

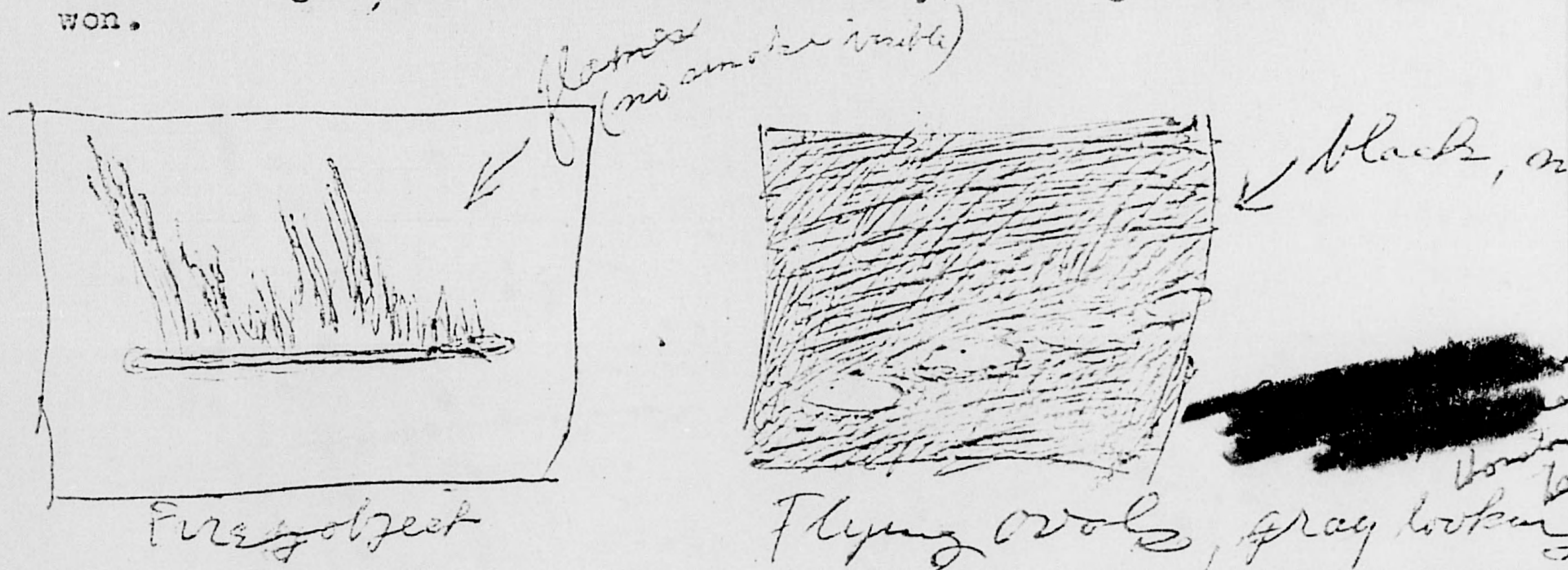
PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 14 Jan 58		2. LOCATION Houston, Texas		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local <u>night</u> GMT _____		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar <u>4" telescope</u>		☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☐ No		6. SOURCE Civilian		☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 min		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS four		9. COURSE not given	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING One of three rptd sightings fm a letter to TIME magazine. This one was of four ovals in formatbn obsrved thru a telescope. Estimated speed at less than 200 mph, & size of objs at 30-40 ft. Objs flew at low alt (150'). No sound.				11. COMMENTS Possible a/c in formation. This rpt was forwarded in the form of a letter to a magazine and did not receive any investigation. Rpt is therefore very unreliable. Letter written to the observer four months after observation explaining difficulties in analysis of this type of rpt.	

^{to} These two celestial occurrence should have been sufficient but hold us, but ~~no~~ no:

On the night of January 14, I was in my back yard about 10:30 p.m., looking at the stars through my 4-inch telescope. At that particular moment, I had stepped away from my scope and was looking in the direction of Gemini (), when suddenly four oval-shaped objects, one behind the other and in perfect formation, flew across my line of sight, very low. (I would say under 150 feet.) These objects were not lighted at all, were grayish in color from the lights of the city (the moon was not in the sky). They were flying exactly uniformly in speed, at less than 200 miles an hour, I would say, if the objects were as low as they appeared. In less than one minute, they disappeared from sight. As a guess, I would say that each oval was perhaps 30 to 40 feet in diameter. Because of their exact flying speed in relation to each other, it is possible that each was attached to the same long object which would be invisible if it were painted black (like gondolas under a dirigible). No sound ~~was~~ was audible, not even a murmur.

My private theory is that Ellington field, about 20 miles southeast of my house, where many jets are in operation, knows something about these objects. If they belong to our government (power without sound or lights, and perfect maneuverability) we've got the next war won.



15/04/30Z 35A
SAFIS-3/Maj Tacker/jmd/73328

15 April 1958

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

This is to acknowledge your letter of 17 January concerning unidentified flying object sightings.

The Air Force has no report of a burning object over Houston, Texas on 12 January 1958.

With reference to the objects sighted on 14 January 1958, they were probably high flying jet aircraft.

Without photographs, accurate azimuths, evaluations, bearings, exact times and identification based upon the observer's own description it is difficult, if not impossible, to definitely evaluate such sightings.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE J. TACKER
Major, USAF
Executive Officer
Public Information Division
Office of Information Services

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Houston 6, Texas

✓
COMEBACK-SAFIS3
READER-SAFIS-1
STAYBACK-SAFIS-3

Paul W. Jones
Houston 6, Tex

Editor Time
New York

January 17
1 9 5 6

Dear Sir:

There are some strange goings-on in the evening and night sky above Houston.

On the night of January 3, my wife and I, upon returning from a visit to a bookstore, observed a star-like object slowly descending near Deneb in the constellation Cygnus in the low North-western sky. This object, with the brilliancy of a first magnitude star, dimmed as it sank, becoming barely visible when it disappeared from view behind treetops. It did not appear to be a burning object, such as a gas-filled weather balloon. It definitely was not a shooting star or a meteor.

Three days later
On the late afternoon of January 12, just before dusk, I was searching the western sky for a glimpse of the planet Mercury. I could not see Mercury because of the brilliancy of the sky (the sun had set) but my attention was attracted by a brilliant, orange colored object which, at first, appeared to be a giant multi-motored plane, *on fire* lit by the rays of the declining sun. It grew brighter for a few minutes but did not appear to be approaching or even moving, except for a perceptible downward drift. I decided it must be a burning plane, but I could see no smoke. I raced into the house for my binoculars (7 powers) and shouted to my wife and daughter to see the spectacle. They ran outside (also our maid and neighbors from across the street), and we all examined the object intently through the glasses. The object definitely was burning (my wife called it a raft). It was a mass of flames reaching into the air almost as high as the object was long. The flames were higher on the left side (south) than the ~~right~~ right side. This object, too, grew dimmer and finally, after about six or seven minutes, sank out of sight. We judged it to be about 10 to 20 miles away. If it were that far, the wing spread must have been at least 150 feet. Later, my daughter, age 24, *and I* drew pictures of it, independently. Her drawing was remarkably like mine.

*behind treetops across
the street from us.*