieth of the diameter of the field, which would make it about 20 seconds of arc; it was either very small or very high. At no time did any part appear to rotate, but the helicopter like arms, four in number, appeared to be surrounded by a thin vaporous ring about whitish blue in color. The attached sketch, showing the object as it appeared from the bottom will give you my last impression. Just as I had become convinced this was a radar target balloon made of transparent plastic, the object began to move. It moved at incredible speed toward the east disappearing on the eastern horizon in about 10 seconds. The latter motion could only be observed with the naked eye due to the tremendous speed.

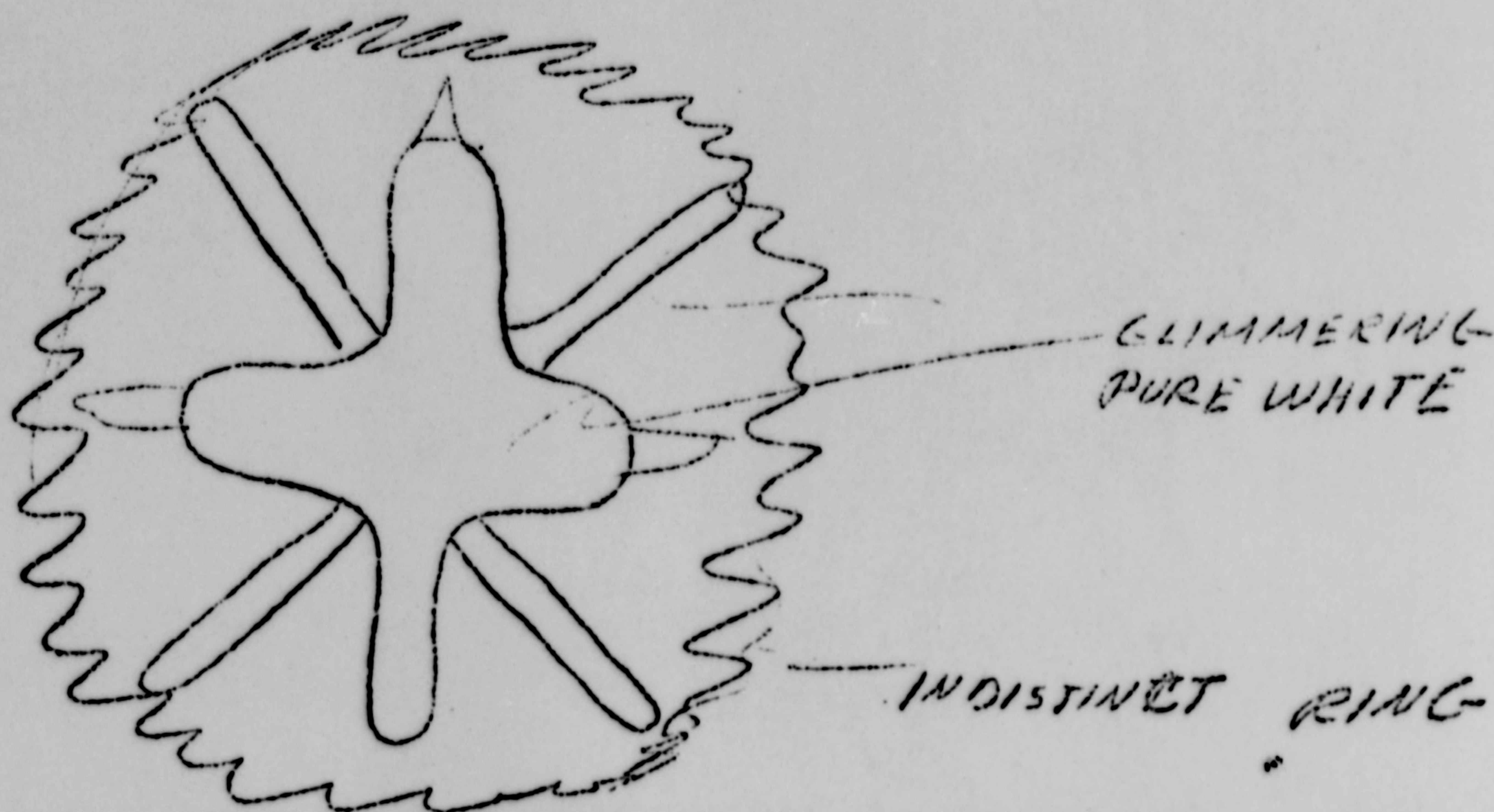
I spend about 4 hours a week looking through this glass while target shooting and am confident that I observed a factual object of very unusual nature.

the OA 512 R ~~slides~~ encompassing some rather important aspects of the present expansion program, being designed by the Engineering Department of the General Electric Company. I deal strictly in facts, and hope you will treat this report factually. I am willing to enlarge upon this matter if called on to do so; no short description being adequate.

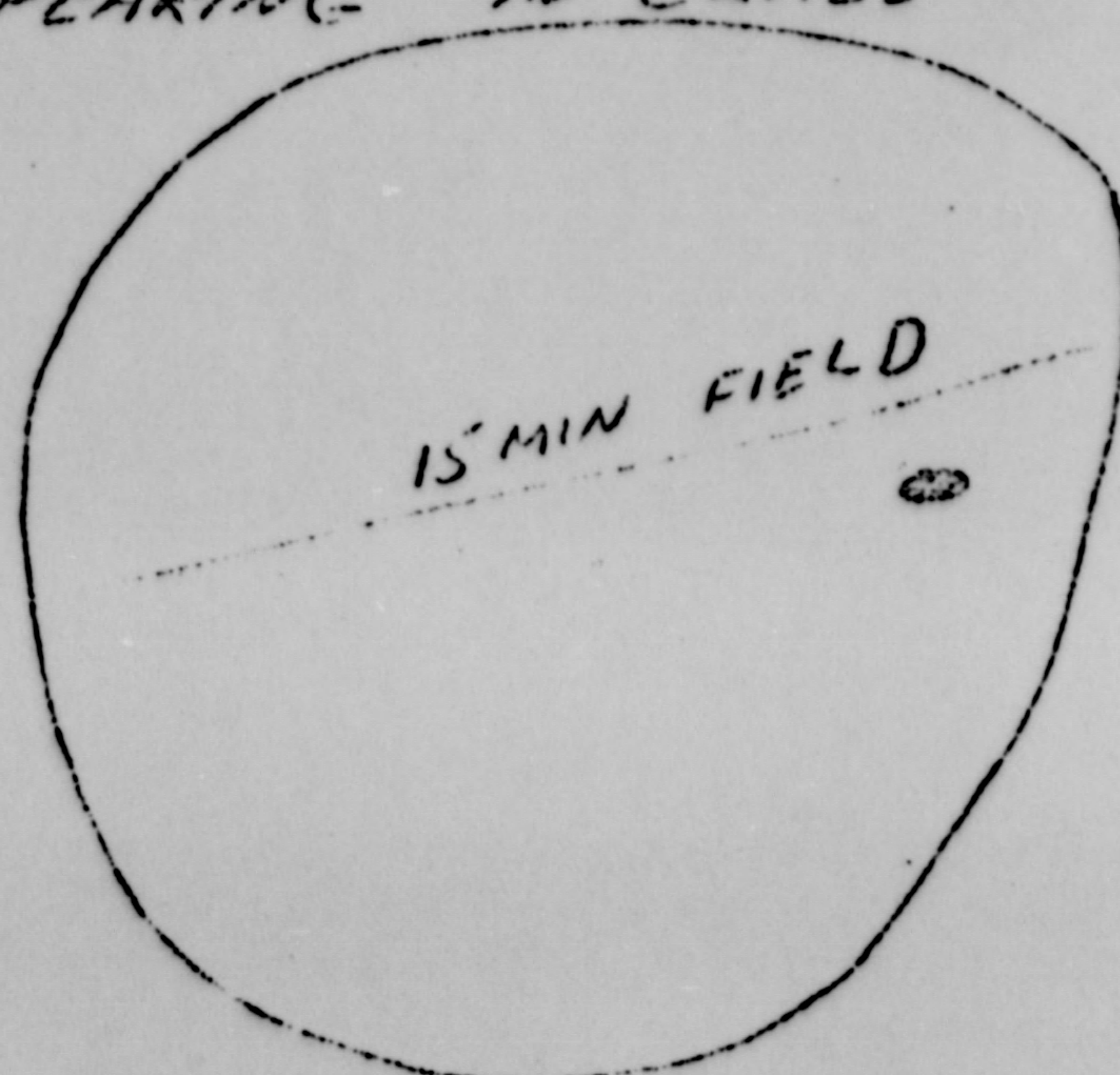
Sincerely yours

~~_____~~

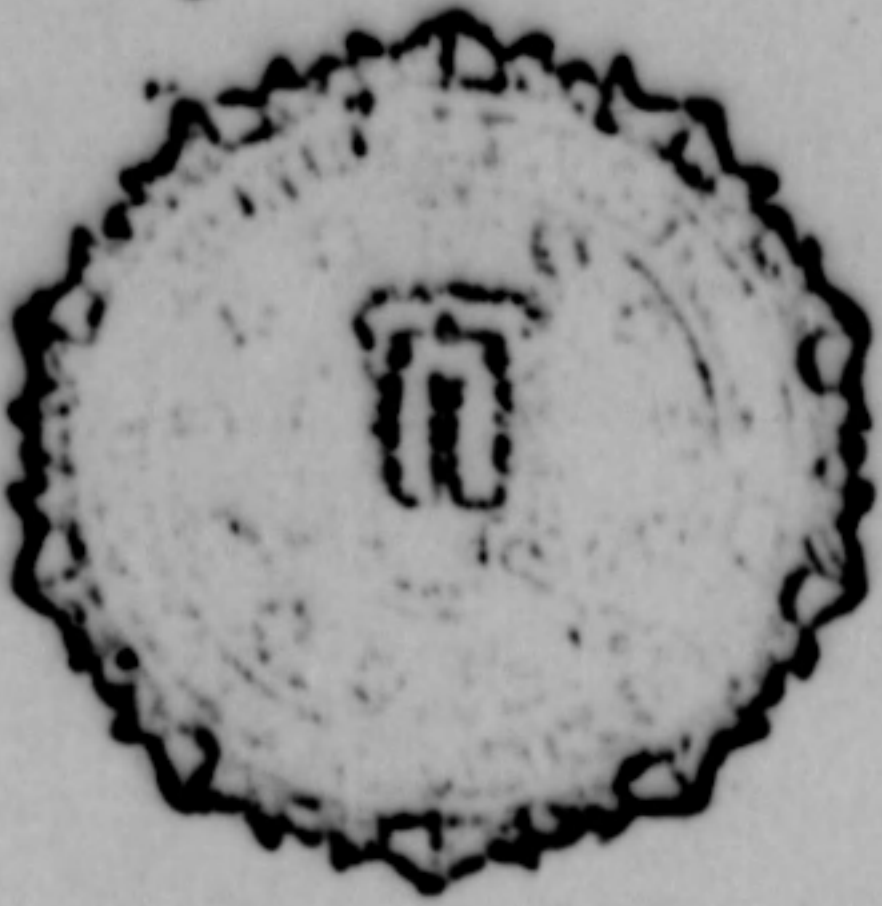
Att/



AS APPEARING IN GLASS



THIS OIL GLASS
WILL PICK OUT THE
RUNGS ON THE LADDERS
OF THE 200 E AREA
FROM THE TOP OF
BADGER MOUNTAIN,
I GUESS A DISTANCE
OF 15 OR 20 MILES.



United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
1015 Second Avenue

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NO. _____

Seattle 4, Washington

August 5, 1953

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Richland, Washington

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge your recent letter concerning the unusual object sighted by you in the vicinity of Richland, Washington. On the day the letter was received the matter was referred to the Security Division of the Atomic Energy Commission since it appeared that such information would be of primary interest to that organization and to the Army and Air Force.

You may be assured that your report will be treated factually. In the event any of the interested services desire to contact you further, they will probably do so directly.

I appreciate your interest in referring this to our attention, and hope that anything else which comes to your attention which you think might be of interest to this office will be referred to us.

Very truly yours,

R. D. AUERBACH
Special Agent in Charge

Folder #2

JULY 1953 SIGHTINGS

1 - 14

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
1	14 ✓	Fairborn, Ohio ✓
2	14 ✓	Opportunity, Montana ✓
3	13 ✓	Shaw AFB, S. Carolina ✓
4	12 ✓	Adrian, Michigan ✓
5	11 ✓	Godman AFB, Kentucky ✓
6	10 ✓	Forrest City, Arkansas ✓
7	9 ✓	Sheppard AFB, Texas ✓
8	9 ✓	Ft. Worth, Texas ✓
9	8 ✓	Tinker AFB, Oklahoma ✓
10	8 ✓	Colville, Washington
11	7 ✓	Atlanta, Georgia ✓
12	6 ✓	STILL WATERS, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma
13	4 ✓	Tinker AFB, Oklahoma ✓
14	3 ✓	Fremont, Wisconsin ✓
15	3 ✓	Tipp City, Ohio ✓
16	3 ✓	Middletown, New York ✓
17	3 ✓	39/32N - 119/4W, Reno, Nevada ✓
18	2 ✓	Shaw AFB, S. Carolina ✓
19	2 ✓	Tinker AFB, Oklahoma ✓

JULY 1953 SIGHTINGS
31 - 15

Folder #1

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
1	29 ✓	Springfield, Ohio ✓
2	28 ✓	Minneapolis, Minnesota ✓
3	26 ✓	NEEDS AFB <i>DEER CREEK SPRINGS</i> Nevada ✓
4	26 ✓	Dayton, Ohio ✓
5	26 ✓	Tinker AFB, Oklahoma ✓
6	25 ✓	Dayton, Ohio ✓
7	25 ✓	<i>SHERMAN & DENISON</i> Bertin AFB , Texas ✓
8	25 ✓	Central House, Alaska ✓
9	25 ✓	<i>Bolling AFB</i> Washington, D.C. ✓
10	24 ✓	Key West, Florida ✓
11	22 ✓	Atlantic City, New Jersey ✓
12	20 ✓	Offutt AFB, Nebraska ✓
13	19 ✓	Colorado Springs, Colorado ✓
14	19 ✓	La Grande, Oregon ✓
15	18 ✓	Brooklyn, New York ✓
16	18 ✓	Sheridan, Wyoming ✓
17	18 ✓	Key West, Florida ✓

UNCLASSIFIED

SIGHTINGS FOR JULY 1953

DATE	LOCATION	EVALUATION
✓ 31	Creola, Alabama	Probably Astronomical - Meteor
✓ 28	MILWAUKEE, WISC	BALLOON
✓ 29	Springfield, Ohio	Probably Balloon A/C
✓ 26	Dayton, Ohio	Balloon
26	Nellis AF Base, Nevada	Probably Balloon - UAR
✓ 26	Tinker, AF Base, Oklahoma	Weather Balloon
✓ 25	Washington, D. C.	Probably Astronomical (VENUS + JUPITER)
✓ 25	Dayton, Ohio	Insufficient Data
✓ 25	Perrin AF Base, Texas	Possibly Balloon
✓ 25	Central House, Alaska	Balloon
24	Key West, Florida	Other - Probably searchlight on aircraft
✓ 22	Atlantic City, New Jersey	Insufficient Data A/C
✓ 20	Offutt AF Base, Nebraska	Unsolved
✓ 19	La Grande, Oregon	Balloon - UAR
✓ 18	Key West, Florida	Insufficient Data
✓ 18	Sheridan, Wyoming	Probably Astronomical - Meteor
✓ 18	Brooklyn, New York	Probably Aircraft
✓ 14	Fairborn, Ohio	Probably Balloon
✓ 14	Opportunity, Montana	Insufficient Data
✓ 13	Shaw AF Base, South Carolina	Possibly Astronomical - Meteor
✓ 12	Adrian, Michigan	Possibly Balloons
✓ 11	Godman AF Base, Kentucky	Astronomical (VENUS)
✓ 10	Forrest City, Arkansas	Possibly Balloon
✓ 9	Ft. Worth, Texas	Possibly Aircraft
✓ 9	Sheppard AF Base, Texas	Possibly Aircraft
✓ 8	Colville, Washington	Probably Astronomical (VENUS)

T53-11156

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

Sightings for the month of July 1953 continued

DATE LOCATION

EVALUATION

✓ 8	Tinker AF Base, Oklahoma	Probably Balloon
✓ 7	Atlanta, Georgia	Other - Hoax
✓ 6	Stillwater, Oklahoma	Other - Searchlight reflections
✓ 4	Tinker AF Base, Oklahoma	Balloon
✓ 3	Middletown, New York	Possibly Aircraft
✓ 3	Tipp City, Ohio	Unsolved <i>Balloon</i>
✓ 3	Reno, Nevada	Astronomical - Venus
✓ 3	Fremont, Wisconsin	Possibly Aircraft <i>Balloon</i>
✓ 2	Tinker AF Base, Oklahoma	Unsolved <i>Balloon</i>
✓ 2	Shaw AF Base, South Carolina	Probably Astronomical <i>(Venus)</i>
<i>1950</i> ✓ 1	La Grande, Oregon	Possibly Balloon
✓ 1	Ramore, Ontario, Canada	Probably Astronomical <i>30 JUN</i>

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

SK 11

SIGHTINGS FOR JULY 1953

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>EVALUATION</u>
31	Creola, Alabama	Probably Astronomical - Meteor
29	Springfield, Ohio	Probably Balloon
26	Dayton, Ohio	Balloon
26	Nellis AF Base, Nevada	Probably Balloon - UAR
26	Tinker, AF Base, Oklahoma	Weather Balloon
25	Washington, D. C.	Probably Astronomical
25	Dayton, Ohio	Insufficient Data
25	Perrin AF Base, Texas	Possibly Balloon
25	Central House, Alaska	Balloon
24	Key West, Florida	Other - Probably searchlight on aircraft
22	Atlantic City, New Jersey	Insufficient Data
20	Offutt AF Base, Nebraska	Unsolved
19	La Grande, Oregon	Balloon - UAR
18	Key West, Florida	Insufficient Data
18	Sheridan, Wyoming	Probably Astronomical - Meteor
18	Brooklyn, New York	Probably Aircraft
14	Fairborn, Ohio	Probably Balloon
14	Opportunity, Montana	Insufficient Data
13	Shaw AF Base, South Carolina	Possibly Astronomical - Meteor
12	Adrian, Michigan	Possibly Balloon
11	Godman AF Base, Kentucky	Astronomical
10	Forrest City, Arkansas	Possibly Balloon
9	Ft. Worth, Texas	Possibly Aircraft
9	Sheppard AF Base, Texas	Possibly Aircraft
8	Colville, Washington	Probably Astronomical

T53-11156

26

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

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Sightings for the month of July 1953 continued

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>EVALUATION</u>
8	Tinker AF Base, Oklahoma	Probably Balloon
7	Atlanta, Georgia	Other - Hoax
6	Stillwater, Oklahoma	Other - Searchlight reflections
4	Tinker AF Base, Oklahoma	Balloon
3	Middletown, New York	Possibly Aircraft
3	Tipp City, Ohio	Unsolved
3	Reno, Nevada	Astronomical - Venus
3	Fremont, Wisconsin	Possibly Aircraft
2	Tinker AF Base, Oklahoma	Unsolved
2	Shaw AF Base, South Carolina	Probably Astronomical
1	La Grande, Oregon	Possibly Balloon
1	Ramore, Ontario, Canada	Probably Astronomical

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

UNCLASSIFIED

No CASE (INFORMATION ONLY)

Source: Flying Saucer Magazine May 1958

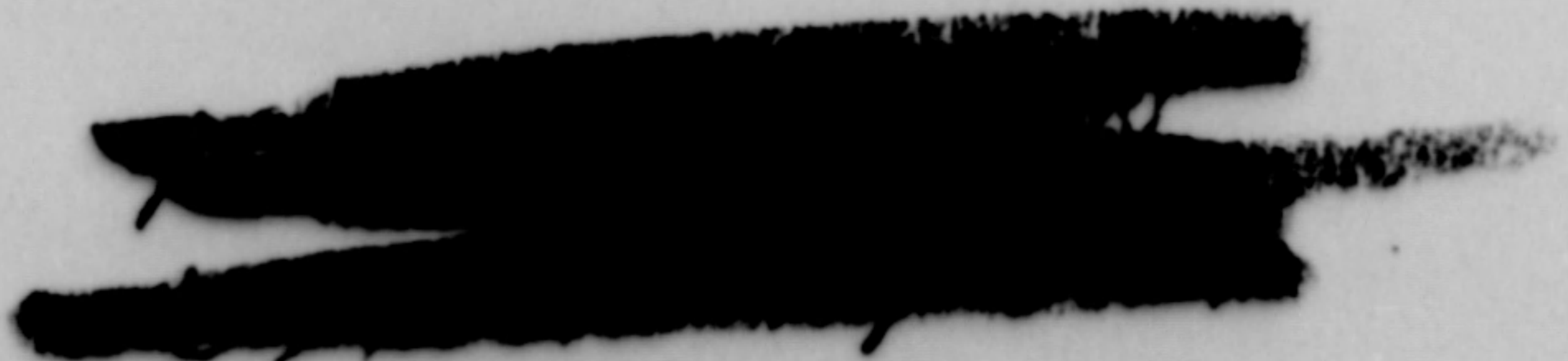
3 July 1953
E St Louis, Illinois

SOURCE: FLYING SAUCERS - MAY 58

"On the evening of July 3, 1953, noticing the clearness of a full moonlit sky I was very much impressed to take my telescope into my backyard and taking a look. My telescope opened to about 5 feet, so was very powerful. While watching a series of black discs travel over the moon's face, I suddenly detected the rim of a black surface begin to protrude at the lower left edge of the moon's rim. Very slowly but surely it grew and grew until this great disc was completely outlined by our moon, that is, all but the

I SAW A FLYING SAUCER

lower edge, but enough was sighted and its movement was slow enough as to get an EXCELLENT description. It was immense! With a sort of glow around the outer edge just a shade lighter than the moon's color. This great black disc was moving along very slowly and smoothly from left to right of the moon so that I was able to take CAREFUL notice four exhausts in the form of humps on its outer edge and these exhausts were moving "clock-wise" (left to right). As the upper exhaust moved to about the center of the moon, I was able to detect a thin vapor of dark smoke trailing behind then evaporate into nothing, just as the exhaust smoke does on one of our engines when it is idling."


E. ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS.

NORTH ATLANTIC

7 JUL 53

Hydrographic Bulletin

METEORS

The Hydrographic Office is cooperating with astronomers who are studying meteors. Mariners reporting their observations of these bodies are greatly assisting in this work. It is desired to have the Greenwich time and point of appearance and disappearance as accurate as possible, either by bearing and altitude, or by relation to fixed stars, or both.

Complete observations on long-enduring trains and their direction of drift are of especial importance, as they determine wind direction in the upper atmosphere.

NORTH ATLANTIC

First Officer A. G. Scarpa of the Panamanian SS. *Nassau*, Capt. F. Perilli, Master, reports that on July 7, 1953, at 0300 G. M. T., in lat. $39^{\circ}12'$ N., lon. $74^{\circ}00'$ W., a brilliant meteor was observed. The meteor appeared to start from the constellation of *Ursa Major* at an approximate altitude of 40° and traveled horizontally. The head of this meteor was yellow-white in color and was considered as bright as *Venus*. Sparks trailed behind for a distance of approximately 10° arc. The phenomenon existed for about 8 seconds after which it suddenly vanished in the vicinity of *Vega*.

Weather clear, barometer 30.20 inches, temperature air 77° F., wind S. force 1.

18 & 20 JULY 1953
NORTH ATLANTIC

Hydrographic Bulletin

ABNORMAL REFRACTION

NORTH ATLANTIC

Second Officer Piero Buatier of the Italian SS. *Eugenio C*, Capt. F. Pieroni, Master, reports that on two occasions, while en route from Genoa to Baltimore, sun sights were affected by an abnormal horizon depression. On the 18th and 20th July 1953, the 1000 sun sight, taken by three different observers, was apparently in error, and was carried over to the noon position as the morning sun line was almost perpendicular to the ship's course.

Mr. Buatier states that no other explanation can be made for the great difference between the run from the morning-star position and noon and that from the noon position and evening stars. On both occasions the calculated speed during the morning period was 3 knots less than the speed during the evening period.

Weather fair, temperature air 78° F. dry, 74° F. wet, sea 83° F.

Group.

MAY EXPLAIN CRATER

'Shooting Stars' Seen By Two Men At Dillon

DILLON, S. C., Aug. 1 (AP) — Reports by two persons that they saw glowing objects resembling shooting stars fall Thursday night provided a likely explanation today for a huge crater found on a Dillon County farm.

The crater — more than 60 feet across and ranging from 7 to 12 feet in depth — was discovered yesterday on the farm of Mrs. John C. Allen several miles south of Latta. Observers believed that it was caused by a meteor but they were puzzled when nearby residents said they had not heard unusual noises in the area recently.

Today a Dillon man, reading news stories of the craters, said

he had seen two objects falling from the skies about 9 p. m. Thursday. The report was made by Z. L. Stone who said his attention to the objects was called by his grandson, Larry. They fell within a few minutes of each other, Stone said.

Another crater, much smaller than the first, was discovered in the area today. It was only about eight feet wide. The top of a nearby pine tree had been seared as though struck by lightning.

Sheriff Pete Rogers has sent specimens of a greyish, pulverized, stone-like substance found in the large crater to Clemson College for analysis.

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*HAROLD PARVIN
637 N. 97th St.
E. ST. LOUIS, ILLINOIS.*

NORTH ATLANTIC

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18 & 20 JULY 1953
NORTH ATLANTIC

HYDROGRAPHIC BULLETIN

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16 - 31 JULY 1953 SIGHTINGS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>OBSERVER</u>	<u>EVALUATION</u>
15	Sheridan, Wyoming	A Rancher	Astro (METEOR)
15	Key West, Florida	[REDACTED]	1. Balloon
			2. Star
18	Brooklyn, New York	[REDACTED]	Astro (METEOR)
19	La Grande, Oregon	Air Vis & Gd Vis	Balloon
19	Colorado Springs, Colorado	[REDACTED]	Aircraft
20	Offutt AFB, Nebraska	[REDACTED] (RADAR)	Other (Foil from PAWIN Reflector)
22	Atlantic City, New Jersey	[REDACTED]	Aircraft
24	Key West, Florida	[REDACTED]	Aircraft
25	Central House, Alaska	[REDACTED] (PHYSICAL S)	Balloon
25	Washington, D. C.	[REDACTED] (PHOTO)	Astro (VENUS & JUPITER)
25	Dayton, Ohio	[REDACTED]	Insufficient Data
25	Ferris, Texas	Military	Balloon w/lights
25	Tinker AFB, Oklahoma	[REDACTED]	Balloon
26	Deer Creek Springs, Nevada	[REDACTED]	Balloon
26	Dayton, Ohio	Lady Civilian	Balloon
26	Dayton, Ohio	[REDACTED]	Insufficient Data
27	Dayton, Ohio	[REDACTED]	Balloon
28	Minneapolis, Minnesota	[REDACTED]	Aircraft
29	Springfield, Ohio	[REDACTED]	Astro (METEOR)
31	Creola, Alabama	[REDACTED]	
17	Woomera, Australia (info only)	[REDACTED]	FR-2-1-53