

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 1 Feb 54		2. LOCATION Puate, California		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other ☒ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1015 GMT 011815Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No PHOTO		6. SOURCE civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 30 seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Bellshape, silver fuzzy edges - floating motion. Alleged residue drifted down & was gather up in jar. Report of witness indicates clear sky.				11. COMMENTS Little, if any, residue in jar - one small strand. Lab reports say substance most nearly like cobwebb. Association between object in air residue not established. Filters, chemicals: plants, not checked. Migrations malfunctions of industrial spiders possibility, also a/c a possibility. CLOUD SEEDING	

[REDACTED]

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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, OHIO

IN REPLY REFER TO: 5D-24-21-132

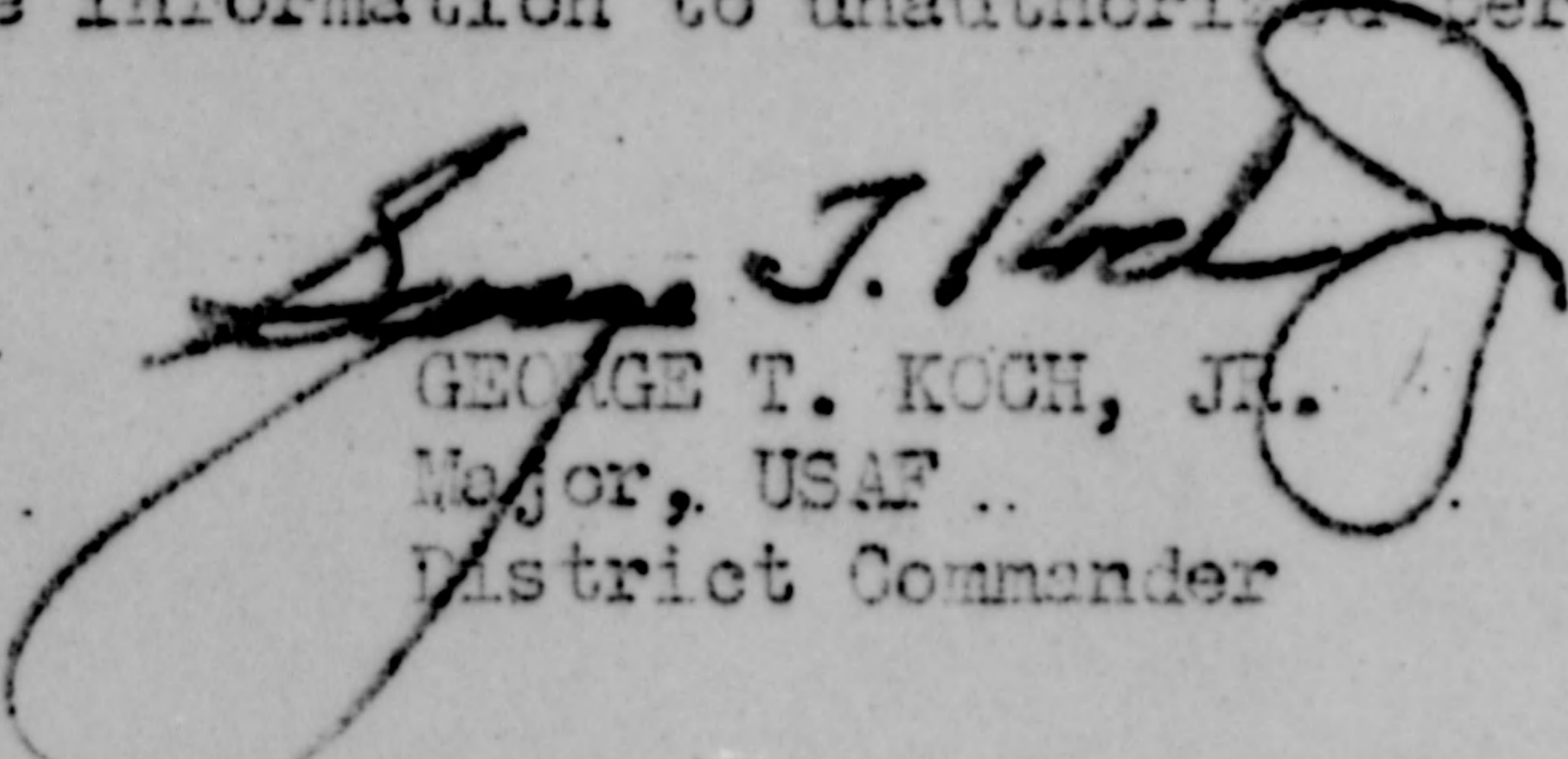
19 February 1954

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object Sighted
by Mrs. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Puente, California,
1015 hours, 1 February 1954
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio
ATTN: ATIAA-20

1. Transmitted herewith are two (2) copies of report of investigation, of Special Agent LeROY F. BETZ, 18th OSI District, Maywood, California, file 24-280, dated 11 February 1954, subject as above.
2. Investigation was requested by the 18th OSI District upon receipt of information that a [REDACTED] had reported the sighting of an unknown object above Puente, California.
3. Investigation is considered closed in the files of the Office of Special Investigations.
4. Your attention is invited to the provisions of AFR 124-1 which prohibit the release of investigative information to unauthorized persons.

1 Incl (in dup)
ROI, DO #18, dtd 11 Feb 54
cc: Dir OSI w/o incl


GEORGE T. KOCH, JR.
Major, USAF
District Commander

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 520610

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[REDACTED]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
18th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
AF SPECIALIZED DEPOT, BOX 310, MAYWOOD, CALIF.

1SD 24-280

19 February 1954

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]
Unidentified Flying Object Sighted
by Mrs. H. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Puente, California,
1015 hours, 1 February 1954

SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commander
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
ATTN: ATIAA-2G
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Dayton, Ohio

1. Reference is made to report of investigation prepared by Special Agent LEROY F. BETZ, this District Office file 24-280, dated 11 February 1954, which concerns the above matter.
2. Forwarded concurrently under separate cover is a sealed pint glass jar containing a piece of black cloth on which may be noted a substance resembling a cobweb, as mentioned in Paragraph 8 of referenced report.
3. Your particular attention is invited to those portions of Paragraph 8 in which witness advises that substance contained in this jar seems to evaporate or disappear upon contact with the air.
4. Your attention is invited to the provisions of AFR 124-1, which prohibit the release of investigative information to unauthorized persons.

Arthur T. Cameron
ARTHUR T. CAMERON
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

cc:
Dir OSI

DO #5

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7-34-3053

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		24-280	DATE 11 FEB 1954 wbt
TITLE (Confidential) Unidentified Flying Object Sighted by Mrs. [REDACTED], Puente, California, 1015 hours, 1 February 1954		REPORT MADE BY LeROY F. BETZ, S/A	
		REPORT MADE AT DO #18, Maywood, California	
		PERIOD 1-3 and 5 February 1954	
		OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #18, Maywood, California	
		STATUS CLOSED	
CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY			
REFERENCE Initial Report.			
SYNOPSIS This investigation requested by Colonel ARTHUR T. CAMERON, District Commander, DO #18, Maywood, California, upon receipt of information that [REDACTED] Puente, California, had reported the sighting of an unknown object hovering above Puente, California, at approximately 1015 hours, 1 February 1954. [REDACTED] interviewed and revealed his wife, [REDACTED] had actually sighted the object, but he had gathered some of the residue that may have come from the object. Mrs. [REDACTED] interviewed and revealed following information regarding unidentified object: first sighted at approximately 1015 hours, estimated altitude 5-6 thousand feet, 2-3 miles away, no apparent movement except a drifting motion, round in shape and when tilted the shape of a bell, shiny silver color, luminous, fuzzy or cloudy looking around the edges, when tilted the bottom appeared a very radiant red-orange color, with naked eye appeared to be the size of about one-third of a full moon, was in sight approximately 30 seconds at almost due north, sighted again almost due East for approximately 5 seconds. Mrs. [REDACTED] alleged that a residue or substance of some sort drifted down and was gathered by her husband. This residue put in jar and would evaporate on contact with air. Substance photographed inside jar by Mr. [REDACTED]. Agency checks reveal no derogatory information on persons involved.			
Unauthorized disclosure of information contained in this report will be considered to be a violation			
DISTRIBUTION		ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	
DO #5 3 (Comdr, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB - Action - 2 (w/1 Incl)			
Dir OSI 2			
DO #14 (Info) 3 (Comdr, Air Def Comd., Ent AFB, Colo Springs, Colo - 2)		APPROVED ARTHUR T. CAMERON Colonel, USAF District Commander.	
File (w/1 Incl) 2 Rb		54-MC-175398	

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to get some of the substance wrapped around this black cloth. He said he had wrapped some black cloth around the end of a bamboo pole, had collected at least one hundred (100) feet of the strands and deposited the cloth with the strands wrapped around it in a quart and pint jar. He said the substance was very much visible against the black cloth, looking as though a silver thread had been woven into the cloth. DAILY stated that he did not know what to do with the substance and had remembered seeing a television show on Sunday night, 31 January 1954, which was a panel of personnel discussing flying saucers and related subjects. This had been on JIM MACNAMARA's show, so DAILY said that he had called MACNAMARA at Radio Station KLAC, Los Angeles, California, and MACNAMARA had informed DAILY that he would call him back as soon as possible. MACNAMARA had called DAILY back, in approximately fifteen minutes and had told him to call a Mr. MILLER. DAILY advised that he had called MILLER, who seemed to be very interested and had suggested that the substance on the cloth be brought to him. DAILY said that he and his wife had departed for Mr. MILLER's home in Los Angeles with the substance at approximately 1600 hours, 1 February 1954. DAILY advised that when they arrived at MILLER's home, the substance could be seen on the black cloth, and was viewed by MILLER, MILLER's wife, DAILY's wife and himself. When MILLER removed the black cloth from the quart jar the substance had disappeared upon contact with the air, and MILLER had at this time placed the cloth that had contained the substance under an ultra-violet lamp with negative results. DAILY advised that he and his wife had looked at the quart jar several times on the way into Los Angeles and the substance seemed to be diminishing all the time. DAILY stated that after the episode of the substance disappearing when the cloth was removed from the quart jar, MILLER had immediately taken a photograph of the pint jar and contents which could still be seen inside the jar. This photo had been developed immediately by MILLER and did show the substance contrasting against the black cloth. MILLER had sealed the lid on the pint glass jar with black scotch tape at this time. DAILY advised that he and his wife had left for home at approximately 1900 hours and after arriving had a conversation with his wife's sister and brother-in-law and had also secured some of the residue on black cloth and put it in a small peanut butter jar; approximately one hour later this cloth was removed from the jar and the substance was not on it. DAILY stated that he had forgotten to inform the writer that at the time he was picking up some of the foreign substance, he had looked for and found a cobweb, had broken a piece off to determine if it was similar in structure to the foreign matter. He said that the cobweb would stretch, he could feel it between his fingers and was very tensile in character, whereas the other substance was not tensile, could not be felt by the fingers and would seem to evaporate. He said he had called the FBI at approximately 2100 hours, gave them the information and was told that he would be contacted later, and at approximately 2200 hours, Mr. TRACY from OSI had called him.

5. DAILY volunteered the following information about himself and his wife: He is a home builder of forty-four years of age; received a commercial pilot's license in 1929; was an instructor of basic, primary and instrument flying at Cal-Aero for approximately two years from September 1942 to September 1944, at which time the school had been training United States Air Force Cadets exclusively at this time; he still has his commercial license but has not flown for the past four years. DAILY stated that he and his wife had read all the books, articles and publications pertaining to flying saucers or phenomena that they could purchase or secure, and always watched television or radio shows that dealt with this subject.

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DETAILS:

1. This investigation requested by Colonel ARTHUR T. CAMERON, District Commander, District Office #18, Cheli AF Depot, Maywood, California, on 2 February 1954, upon receipt of information that a [REDACTED] of Puente, California, had reported the sighting of an unknown object hovering above Puente, California, at approximately 1030 hours, 1 February 1954, and had gathered some samples of a substance, presumably residue from the object.

AT MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

2. On 1 February 1954, at 2155 hours, Special Agent HAROLD D. TRACY, OSI Duty Agent, DO #18, received a call from S/A KEITH JONES, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Los Angeles, California, who stated that he had just received a call from a [REDACTED], Puente, California, reporting the sighting of an unknown object hovering above the City of Puente at approximately 1030 hours, 1 February 1954. [REDACTED] claimed to have gathered some samples of a substance, presumably residue from the object. S/A TRACY telephonically contacted Mr. [REDACTED] at approximately 2200 hours, and [REDACTED] had stated that the substance resembled cobwebs but had evaporated. [REDACTED] informed S/A TRACY that a Mr. [REDACTED], Los Angeles, California, had a sample of the substance in a sealed jar. [REDACTED] further advised S/A TRACY that he, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] had taken photographs of the substance.

3. On 3 February 1954, the files of the Maywood City Police were checked with negative results.

AT PUENTE, CALIFORNIA

4. On 2 February 1954, Mr. [REDACTED] was interviewed and stated that he had not seen the object in question, but his wife, Mrs. [REDACTED], had seen it and had attempted to locate him so that he also could see it. He said that at approximately 1030 hours, 1 February 1954, his wife had come in the house all excited and had told him of seeing a strange bright silvery colored, round, luminous object in the sky, but it had disappeared when she had come into the house to attempt to locate him so he could see it. He said that she had also told him of seeing strands of a material resembling spun glass floating towards the earth and had informed him these strands were settling on the trees, telephone wires and ground. He had gone outside and had noticed the telephone wires and a tree in his yard covered with strands of a substance resembling cobwebs or spun glass. He stated that he had attempted to pick up some of the strands but it was so fine he could not feel it between his fingers and seemed to evaporate upon contact with his hands. [REDACTED] stated that he had called the Pasadena, California, office of the Mount Wilson Observatory at approximately 1215 hours, 1 February 1954, in an attempt to get someone who would know how to collect and what to do with this substance to come and see or gather some of it for analytical purposes, but the only person at this office was a caretaker who told him to call back at 1305 hours. [REDACTED] said he then called the Mount Wilson Observatory at Mount Wilson and was told to contact the Pasadena office. [REDACTED] advised that he called the Pasadena office again at 1305 hours, talking to a person by the name of [REDACTED], who told him to get a piece of black cloth and attempt

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6. On 2 February 1954, Mrs. [REDACTED] Street, housewife, was interviewed in the presence of her husband, [REDACTED]. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she had been lying on the sofa in her living room on the morning of 1 February 1954, at approximately 1000 hours when she heard some jets flying over, and since they sounded like they were lower than usual she had gone outside to watch them. She said that she had gotten outside too late to see them, gone back into her kitchen, noticing the clock which read 1005 hours. She said she had heard some more aircraft, had picked up her field glasses, a pair of 8 x 32, uncoated and had gone outside again. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she always kept her field glasses handy because many aircraft passed over their home daily and she liked to watch them. She also stated that she had been hoping to see a flying saucer some time and this was the reason she always had the field glasses handy and watched the aircraft and the sky just about any chance she had. She said she had watched the vapor trails and had sighted this object hovering in the sky. She said this object was shiny silvery colored, round in shape, luminous and seemed to be sort of fuzzy or cloudy looking around the edges. She said it was almost due North, the sky was blue and the sun was at her back. She said she had used the field glasses but was so nervous she could hardly hold them on the object. She advised that she had looked around to see if there was someone else she could show it to but there was no one of her neighbors at home and the only people in the vicinity were some painters about 100 yards away. She said the object seemed to be drifting toward the East; it had tilted a little and at this angle had seemed to be bell shaped, and the bottom appeared as a very radiant orange-red glow. She said the red and orange glow seemed to become more radiant and she could see some dark round objects through the glow which resembled a landing gear. At this point Mrs. [REDACTED] said, "It's just like the pictures I have seen in magazines and articles dealing with flying saucers." Mrs. [REDACTED] said that she had wanted to get her husband to come and see it because she knew that he would ridicule her if she told him about seeing it and he didn't see it. She had run around to the side of the house to go in and get him, but when she had looked up again the object had disappeared. She had searched the sky, finally saw it again almost due East, but it disappeared in approximately five seconds. She said there was still a red glow to it but seemed to be a brighter silver color than previously when she had looked at it. She said it was approximately about one-third the size of a full moon when she had first seen it and after showing her husband an aircraft in approximately the same spot he had told her it was approximately five to six thousand feet high and from two to three miles away. She said she had then showed him about where it was when it vanished and he estimated this to be fifteen to twenty miles away and almost due east. Mrs. [REDACTED] said when she first saw this object she had looked at it for at least thirty seconds. The writer asked Mrs. [REDACTED] if she had noticed what color regular aircraft had appeared to be on this date and she said they were also shiny silver and orange or red on the bottom but not as radiant or bright as the colors of the object she had seen. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that she had remained outside for approximately twenty more minutes watching the planes go over and while she was watching the aircraft she had noticed some strands coming down through the air. They had resembled silver ribbons when high up but when they reached the ground they had looked more like spun glass, very fine in texture, approximately four to five feet strands, and seemed to be curly while floating through the air but straight when they alighted on some object. She said the top of a tree in her yard and the light and telephone lines had been literally covered with the substance, but it seemed to be evaporating at the time. She said it seemed to her that this substance covered an area of approximately one half a city block.

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7. Mrs. [REDACTED] volunteered the following information about herself; she is thirty-eight years of age, a housewife, has lived at this address for approximately five months, moving to Puente from Maywood. She said she was very interested in flying phenomena, had read all articles, publications, and watched television when it pertained to flying saucers or aerial phenomena.

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

8. On 3 February 1954, Mr. [REDACTED] Writer and Photographer, was interviewed and stated that on 1 February 1954, he had received a call from Mr. [REDACTED] at approximately 1430 hours at which time [REDACTED] had informed him that a Mr. [REDACTED] and wife had seen an aerial phenomena, had collected a substance they believed had come from the object and [REDACTED] had asked if [REDACTED] would be interested in talking to them. [REDACTED] said he had called [REDACTED] and had told him to bring the substance to his house. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] and his wife had arrived at his home at approximately 1630 hours, 1 February 1954. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], the wives of each had looked at the substance which was clinging to a piece of black cloth in a quart jar and had removed the cloth from the jar. [REDACTED] said that upon removal the residue or substance had disappeared from the cloth, so he had photographed the other jar that [REDACTED] had with the cloth and substance in it. [REDACTED] stated that he had immediately sealed the smaller jar with scotch tape, had developed the negatives of the photographs taken of the smaller jar, and had taken Mrs. [REDACTED] into another room to question her, while Mrs. [REDACTED] had questioned [REDACTED]. The writer had asked [REDACTED] what [REDACTED] had told him about the incident and as related by [REDACTED] was substantially the same information as [REDACTED] had told the writer. [REDACTED] turned over the picture, negatives and jar containing cloth and residue at this time. The picture is attached to this report as Inclosure #1. The negatives are on file at DO #18, Maywood, California. The jar and contents are being forwarded to the Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB for technical analysis.

9. On 1 February 1954, Mrs. [REDACTED] was interviewed and when asked what Mrs. [REDACTED] had told her, related the same information as Mrs. [REDACTED] had told the writer. Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that she had seen the residue on the black cloth in the quart jar, was present when the cloth had been withdrawn from the jar and observed that the residue had seemed to vanish upon contact with the air.

10. Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] volunteered the following information pertaining to their background: Mr. [REDACTED] advised that he was a graduate of the University of Southern California, class of 1933, holding a Bachelor's Degree in Journalism. He said he had been interested in flying saucers, aerial phenomena since 1947, collecting information and documenting as much as the information as possible. He said he had written articles on this matter and unexplained mysteries for the Coronet magazine for five years, was a writer for Popular Mechanics and had written and published a book, "Forgotten Mysteries", later republished under the name of "Tales of the Supernatural." He had sent this book to Walter Winchell in 1947, and Winchell had carried excerpts from this book in his column. [REDACTED] further advised that he had been called upon to appear as an authority on flying phenomena on different radio and television shows in the

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Los Angeles area. He said he was forty-four years of age. Mrs. [REDACTED] advised that she had a Bachelor and Master's Degree from the University of Southern California School of Speech, and she acted as her husband's secretary and was very well briefed on sightings and characteristics of aerial phenomena. Mr. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED], the person who [REDACTED] had called originally was a News Commentator, Producer of Television shows and announcer for Station KLAC, Los Angeles. [REDACTED] said that when General VAN FLEET had been sent to Korea, he had requested that [REDACTED] be recalled and sent to him as his Press Relations Officer for the 8th Army in Korea. He said that [REDACTED] had been recalled as a Lt Colonel, had gone to Korea with General VAN FLEET in 1951, and had been released from active duty again in March 1953.

11. On 5 February 1954, a check of the files of the Los Angeles Federal Bureau of Investigation on all above listed persons revealed no information of a derogatory nature.

AT SAN DIMAS, CALIFORNIA

12. On 3 February 1954, a check of the files of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office met with negative results on [REDACTED] and his wife. There is no City Police Department in Puente and the local law enforcement agency having jurisdiction is the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office at San Dimas.

INCLOSURES

FOR DISTRICT OFFICE NO. [REDACTED] ATTN: AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO. ATTN: AFIAA-2C (2 cys)

1. Photograph of pint jar with residue on black cloth inclosed., (~~in this~~).

C L O S E D

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this case includes
one (1) 8x10 Black And White Photo.

INCLOSURE #1



INCLOSURE #1