PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 6-7 Mar 67	2. LOCATION Galesburg, Moline, Illinois (Multiple)
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION 1. UNIDENTIFIED (Courson) 2. INSUFFICIENT DATA FOR EVALUATION (Powell) 3. UNIDENTIFIED (McKee) 4. Vis [redacted] Prob. Balloon (Fisher)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS Multiple	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Varied	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS SEE CASE FILE
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual (BX)	
7. COURSE Varied	
8. PHOTOS ☒ Yes 8mm Film (~~not received~~) ☐ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	Copies Film Rec Mar 68 Attached for info Purposes

FORM FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

Moline, Ill.

~~[illegible]~~

March 9, 1967

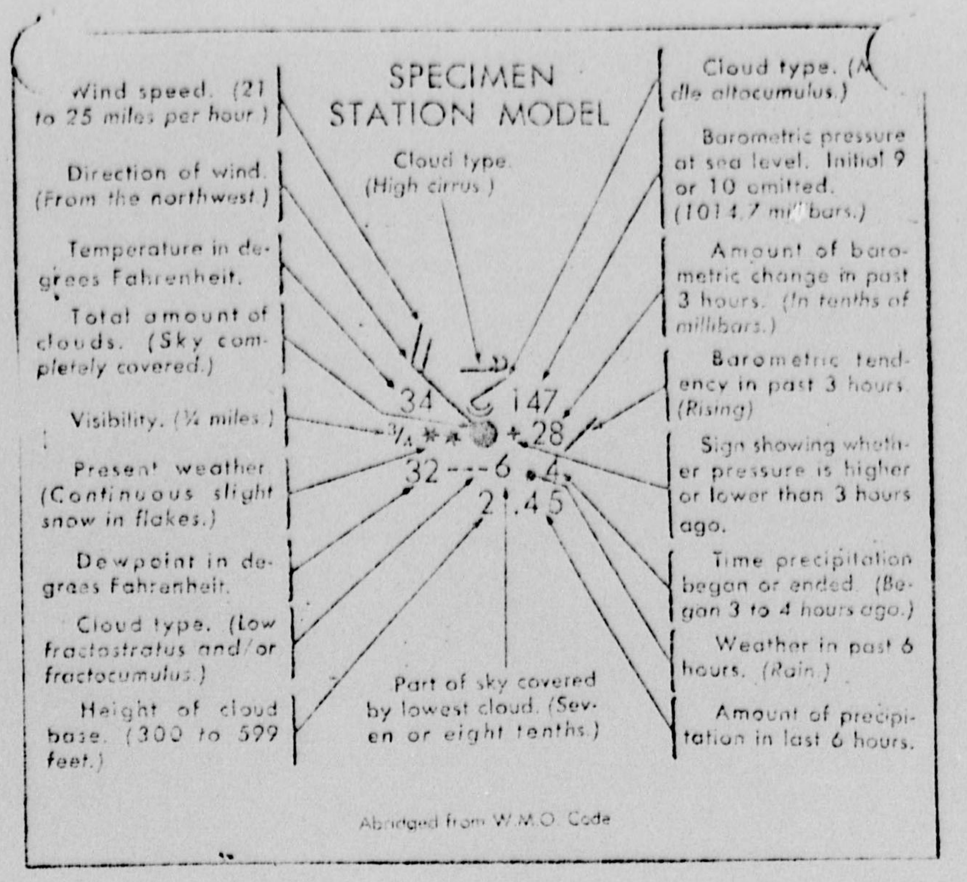
At about 1:30 p.m., March 9, 1967, the observer sighted an object he first thought was a Government helicopter. It appeared slightly U-shaped or pickle-shaped, but the observer could see no propellers. The object was north of the observer at about a 45° angular elevation when first seen. It first went north and finally seemed to drift away to the northwest. The speed of the object did not appear constant, but seemed to slow down or hover several times. A second object was then seen to follow the same path, giving the same appearance and appearing to hover in the same places. The sighting lasted from approximately 1:30 p.m. to approximately 1:43 p.m. CST. The observer managed to photograph the object using an eight millimeter Kodak camera.

COMMENTS

Surface winds were northerly at 12 knots gusting to 24 knots. The description, duration and flight characteristics are similar to that of a balloon. The 8mm film failed to reveal any information that would dispute this evaluation.

Re: VLO sighting of 9MAR67 at 1330 CST from Moline ILL.

18 MAR 69



ON 9 MAR 67 between 1300 and 1400 hrs CST winds were From The South at 12-14 KNTs Gusting To 24 KNTS. (See pge 1 sec A U.S. weather Bureau, Moline, ILL.) ALSO see pge 5. SEC A. USE ABOVE specimen STATION model To INTERPRET. [redacted] STATED That he was Looking NORTH when he first sighted The object, and that it Traveled Northwesterly. (See PT IV Pg. 5) He ALSO STATED That "From Time To Time, it Appeared To have stopped and hover completely - just hung There, and Then it would move again." (See PT. IV Pg 3). Since The object did not pass overhead but was seen only in The northern sky, exact direction of Travel would be very difficult for The observer To determine. But since The object Appeared To move roughly in a northerly direction (see also Pg 9 Powers REPT.), since The winds were almost due north, since The object moved somewhat erratically, and since The winds were gusting it seems quite prob. That The observer was Looking at a balloon, prob. a CARMENT Bay Hot Air Balloon. [redacted]

Memo for the Record: 9 March 67

2. Contact with Mrs [redacted] University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado revealed that the UC group had called out to Galesburg, Ill. trying to obtain information on the recent sightings there. She did not know how they could have been mistaken for a Gov. Agency, if they were.

1. Capt Orenic, Chanute AFB, Ill requested information on who could the Gov agency could be that contacted the deputy sheriff of Galesburg, Ill.

3. Capt Orenic called Major Quintanilla 9 March 67 to report that Dr Hynek had called the people in Galesburg, Ill. The witnesses had thought that Dr. Hynek was the Gov, Adgency.

TITLE PAGE

UFO INVESTIGATION

CONDUCTED BY:

Captain Edward J. Orenic

Captain Anton R. Kato

UFO REPORT

I N D E X

REASON FOR INVESTIGATION	PART I
ITINERARY OF INVESTIGATION	PART II
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PART I

REASON FOR INVESTIGATION

The investigation was initiated after extensive notification of UFO sightings in the "Quad City" area. Of particular interest was a report of an 8mm movie of a daylight sighting by a Moline police officer. Other significant sightings in the area were made by a Knox County Deputy Sheriff and by Henry County Deputy Sheriff. The news media had many reports by other individuals observing UFO activity. A call was place to (FTD) Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio and authorization was given to proceed to the "Quad City" area and formally investigate the sightings.

PART II

ITINERARY OF INVESTIGATION

ITINERARY

Arrived Moline Airport at 1415 hours.

1430 - Moline Police Station - Viewed Film

1500 - Interviewed [redacted]. Taped interview with [redacted] - Took statements.

1600 - Visited sighting area [redacted] treets, Moline.

1700 - Made telephone calls verifying air traffic, weather, radar sightings etc.

1800 - Set up appointments with Deputies [redacted] and [redacted]

2100 - Interviewed Sacred Heart Nuns.

2200 - Contacted Guard Pilots.

2300 - Interviewed Deputy [redacted] viewed sighting area.

0100 - Interviewed Deputy [redacted] viewed sighting area.

0400 - Termination of interview with [redacted]

1000 - Monmouth, received physical evidence, received additional physical evidence from teacher.

1130 - Obtained map of flight from CW3 Luchner.

1200 - Interviewed [redacted] checked camera and arranged for receipt of film copy.

1300 - Visited R. I. Arsenal, checked with Central Security and Traffic Management at Headquarters.

1400 - Visited transient refueling and transient maintenance area's at "Quad City" airport.

Departed Moline at 1720 hours on Commercial Air.

PART III

AREAS OF INVESTIGATION

PART III

AREAS OF INVESTIGATION

Area's of investigation.

A. Weather Bureau (Moline) (Chanute AFB, Illinois).

B. Airports and aircraft movement.

(1) Quad City Tower.

(2) Mount Joy Tower.

(3) Rock Island Arsenal.

(4) Chicago ARTC.

(5) Joliet Radio.

(6) Burlington Radio.

(7) ADC, 20th Air Division.

(8) 1105th Air Trans, Iowa Air Guard

(9) Illinois Army Guard at Quad City

(10) Quad City Airport Manager (Servicing)

(11) Galesburg Airport Manager

(12) State Police Helicopters

(13) Private owned Helicopters

C. Witness interrogation - contained in Section IV.

SECTION A

A. The following weather information was received by telephone from [redacted] of the U. S. Weather Bureau in Moline, Illinois:

Winds:	Surface	1300 hrs CST	190/12 G 24
		1400 hrs CST	180/14 G 24
	6,000 feet	1330 hrs CST	240/30
	10,000 feet	1330 hrs CST	270/30
	18,000 feet	1330 hrs CST	280/55

Ceiling: Clear condition prevailed.

Visibility: Unlimited, over 15 NM in all directions

Temperature: Plus 12 degrees centigrade at surface.

Plus 2 degrees centigrade at 5,000 feet.

Minus 16 degrees centigrade at 10,000 feet.

No weather balloons were launched on the 9th of March. No information received concerning weather balloons from other stations west of the Moline area.

Midnight, 07 Mar 67: Surface temperatures in area are 26 - 29° F. Surface winds are South-Westerly. Wind Speed is 7 to 10 Knots. The winds are shifting on the surface, going from SW to NW. Low clouds are approaching from the NW, but at the present time, the area is relatively free from significant clouds. A temperature drop is due before moving.

Winds aloft

3000 feet	320°/18 Kts
5000 feet	300°/20 Kts
8000 feet	280°/22 Kts
10000 feet	310°/18 Kts

SURFACE WEATHER
07 MAR 1967 0600Z/0000C
PLOTTER: AIC GOLZ

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SURFACE WEATHER
07 MAR 1967 0600Z/0000C
PLOTTER: AIC GOLZ

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1300 L 09 Mar 67. Surface temperatures in area are 50° F, showing a warming rise of about 30° since midnight. Surface winds are South Westerly at 12 gusting to 25 Knots. Some scattered high clouds are in the area.

Winds Aloft

3000 feet	210°/35 Kts
5000 feet	250°/50 Kts
8000 feet	280°/35 Kts
10000 feet	280°/40 Kts

Radio increase with height

35000 feet	300°/55 Kts
40000 feet	280°/85 Kts
50000 feet	270/80 Kts

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SURFACE WEATHER
09 MAR 1967 1900Z/1300C
PLOTTER: AIC GOLZ

Surface Temperature in area 50°F. Surface winds are SW at 12G25 knots. Some scattered high clouds in the area.
Winds aloft in area
3000 FT. — ~~300°/30KTS~~
5000 FT — ~~220°/40KTS~~
~~8,000~~ FT — ~~250°/35KTS~~
10,000 FT — ~~260°/35 KTS~~

Midnight, 09 Mar 67. Temperatures in area in the lower 20's. Surface winds are Southerly, at 15 to 20 Knots. No significant cludiness is in the area. Winds aloft are slowly increasing with height. At 3000 feet 220°/30 Kts, 5000 feet 240°/35 Kts, 8000 feet 270°/40 Kts, 10000 feet 290°/43 Kts.

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SURFACE WEATHER
09 MAR 1967 0600Z/0000C
PLOTTER: AIC GOLZ
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Midnight, 10 Mar 67. Temperature in area lower 40's. Surface winds are Southerly, 8 - 12 Knots. No significant cloudiness in area.

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SURFACE WEATHER
10 MAR 1967 0600Z/0000C
PLOTTER: AIC GOLZ

Midnight 11 Mar 67. Temperatures in area 38 - 41° F. Surface winds are light and variable. High cirrus cloudiness.

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11 MAR 1967 0600Z/0000C
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B. Airports and aircraft movement.

1. Quad City Tower.

The Tower Chief was contacted and requested to question all of his tower operators for any sightings or unusual activities. He questioned his operators and later stated that there was no unusual activity. The movement of helicopters were also noted, however the times did not agree with the daylight sighting on the 9th of March at 1330 by Offic[redacted].

2. Mount Joy Tower.

The Tower Chief was contacted and requested to question all of his tower operators for any sighting or unusual activities. He questioned his operators and later stated that there was no unusual activities. There was a Iowa Air Guard helicopter operating from the airport on 9 March 1967.

3. Rock Island Arsenal.

A check was made with the security and transportation elements at the Rock Island Arsenal Headquarters. There were no air movements made. The arsenal has a heli-port, however it was not used on 9 March 1967.

4. Chicago ARTC, Aurora, Illinois.

The Center was questioned about any unusual sightings or unexplainable radar returns. They reported none.

5. Joliet Radio FSS.

6.. Burlington Radio FSS.

Both stations were questioned of unusual sightings or reports. They reported none.

7. ADC, 20th Air Division.

Relay through Chicago Center to ADC was made concerning unusual radar contacts. They reported none.

8. 1105th Air Transport Squadron, Iowa Air Guard.

The Air Guard had a CH-37B Helicopter, 71657 on a combined test

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8. 1105th Air Transport Squadron, Iowa Air Guard.

The Air Guard had a CH-37B Helicopter, 71657 on a combined test flight and aerial photo mission. The route of flight was first in the local area and then to Thompson, Illinois. The craft returned direct to Mount Joy. The altitude varied between 1500 to 2000 feet MSL enroute. The altitude was 1000 feet in the photo area at [redacted] At no time was the aircraft south of inter-state highway 80. The flight departed the 1105th Ramp at 1100 and landed at 1250 hours CST. The aircraft is OD in color. Both the pilot and co-pilot were questioned by phone. The co-pilot CW3 [redacted] gave us a map with the route of flight and a statement. (Attached).

9. Illinois Army Guard at Quad City.

Colonel Beadle from the Illinois Army Guard stated he had no air traffic on the 9th of March.

10. Quad City Airport Manager.

The services of the airport were checked for the possibility of servicing a helicopter on any of the times sightings were made. There were none.

11. Galesburg Airport Manager.

The services of the airport were checked for the possibility of servicing a helicopter prior or after any sightings. There were none.

12. State Police Helicopters.

The police advised they do not operate helicopters.

13. Private owned helicopters.

A check of all known Rotor Craft in the area involved the following: A FAA aircraft Number 2222 U flew in Davenport area on the 7th of March, 1200 to 1300 CST. Also flew on the 8th of March in the East Moline area, 1130 to 1300 CST. Then to West Chicago at 1500 CST. The aircraft did not fly on 9 March 1967.

B. Journal Star, Peoria, Illinois - They have a Hughes "300". It did not fly on the 9th of March 1967. On the 7th and 8th it flew to Waukegan from home base of Peoria. It also flew locally in the Peoria area on the 8th of March.

C. Abington, Illinois - A helicopter operated by [redacted] was not flown in March.

D. Welty Leasing Company, Cedar Rapids - Did not operate in Moline, Davenport, Rock-Island area. Had one flight to Manson, Iowa which is West of Cedar Rapids.

E. Unable to contact owner or operator of Brantly Helicopter in Astoria, Illinois.

PART IV

INTERVIEWS OF PERSONNEL AND REPORT FORMATS

INTERVIEWS OF PERSONNEL

	Name	Date/Time of Sighting - CST
1.	[redacted]	6 March/0425
2.	[redacted]	8 March/1130 - 1135
3.	[redacted] (Phone Interview)	8 March/0745 - 1000
4.	[redacted] (Phone Interview)	9 March/0045 - 0130
5.	[redacted]	9 March/1330
6.	[redacted]	9 March/1330
7.	[redacted] Phone Interview)	9 March/1330
8.	[redacted]	9 March/1400
9.	[redacted]	10 March/1130
10.	[redacted] one Interview)	11 March/0030

William P. Fisher Sr. - Traffic Policeman, Moline, Illinois

Patrolman [redacted] as contacted while on duty. The interview was conducted following the film presentation at the Moline City Police Station. He taped his statement and made a drawing of what he saw. The taped interview follows: (See attached statement, taped.)

S T A T E M E N T

CAPT KATO: My name is Captain Kato, conducting an interview on the sighting of a UFO. This is Mr. [redacted], an officer in the Moline Police Department. Mr. [redacted] would you kindly state what you saw in your own words, please.

MR [redacted]: On the afternoon of March 9th, 1967, at approximately 1:30 p.m., I was at the Sacred Heart School, where my children attend, in hopes to see one of my children, my oldest boy, and to deliver a message. I had entered the school and returned and was on my motorcycle headed south. I made a "U" turn on 14th Street and went north about thirty or forty feet where I came to a stop sign where a vehicle was stopped. At this time I glanced upward above the treetops and viewed a object that I was not sure of its description or its identity, and I pulled up into the Coleman Hall parking lot--this is the building that is directed by Sacred Heart Church, it is called Coleman Service Hall. I pulled into their parking lot and I got off my motorcycle and observed the vehicle, or craft, or object again. My first beliefs was that it was a large United States government helicopter. The reason why I believed this was because of the slightly "U" shaped--like a pickle I thought of, with a large rise on each end, slowly making a slight "U" so that it curved on each end and then curved around the bottom and curved up at the top. I thought at each of the ends of these rises there was a large prop, I thought that's where one should be. I didn't see a prop--I thought there should be one there. As the object--I first thought that the object was hovering, and I thought, well, not necessarily, it could be moving towards me or it could be moving away from me and this would give off the effect of hovering. So I watched it for probably--I would like to think it was about thirty seconds, but I think it was longer than that, probably a minute or a minute and a half. A very precious minute and a half, I think. The object then appeared quite certainly it was hovering. At this time I got out my eight millimeter Kodak camera which was loaded with eight millimeter Type A film. This is Kodak Type A daytime outdoor film, and I used my telescopic lens and started photographing this object. I started photographing this object as it moved northeasterly--westerly, northwesterly away from me. This was from my right to my left. The sun was at my back. The object then took on different dimensions as it moved away. It appeared to be elongated and not with the rise at either end. It appeared to be tipped with the side to my left, or to the west, tipped downward towards the earth. My vision was probably about a thirty degree angle, I suppose, about straight in front of me and then now it's starting to move a little bit to my left. The object was tipped about thirty degrees or--well, as the film reveals, whatever that angle would be, that's about the way it tipped all the time. Now, before it faded away here, before it got completely obscure, I did have a definite sighting of a metallic, shiny surface on the side--it appeared to be the side or the end of it, but the side that was the broad side to me, was metallic and appeared to be of the same construction like some of our large aircrafts that I've seen here--some of the large jets, a shiny silvery gray. And then there was an obscurity around the outer perimeter of this giving it a appearance of a potato--that's a good idea, just about like a potato, kind of long, but yet chubby and narrowed towards the ends. As it moved northwesterly, it, from time to time, appeared to have stopped and hover completely--just hung there, and then it would move again. And then finally it kept a pretty steady pace of a constant northwesterly move until it finally just disappeared from my view. Now at this time, several of the sixth and seventh grade classes of Sacred Heart School and [redacted]ad come out of the building and come up on the grounds. And my son hollered at me, and I beckoned him to come over and that I had a message for him, and he came over and I delivered the message, and in the meantime, he said a couple of times, what is it, what

is that? And the kids hollered, what is it, [redacted] And I said, why don't you come back for a minute, what do you see, come back and tell me what you see. And he said, I see a long shiny object, and he said, I gotta go Dad, I gotta go, and so he goes back in. When I was aware that their presence--they did not leave the grounds, they went probably a hundred feet towards the schoolhouse, like they were gonna leave the grounds, and then I was aware that they were comin' back. In the meantime, there was a woman right beside me all the time in amazement, now what's that, what's that? And she was goin' on, rattlin' on. And there was another lady, [redacted] a police--State Policeman's wife, was at the stop sign, and she watched in somewhat amazed fashion. I believe she occasionally hollered at me, and I tried not to be rude, but I didn't want to take my eye off the thing, and I kept shooting so I didn't say much to her, but afterwards she said, I don't know what it was, she said it looked shiny and reflected a white light, or a shiny light from the sunshine. And she thought it was somewhat long, not necessarily a perpendicular object, but somewhat long. In the meantime now, these children had come back and I'm asking them and the other lady, what do you think you saw, what do you think I saw? Do you think you saw an unidentifiable craft? And everybody kinda shrugged, no, no. Did you see wheels or wings or anything, no, no. So I said, well, that's that. So I started to go over to my bike and then this young lady hollers, Mr[redacted] Officer[redacted], or something, there's another one, there's another one, and she points right back to this tree where I had first seen the first one, and it was not as close to me, probably a quarter of a mile, maybe--oh, that's about right, about a quarter of a mile further north of me. But I had to come back a little to get this shot over the tree, and it was about a quarter of a mile further away and it give off--it was like this and it was pretty glossy until it started moving away from the tree and then it took this dipped thing and followed almost the same path--same pattern, same speed and same height.

CAPT KATO: Now Office[redacted] was there any lights or any colored objects that you noticed on this sighting?

MR[redacted] No, no, I didn't see any objects protruding from the craft, or hanging on to it, or no lights connected with it, or anything that I could identify at all.

CAPT KATO: Now when you saw it silhoutted, or against a tree, as you said, could you give us a rough comparison to its height in comparison to the tree?

MR.[redacted] My ability to adjust, or to estimate height is not real well, especially when it is hanging in the air. I thought it was real close; I thought--three thousand feet sounds awful close to me. Now a Piper Cub, in other words, what's the height a Piper Cub has to fly over our city?

CAPT KATO: This is undetermined. . . What they have to fly?

MR.[redacted] Have to.

CAPT KATO: I believe it's a thousand feet or twenty-five hundred or something like that. One question. . .did this object make any sound whatsoever? Was there any sound heard?

MR.[redacted] No, I heard no sound. I believe I left my motorcycle engine idling, and I was standing quite close to that. The other lady there heard a hissing or whirling sound. I never heard no sound.

CAPT KATO: Okay, thank you very much.

The format contained in AFR 80-17, paragraphs 11 and 12 is completed as follows:

Report from Patrolma[redacted]

A. Description of the object.

(1) The object appeared as an upturned pickle, slightly concave.

(2) It appeared to be longer than a Piper Cub.

(3) At first it was dark and shadowy.

(4) One at first, followed by a second one, identical to the first, three minutes later.

(5) None.

(6) Nothing distinguishable, however almost saw something.

(7) None.

(8) None emitted.

(9) It seemed to rock forward as it moved to the north west.

B. Description of course of object.

(1) Interest and natural habit of looking around caused sighting.

(2) Approximately 60 degrees high and due North.

(3) Gradually lost sight as it moved north west.

C. Manner of observation.

(1) The object initially sighted by naked eye and then through a camera view finder.

D.

(1) 1930Z to 1945Z 9 March 1967
1330L to 1345L 9 March 1967

(2) Mid-day, very slight overcast, otherwise bright and clear.

E. Standing on the Southeast corner of 16th Avenue and 14th Street, Northwest Moline, 41° 30' North and 90° 32' West.

F. Identifying information on observer.

(1) [redacted], age 32, [redacted] Moline, Illinois, Traffic Police Officer, 10 years in position, 2 years of High School.

G. Weather and winds aloft.

(1) Clear and bright

(2) Winds generally WSW at 30 Knots and above.

(3) High, very thin, scattered.

(4) Beyond 15 NM

(5) Very thin high cirrus.

(6) None.

(7) Normal, no inversion.

H. Unusual activity - loss of radio communication after experience.

I. None.

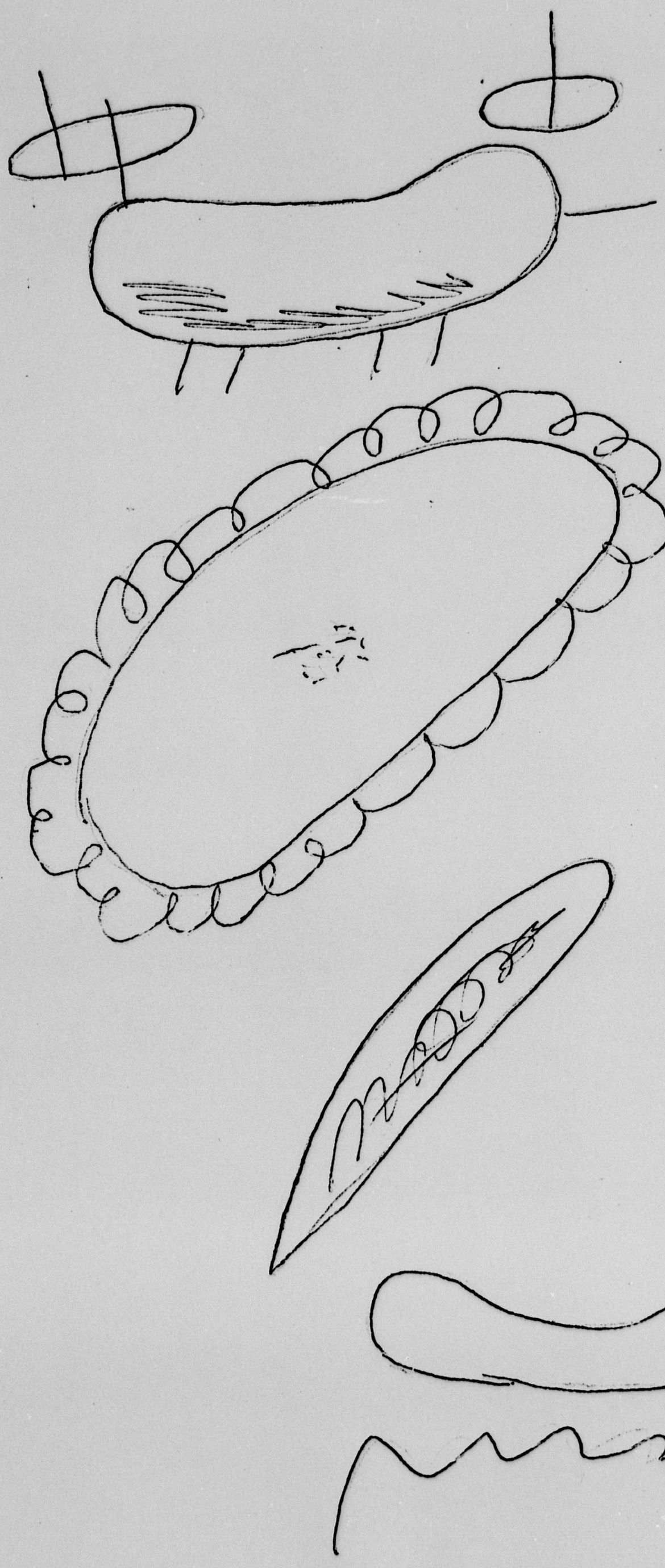
J. None. See investigating officers summary.

K. See investigative officers summary.

Photographic Evidence

Motion Pictures - 8mm movie films made of the sighting. A copy is to be made for the U. S. Air Force by one of the major radio-television networks. The films were taken on an 8mm Mansfield Movie Camera, Holiday II, telephoto lens, F 16 setting, type A outdoor color film, type A filter. The view finder reduces the area about 5 times. The camera was hand-held and continually sighted on the object, therefore no flight movement or direction is apparent.

In addition to the film, the drawing of the objects made by Patrolman [redacted] attached.



DRAWINGS BY [redacted]

RETRACED BY CAPT. E. J. ORENIC

(20'd 15 MAE67

CAPT.Edw. Oeenic

CAPT. R. Kato
Chanute AFB

Sirs;

I am writting you in regards to UFO sighting and subsequent investigation of same. Other information concerning the object itself came to my mind and I thought it pertinent enough to bring it to your attention.

I described the surface of the object to be shiney and of a metallic material, but I did want to tell you that the surface , although smooth, appeared to have an orange peel effect. I will try to illustrate with a sketch below.

Furthermore, I asked the radio repairman what he detected to be malfunctioning in my Police radio. The repairman, [redacted] informed me my antenna had c ome loose from its connection and was the cause for my receiver not picking up my base station.

The lady that was with me for almost the entire duration of my sighting has made her identity available to me and I am relaying it to you.

Mrs. [redacted] Ill. [redacted]

I think this woman might not relate the sighting in the aame detail that I did, but I am sure you men are prepared to evaluate her information in comparision to what I related to you.

Thank You for your co-operation. I am sincerely

[redacted]

Moline, Ill. 61265

THIS SKETCH APPEARS MORE LIKE A CHECKERED EFFECT RATHER THEN THE ORANGE PEEL EFFECT THAT I AM TRYING TO ESTABLISH, JUST LOOK AT AN ORANGE AND YOU WILL SEE

[redacted] Deputy Sheriff, Knox County

[redacted] was contacted while on duty and the interview was made at his office. He taped his statement and gave us a drawing of what he saw. The statement he made on tape is as follows: (See attached statement.)

STATEMENT

MR. [redacted] I proceeded west from Wataga on the blacktop, blacktop road that runs Henderson to Wataga. As I pulled up on the overpass that runs over the top of the new Interstate that goes north. . . I stop on top of the overpass frequently in my patrol; I generally look around the area. And as I looked back to the southeast, I saw this bright more or less object in the southeast sky. I looked away from it. My first thought was it was a falling star. As I looked away from the object for a few seconds, I turned back towards the object, the object was proceeding to rise instead of fall like a falling star. So it looked like it was headed directly for the squad car. I at first thought about gettin' out of there, and then I thought, well, I might as well see what it is. So, I have binoculars that I carry with me, I got the binoculars out and by the time I stepped outside the squad car, the object was almost directly overhead. I put my binoculars on the object and I watched it as it went directly overhead at a speed that I would estimate at about 250 to 300 miles an hour. The bottom part of this object had a rim around it about five to six feet thick. This rim was spinning at a terrific rate of speed. However, the bottom part of the object appeared to have vents in it, small narrow vents. At this terrific speed, the vents were still apparent and obvious, I mean, you could see them. The object as it went over the top of the squad car, a little bit -- a few seconds afterwards, or just a matter of a second or so -- I had the headlights on on the squad car, however, the car was turned off, the noise that emitted from the object -- the best way I can describe it was a kind of a hissing noise like air escaping from a tire only much louder naturally. As the object went over the car, it seemed to -- the right side seemed to dip just minutely, I mean it was obvious, however, it wasn't erratic, it was just a minute dip. The object proceeded on northwest. I followed the object with the binoculars. I would say maybe a minute, two minutes or three minutes, it could have been as high as three minutes, after the object went over the car and then was in a northwest direction, there was a white beam of light came from the object. I would say in an estimation as to about three feet from either side, the beam then, the rest of the beam would be -- or the beam would be as wide as that if you come in three feet from either side of this object. The beam went directly to the ground; however, there were trees and foliage and things like that, I did not see the beam strike the ground, but I could see the trees very clearly. The trees were clearly outlined. In other words, the object, when the beam went off towards the ground, the trees and things were silhouetted, you could see them very clearly like maybe a flash going off behind an object and you being on the opposite side. The object proceeded on to the northwest, gradually disappeared on the horizon. Now as to the description that I might give of this object, the bottom part of the object, in other words the rim that I referred to, had kind of a pulsating red glow. Now, the glow was erratic. It was not -- didn't seem to be timed like one second glow, one second glow, there might have been a couple of seconds elapse and then maybe one second elapse, but this would pulsate. There was no definite rhythm to the pulsating. Now, the top of the ship, or this object, as much as I could make out, was kind of a whitish crystalline looking, I mean it -- it -- there was kind of a crystal-like look to it. There was an inverted bubble, inverted bubble looked like it was in the top of the object; however, this appeared on the side, I mean it wasn't visible from the side of the ship, or this object, whatever it was. As to the height of this object, I would estimate at twenty-five hundred to three thousand feet. I would estimate the speed at around 250 - 300 miles an hour. In referring to the white ray that emitted from the object, it looked more or less to me -- the best way I can describe it, it looked like a sunray, I mean I have seen the sunray through the clouds and things, only it was quite a bit brighter, I mean it wasn't hazy, it was a direct, clear white, there was no haze to it or anything. Now, I have been flying for about three years and I am qualified to fly about five different planes. I have ridden in helicopters, I have ridden in large planes and small planes. This was definitely not an airplane as I know an airplane. It was not an airplane; it was not a helicopter; it was also not any kind of a balloon or weather balloon or anything to that effect. This object, as far as I could

observe, had no fins, no rudder and no wing protrusion, no wing protrusion on this object at all. As this object went from the southeast to the northwest, in my observation of it, there was no deviation whatsoever. This object went in a direct straight line, a direct straight line. My own view on the idea is that this object was definitely operated by some being or something. It -- remote controlly operated, this I would not say, however, in my estimation of a remote control operated object or vehicle has a tendency to vary a little. This object did not vary, this object had a definite straight line that it stayed on, there was no variation to the right or variation to the left. This report is made by myself. My name is [redacted] I'm a Knox County Deputy Sheriff, Galesburg, Illinois.

2

The format contained in AFR 80-17, paragraph 11 is completed as follows:

Statement from [redacted]

A.

1. Saucer Sahpe.

2. 30' dia HT 15' Bubble 4' down.

3. Blue haze surrounded, white crystaline top surface, hot metal red rim.

4. 1.

5. No.

6. See attached.

7. None.

8. Hissing (load)

9. See attached.

B.

1. Shooting star appearance.

2. Elevation across horizon.

3. Slowly over horizon.

4. Steady, no deviation.

5. Straight ahead.

6. 0425 L CST 11 minutes length.

C. Ground to Air.

1 Binoculur 8.50 X 50.

D. 0425 L CST 6 March 1967 dark, 1025Z 6 March 1967.

E. 1 mile East Henderson on Wataga Road.

F.

1. Deputy [redacted]

2. 39.

3. [redacted]

4. Deputy Sheriff.

5. 11 grade.

6. See investigating officers summary.

X 12

G.

1. Clear - cold - 5 - 10 mph out of East - temperature 23 - visibility unlimited.

H. Radio trouble, radios cut in and out.

I. ADC - None.

J.

Pilot - Student.

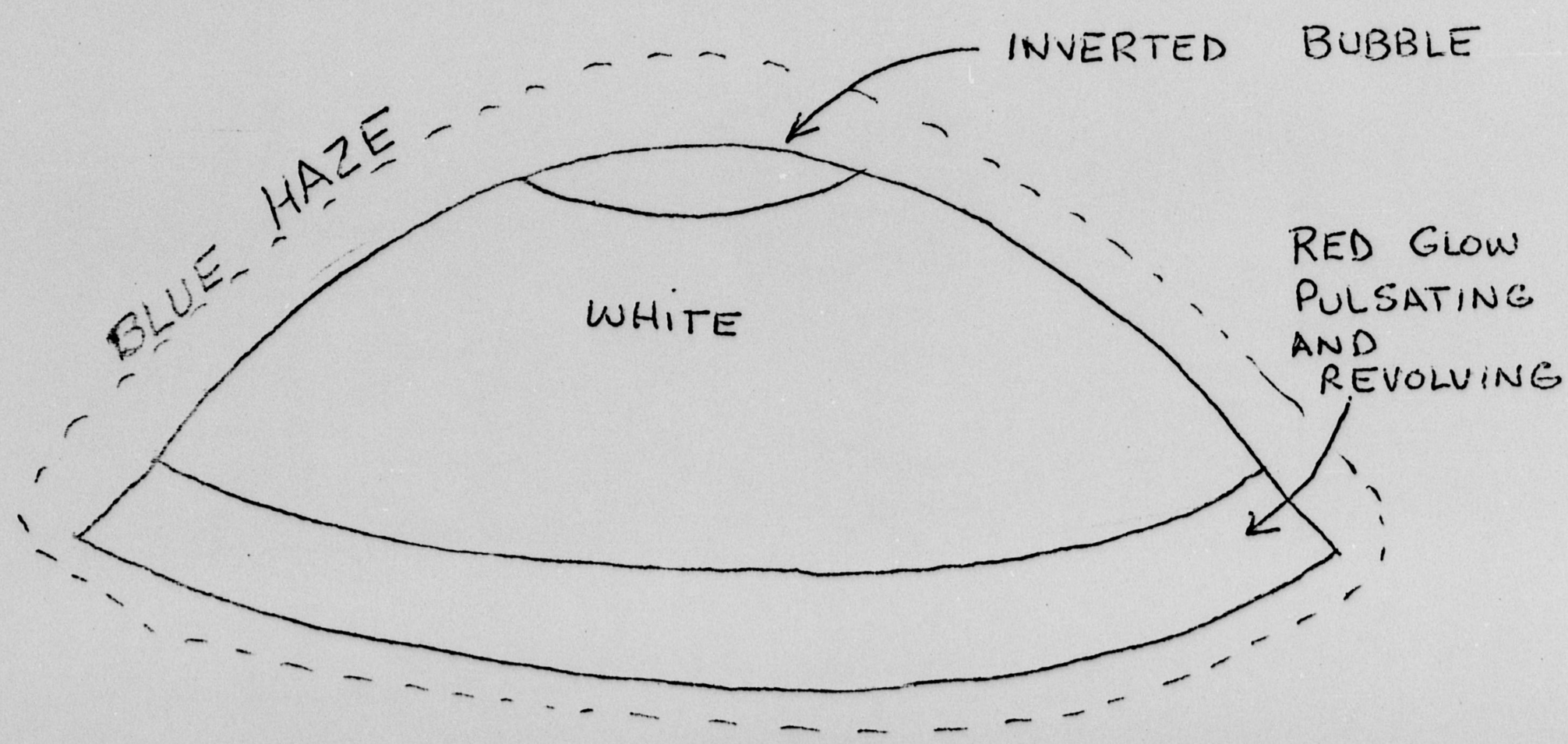
Army - 4 to 5 months, medical discharge.

Interview with [redacted] 4:25 A. M.

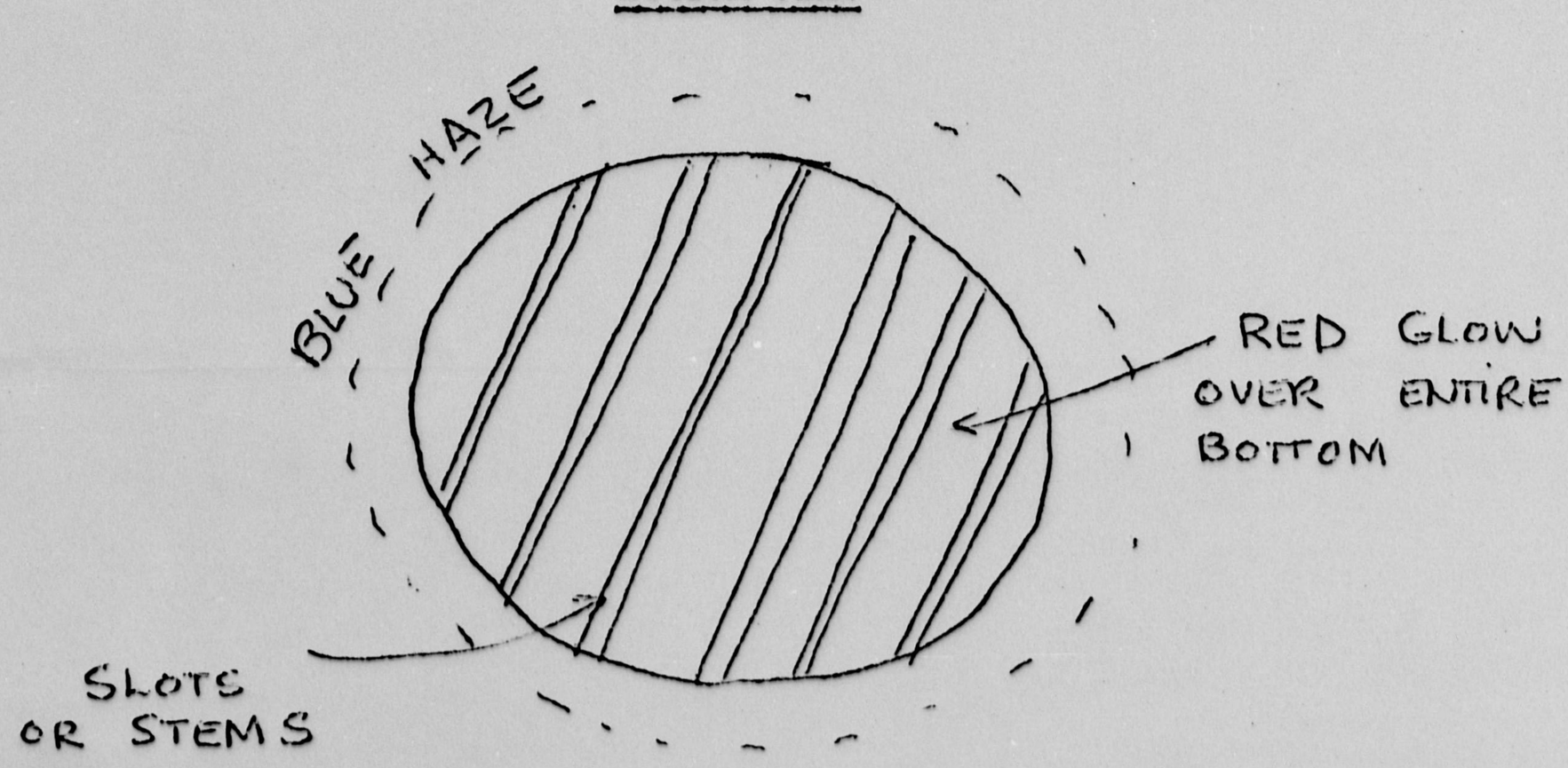
6 March 1967 sighting.

Object appeared out of Southeast as a bright light. Caught eye because of upward rise of flight. Took a double take, saw object approaching. Reached into back seat, got out field glasses. Scared. Observed with field glasses. Object approached nearer. Shut off car motor, got outside. Watched object get nearer. As object passed overhead, a sound similar to air leaving a tire was prevalent. The object was shaped as drawn:

SIDE VIEW



BOTTOM VIEW



Catholic Nun, Sacred Heart School, [redacted]

Siste[redacted]was contacted at her quarters on the 10th of March at 2100 hours. An interview was conducted and the following statement was given.

Around 1330 to 1345, possibly at 1335, I had a brief sighting of an object. This sighting lasted about 5 seconds. It was near 60 degrees high and appeared in the west. It could have been over the Illinois river. No sound was emitted. The object appeared as a silver sliver of light. Seconds later, I sighted what I thought were three jets directly overhead. I saw vapor trails of the jets. One appeared to be going east and the other two going west. I would say the object was at the same altitude as the Jets.

[redacted], Deputy Sheriff Henry County.

The following interview and statement was made in [redacted] office. His statement was taped as follows: (See attached statement.)

STATEMENT

CAPT KATO: My name is Captain Kato and I'm performing a interview with Deputy [redacted] Sheriff Powell.

Mr. [redacted] This is [redacted] Deputy Sheriff Henry County. On the night of March 8th, on the way to work, I observed some — an object in the sky, first brought to my attention by the unusual lights, the arrangements of the lights. I watched them and stopped the car and observed for about five minutes an object in the sky with, what I thought, was incorrect marking. This object had a white light which I thought was the rear, with a red light which I felt was on the right, which, to my knowledge, would be incorrect, and a green light on the left. This object was moving in a east to west direction; however, it would seem to stop and hover for a period of time. At times there would be a rather high, bright red intense light come on, sometimes for a few seconds, and sometimes for as long as thirty seconds. This light would come on so bright that the other marker lights would not be visible, then it would go off and move along. I cited this object with stars and felt that something was unusual about it because it did not continue in a steady even pattern. After observing the object from the junction of 81 and 82, I proceeded towards Cambridge continually watching this object as it moved in a westerly direction. As I neared Cambridge, it seemed that the object started a southerly course heading towards the direction of Woodhull, Alpha and possibly then on towards Knox County. I would estimate the distance from me to be somewhere in the neighborhood of eight miles. The object was low on the horizon, and I would estimate this to be approximately a thousand to fifteen hundred feet. My experience as a pilot has been a private license. I am not licensed at the present however; the license expired a year and a half ago. I've had quite a number of hours in the air as a private pilot.

The format contained in AFR 80-17 is completed as follows:

Basic report fro[redacted].

A.

(1) Unknown (triangle shape of marker lights).

(2) About size of large aircraft.

(3) Undetermined.

(4) One.

(5) N/A

(6) Red, white, green and hi-intensity red.

(7) No trail exhaust etc.

(8) Unknown.

(9) None.

B.

(1) Lights.

(2) 35° elevation, 135° Southeast - 185°

(3) 225° at distance

(4) Steady to the Southwest.

(5) Below horizon gradually.

(6) 1130 - 1137

C.

(1) Straight.

(2) None.

(3) N/A

D. 1130 - 1137 L 8 March 1967. 7 minutes

E. East Junction Route 81 and 82. 1 mile East Ganesburg.

F. [redacted] age 46, [redacted] in Agriculture, Michigan State - 1948. In U. S. Navy - 4 months. Director of Civil Defense Tower Spotter.

G. Clear sky, visibility good, wind unknown, cool temperature.

H. Normal nocturnal temperature inversion.

[redacted] Quick recall interview - 1130 - 1135 Wednesday night 8 March 1967.

Down Route 82, up on Hill.

Looking to S. E.

Saw what appeared to be aircraft, red white and green.

Lights were in pattern traveling East to West.

Object did not appear to move.

Bright red (hi-intensity) light came on. On for few to 30 seconds.

Obliterated other lights.

Observed for 5 minutes, slowly moved West.

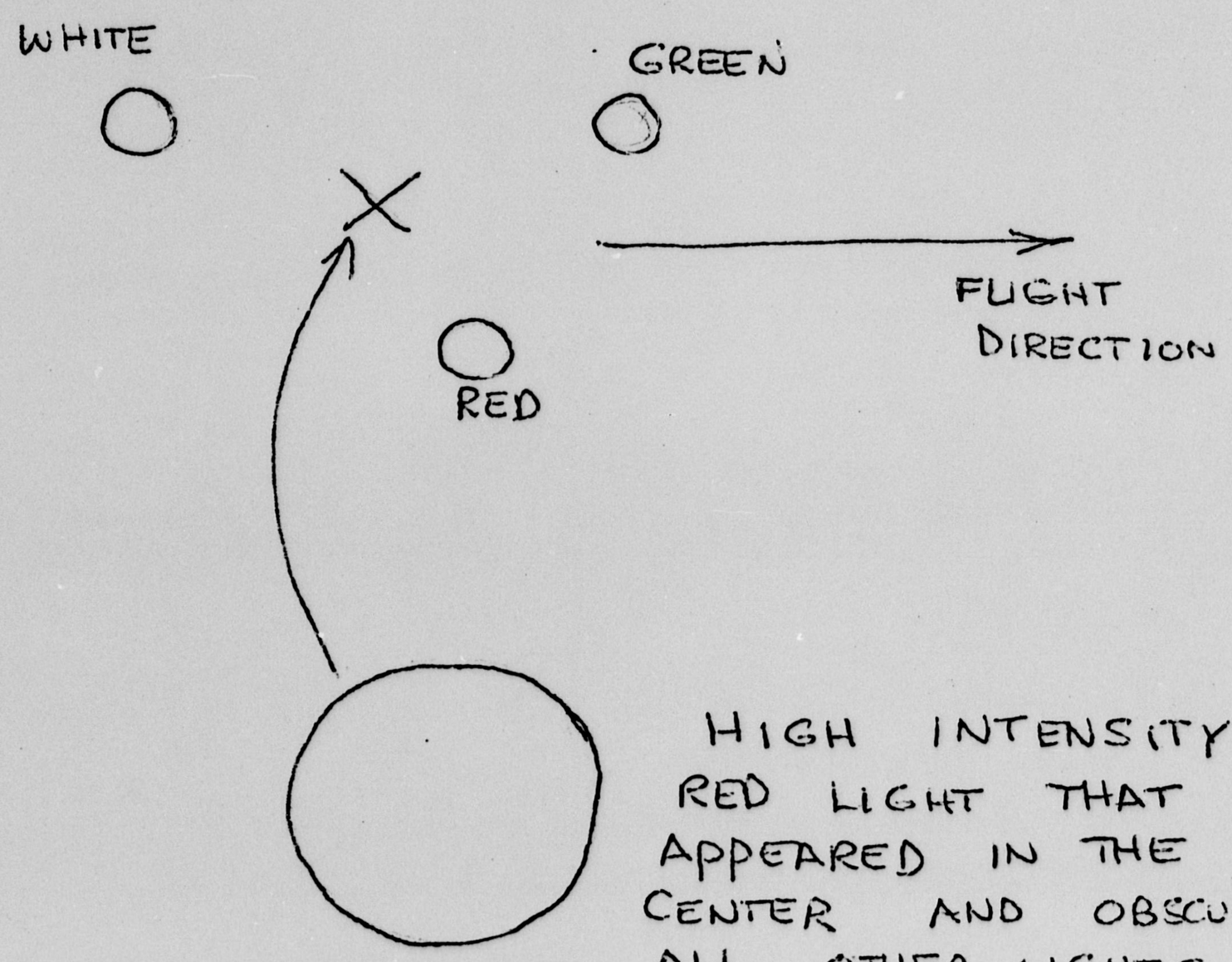
Low on Horizon.

Size not apparent.

Probably 8 miles away.

1000' to 1500 feet altitude.

Clear weather, stars bright.



HIGH INTENSITY RED LIGHT THAT APPEARED IN THE CENTER AND OBSCURED ALL OTHER LIGHTS

Catholic Nun, Sacred Heart School, Siste[redacted]

Sister[redacted] was contacted at her quarters on the 10th of March at 2100 hours. An interview was conducted and the following statement was given:

At 1405 on the 9th of March, I saw three Jets and a pink object in formation. I first saw the Jet contrails and then spotted the Jets. They appeared to be directly overhead. I don't remember the direction but I'd guess they were about 15,000 feet high. The pink object remained in formation. I left the school ground and entered the school.

Catholic Nun, Sacred Heart School, Sister [redacted]

Sister [redacted] was contacted at her quarters on the 10th of March at 2115 hours. An interview was conducted and the following statement was given.

At 1130 hours on the 10th of March, I observed an object above the tree tops across from the school yard. At first the object appeared to be square but it seemed to change its shape as it moved eastwar. I observed it for five minutes and as it was viewed through the trees, it appeared as a bright yellowish elongated object. It seemed to hover. I watched it for a total of 5 minutes. [redacted], a teacher in the school, was with me and made the same observation as I did.

The following telephone interviews were made:

Mrs [redacted]

The interview is presented in the form given in AFR 80-17, although the witness gave the information in her own words that did not follow the format.

A.

1. Disk or saucer shape.

2. Four feet in diameter.

3. Red then yellow then pale blue.

4. (1) one.

5. N/A

6. Antenna on top, holes toward top.

7. Gas stream down 45°.

8. Started as jet noise, then hissing sound that ended with big bang.

B.

1. Mother called on phone and said it was headed her way (due west).

2. Angle of elevation - overhead to horizon, estimated at 3500 to 5000 HT. Azimuth - due west.

3. Horizon.

4. Stop and go (slow)

5. Faded into horizon.

6. 0145Z 9 March to 0400Z 9 March 1967, 1945 to 1000 CST.

C.

1. Observed ground to air.

2. Binoculars, power not known.

D. 9 March 1967, 0145Z to 0400Z dark.

E. Back yard of residence.

F.

1. Mrs and Mr [redacted]

2. Age 44, husband 47.

3. [redacted]

4. Occupation - Housewife.

5. High School graduate.

G.

1. Clear.

2. See attached weather flimsy.

A. Cieling - none.

B. Visibility unlimited.

C. None.

D. None.

E. Standard.

H. None.

I. None.

J. None.

M[redacted]

[redacted]

792-8375

The interview is presented in the form given in AFR 80-17, although the witness gave the information in her own words that did not follow the format.

A.

1. Oversized star.
2. Three times the size of Langest star.
3. Bright yellow with light blue escont with red on side.
4. Two.
5. Yes.
6. None.
7. None.
8. None.
9. None.

B.

1. Undetermined.
2. 40° up toward South East.
3. Disappeared in fog.
4. Back and forth, Southeast to Northwest.
5. Fog.
6. 11 March 1967, 0630Z.

C. Ground to air.

D. 11 March 1967, 0630Z

E. Back yard.

F.

1. M[redacted]) age unknown.
2. Age - not determined.
3. [redacted] Illinois.
4. Housewife.
5. Undetermined.
6. Undetermined.

23

G.

1. Clear until fog.

2. See weather flimsy.

A. Ceiling - None.

B. Visibility 0 in patchy fog.

C. None.

D. None.

E. Undetermined.

H. None.

I. None.

J. Undetermined.

[redacted]

Moline, Illinois

[redacted]

The following interview was made with Mr [redacted] Mrs [redacted] was with Office[redacted] but had to leave town due to a family illness. M[redacted] passed on what his wife had told him.

A.

1. Elongated and parallel to earth.
2. Undetermined.
3. White or silver.
4. 1 one.
5. No
6. None, not a plane, no wings.
7. None.
8. None.
9. None

B.

1. Undetermined.
2. 60 to 70° up azimuth unknown.
3. Got smaller.
4. Undetermined.
5. Disappeared.
6. 1930Z, 3 to 5 minutes.

C.

1. Ground to air.
2. No aids.

D. 1930Z, 9 March 1967 (day), 1330L CST.

E. Southeast corner of 16th Avenue and 14th Street, Northwest Moline 41° 30' North, 90° 32' West.

F.

1. [redacted]
2. Age undetermined.
3. [redacted]

4. Housewife.

5. Undetermined.

6. Reliable.

G.

1. Clear and bright.

2. West-Southwest, 30 Knots and above (See attached weather flimsy).

A. High then scattered.

B. Visibility +15.

C. High thin cirus.

D. No thunderstorm.

E. Standard gradient.

H. None.

I. None.

J. None.

[redacted]

The interview is presented in the form given in AFR 80-17 paragraph 11.

A.

(1) Circular.

(2) Same or smaller than a star.

(3) Bright like a mercury vapor lamp.

(4) One.

(5) None.

(6) None.

(7) None.

(8) No sound noted.

(9) None.

B.

(1) First called by [redacted]

(2) 30° to 35° angle.

(3) 20 to 25° angle when I left.

(4) Steady slowly to the west.

(5) Gradually to the west below the horizon.

(6) 45 minutes.

C.

(1) Naked eye and through Frank Coursons binoculars, size 850 or something.

D.

(1) 0645Z to 0730Z, 9 March 1967
0045L to 0130L, 9 March 1967

(2) Night.

E. Corner of Route's 10 and 150.
41° 01' North 90° 22I West

F. [redacted]ty City Jail.

G.

(1) Cool, clear night, no wind.

(2) See weather flimsy.

(3) None.

(4). Unlimited.

(5) None.

(6) None.

(7) Undetermined.

H. None.

I. None.

J. None.

K. See Investigating Officers Summary.

PART V

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE AND MAPS AND CHARTS

PART V

I N D E X

1. ILLINOIS STATE ROAD MAP

2. AERONAUTICAL MAP OF AREA

3. CITY MAP OF MOLINE

4. STATEMENT AND MAP OF IOWA

5. U. S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT EXTRACT

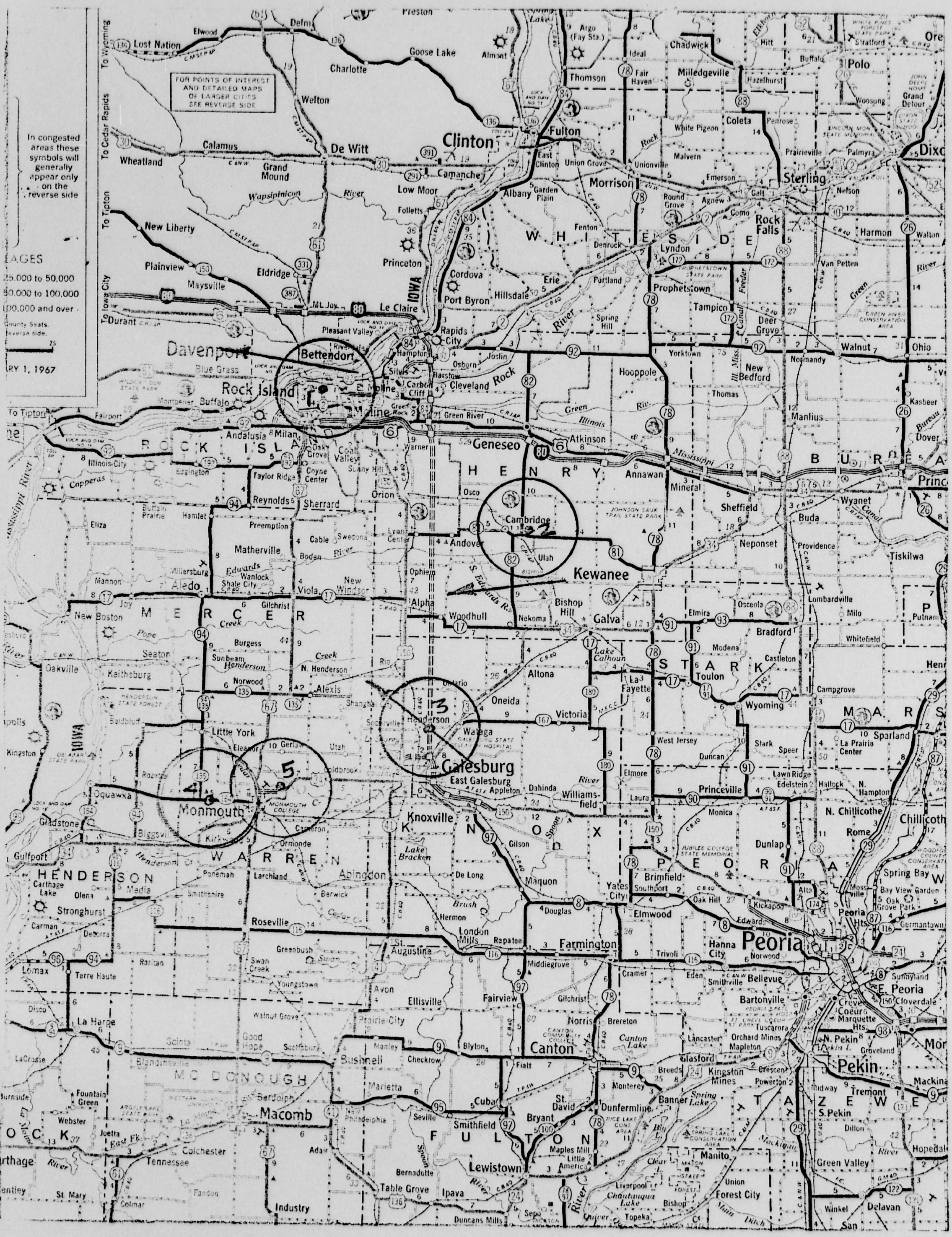
6. THERMOFAX FROM NATIONAL MAGAZINE

7. NEWS RELEASES 10 THRU 14

8. POLICE REPORT ON KITE

9. SEE ACCOMPANIED PACKAGE CONTAINING PLASTIC BAG BALLOONS AND MAGNETIC TAPE RECORDINGS

10. SEE ACCOMPANIED PACKAGE CONTAINING RED PLASTIC KITE



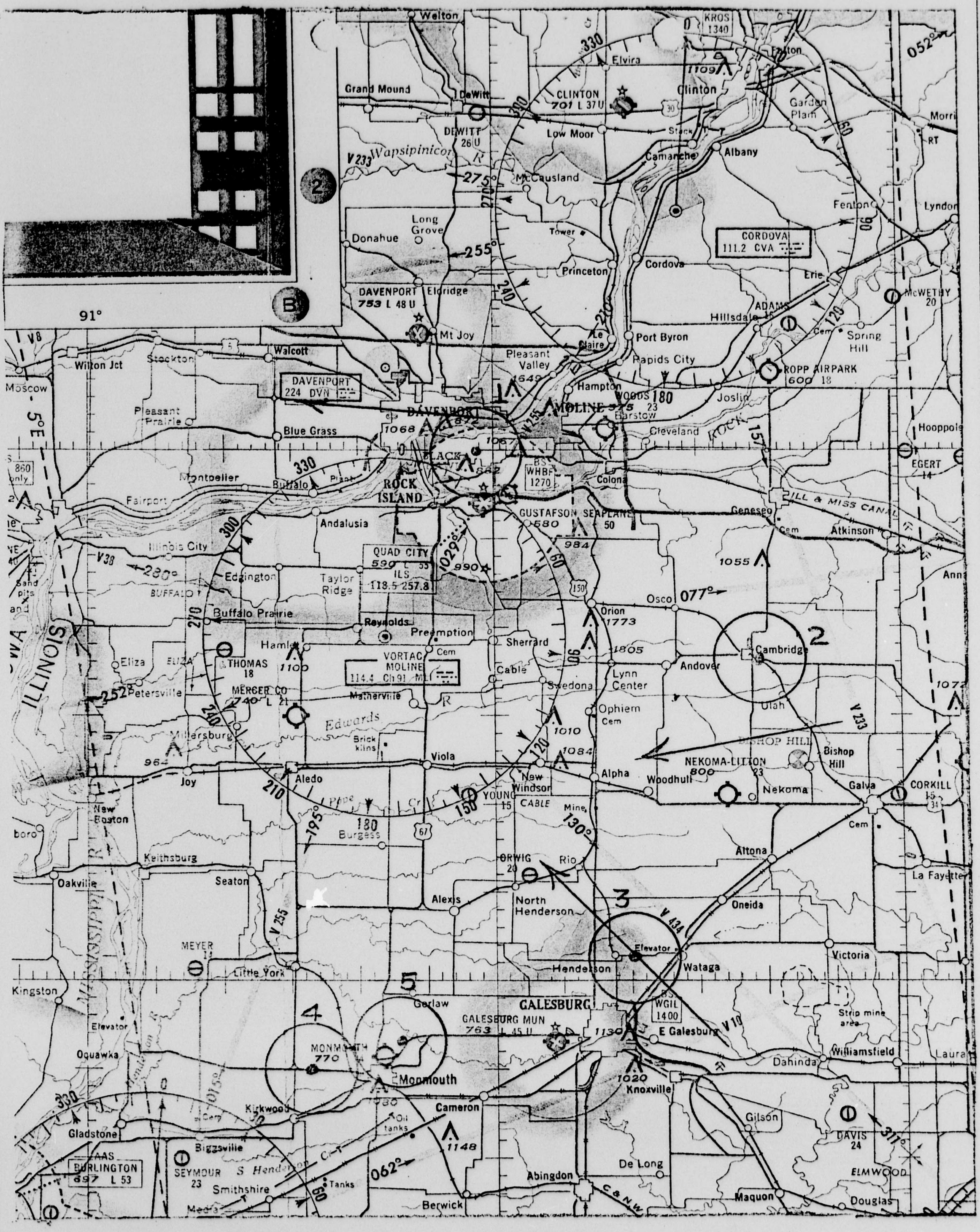
LOCATION OF SIGHTINGS AND PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

1. [redacted] Sighting
2. [redacted] Sighting
3. [redacted] Sighting
4. Location of First Balloon
5. Location of Second Balloon

0 5 10 15 20 25 45

one inch equals approximately 12 miles

2



1. [redacted] Sighting
2. [redacted] Sighting
3. [redacted] Sighting
4. Location of First Balloon
5. Location of Second Balloon

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL

GOLF COURSE

MISS

DYLVAN ISLAND

SLOUGH

LUTHERAN HOSPITAL

LUTHERAN HOSPITAL NURSES HOME

VELIE PARK

IRVING SCHOOL

BLACK HAWK COLL

STEPHENS PARK

LINCOLN SCHOOL

JOHN DEERE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

BROWNING FIELD

PROSPECT PARK

ALEXANDER HAMILTON SCHOOL

BLACK HAWK SCHOOL

32ND AVE

36TH AVE

0 100 600 800 1600 2400 3200 FT

SCALE

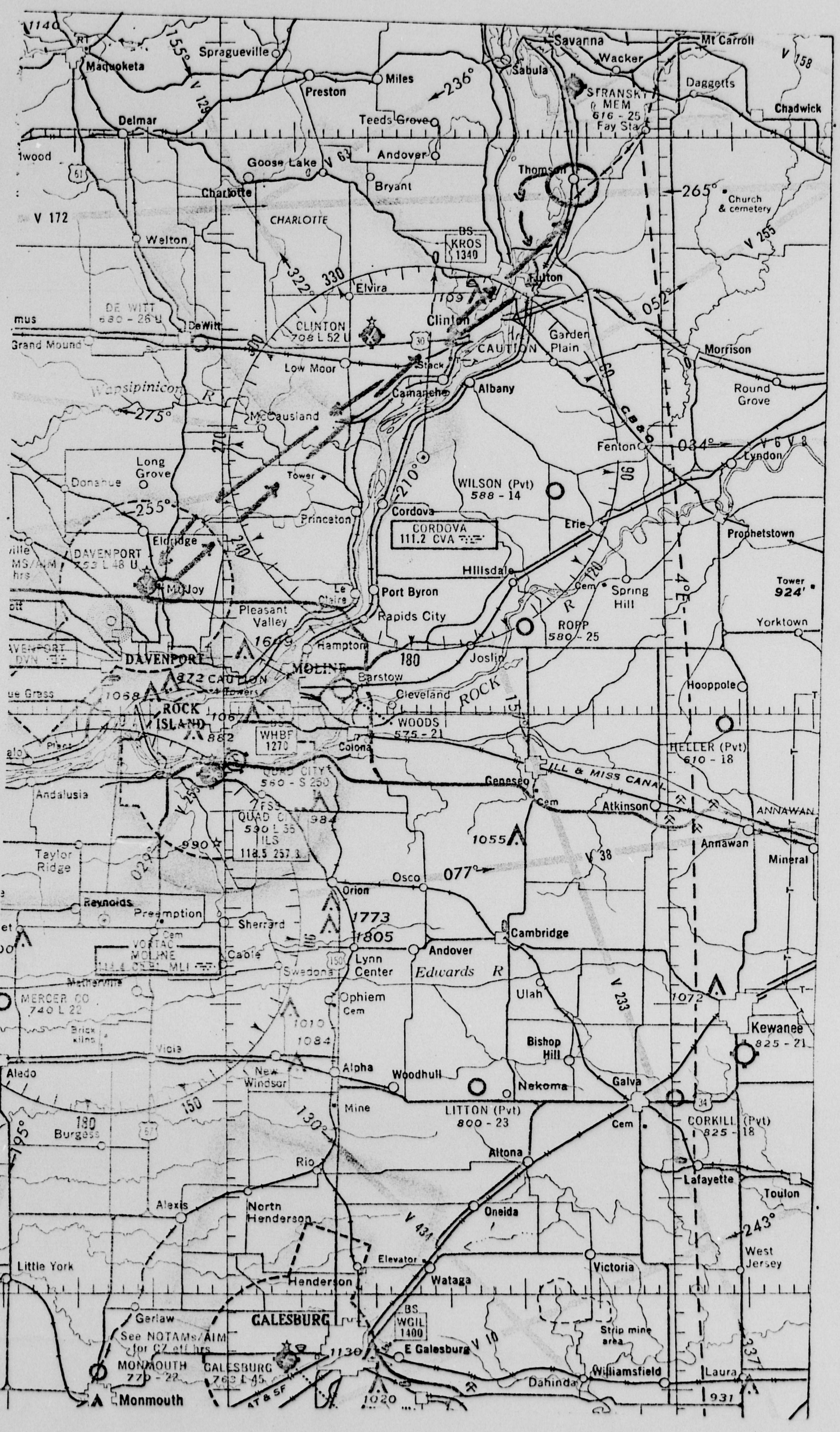
4

11 Mar 67

SUBJECT: Flight of CH -37B Helicopter

On 9 March 1967, Captain Robt. C. Cummings and CW3 Henry S. Luchner, 1105th Trans. Co. (Med Hel) Iowa ARNG, Davenport Iowa, flew CH-37B 71657 on a combined test flight and aerial photo trip. We started flying in the Davenport local traffic pattern and later flew direct to the vicinity of Thompson Ill for the Corps of Engrs Aerial photos. Upon completing the photos we returned to the Dam and returned direct to Davenport Airport and landed straight-in on runway 20. Our altitude varied between 1500' to 2000' ft MSL enroute and below 1000' in the photo area. At no time were we south of Interstate Highway #80. We departed the 1105th ramp at 1100 hrs and returned at 1250 hrs

/s/ HENRY S. LUCHNER
CW3 IOWA ARNG


V140
Maquoketa
Sprague ville
155°
V 129
Preston
Miles
236°
Delmar
Teeds Grove
Andover
Goose Lake
V 63
Bryant
Charlotte
CHARLOTTE
V 172
Welton
BS
KROS
1340
Elvira
322°
330
DE WITT
580 - 26 U
DeWitt
CLINTON
708 L 52 U
Clinton
Grand Mound
Low Moor
Stack
CAUTION
Camanche
Albany
Wapsipinicon R
275°
McCausland
Long Grove
Donahue
Tower
Princeton
Cordova
CORDOVA
111.2 CVA
WILSON (Pvt)
588 - 14
Eldridge
DAVENPORT
Mt Joy
Le Claire
Port Byron
Rapids City
Pleasant Valley
Hampton
Joslin
Barstow
Cleveland
DAVENPORT
MOLINE
ROCK ISLAND
WOODS
575 - 21
WHBF
1270
Colona
Andalusia
QUAD CITY
560 - S 250
ILS
118.5 257.3
Taylor Ridge
Reynolds
Preemption
Sherrard
Cable
Swedona
Lynn Center
Orion
Osco
Andover
Cambridge
Edwards R
Ophiem
Cem
Ulah
Bishop Hill
Nekoma
Galva
Woodhull
Alpha
New Windsor
Aledo
MERCER CO
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588 - 14
Erie
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Hillsdale
Tower
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Spring Hill
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580 - 25
Yorktown
Hooppole
HELLER (Pvt)
610 - 18
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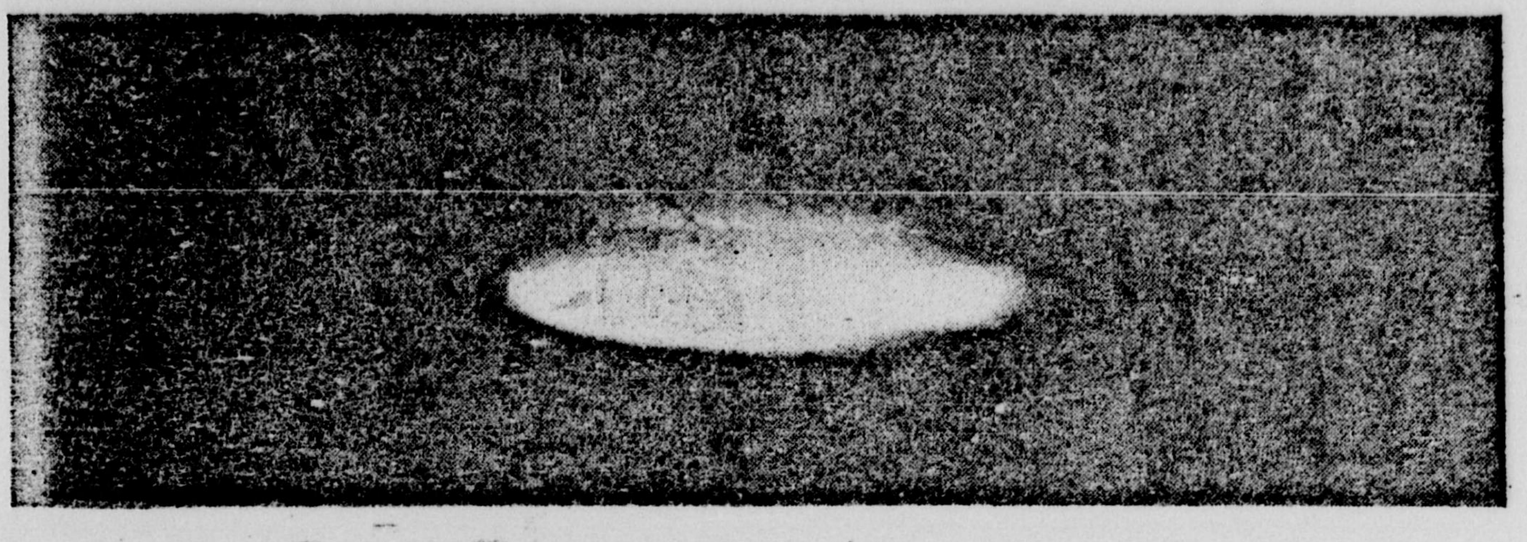
NEW LIGHT ON "FLYING SAUCERS"



"Flying object" made in a laboratory—a mass of glowing gas.

WASHINGTON — Several scientists, working at a privately financed laboratory near Washington, think they may have a new answer to the old mystery of "flying saucers."

If their theory is correct, the unidentified flying objects, or UFO's, are finally pinned down as a particular kind of freakish physical phenomenon—not spaceships from another planet.

The scientists' explanation has been tested at length in the laboratory, by igniting ammonia vapor with a high-voltage spark.

Saucer with windows. The result is a mass of glowing gas that quickly assumes the shape associated with UFO's—a disk-shaped object with an inverted-saucer top and sometimes the appearance of tiny windows around the rim.

The laboratory model pictured here is only an inch or so in diameter. But it does things associated with saucers—hovering in one spot for several minutes, sometimes darting about erratically, then breaking up or appearing to soar off.

It can also be tracked by radar, and produces a "charge field" that could affect radio performance nearby, says Dr. Robert S. Powell, who heads the small group of scientists experimenting with "the thing" at Melpar, Inc., in Falls Church, Va.

Spark from lightning? The gases involved in creating an artificial "saucer," Dr. Powell points out, are similar to those sometimes found in nature—often given off from newly fertilized fields or from swamps. The spark needed to touch it off, he adds, could be produced by lightning or a power line.

Other scientists have been able earlier to produce in a laboratory objects that resemble the saucers. Their techniques, however, have required a "constant energy input to sustain the effect," while in the ammonia-gas experiments the only energy input is the initial discharge spark, Dr. Powell explains. Full-scale experiments in the open atmosphere are possible now, he believes, but this might be very difficult at the present stage of work with gases.

The investigation by Dr. Powell and his associates has had no formal tie with either the Air Force or Government UFO research groups at the University of Colorado, although there was informal consultation with the latter scientists.

U. S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, March 20, 1967

A California highway patrolman reported on Dec. 3, 1966, the sighting of a "flying platform" with struts. He said there appeared to be someone inside wearing a crash helmet although the object was only "about the size of a hot water heater."

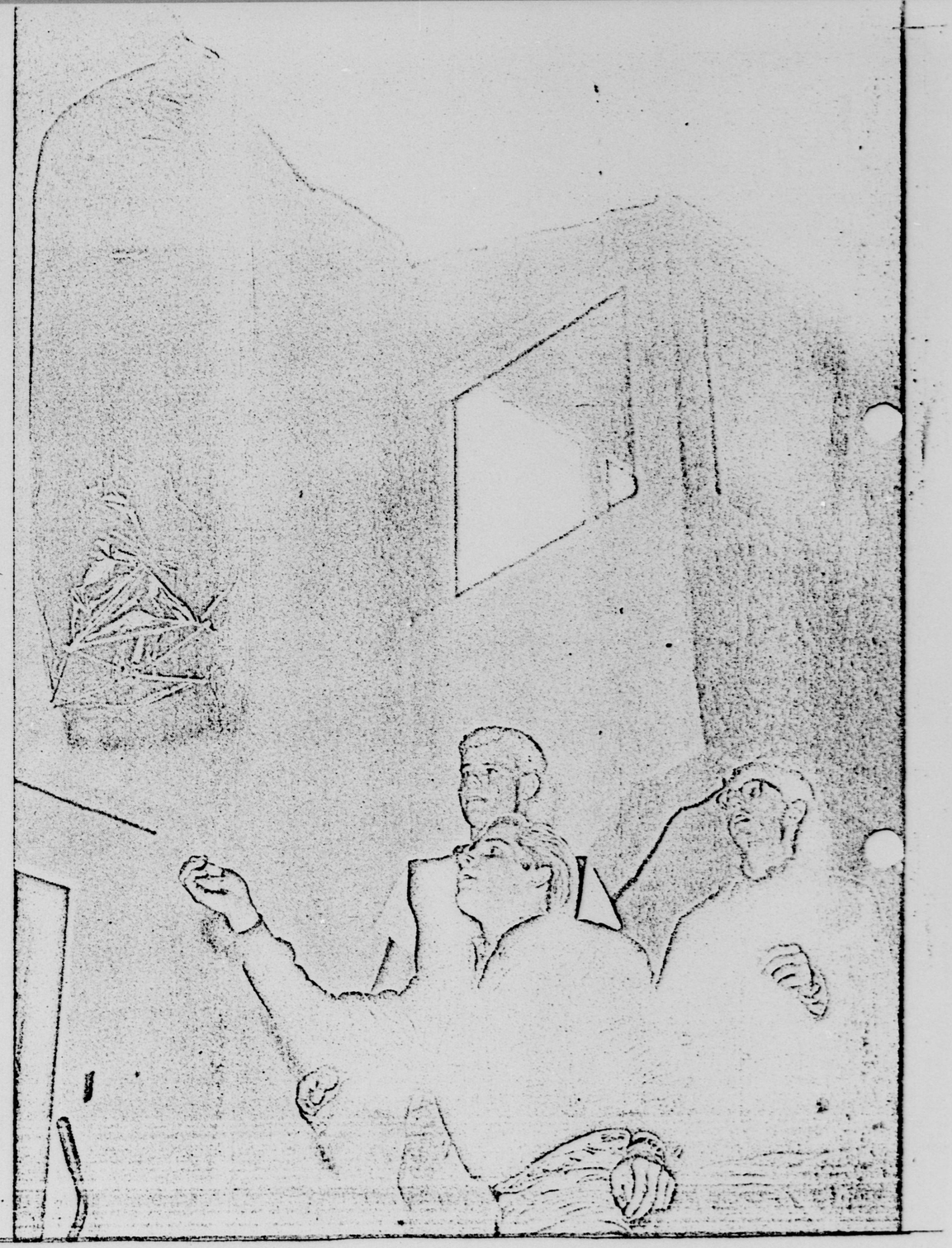
Four days later, Jon Barnard, a high school junior in Belmont, Calif., gave this recipe for flying saucers:

"You take one plastic bag, used by cleaning firms to protect clothes. Then you plug the coat-hanger end at the top. Get a bunch of plastic straws from a soda fountain. You use them as struts to hold the bag open.

"A circular structure of the straws, inserted end to end, provides a platform for birthday candles.

"Now you light the candles, holding the top of the bag until hot air fills it. Then you let it go, and away flies your hot air balloon, giving off a gentle glow from the candles."

Jon said he sent up 30 on the evening of Dec. 3. Says his father: "There won't be any more."



DEMOCRAT-TIMES-DISPATCH
DAVENPORT — BETTENDORF, IOWA, FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1967
56 Pages
6-5111

UFO Riddle Solved?

Find Balloon

Reports Mounting Eye Officer's Film

A solution to the mystery of the flying saucer sightings in the Quad-City area may have been found today near the Monmouth, Ill., waste disposal plant.

Robert Merwin, superintendent of the disposal plant in the city located 60 miles south of the Quad-Cities, reported a hot air balloon made of a clear plastic bag, soda straws and a candle.

He said he found the object tangled in brush on the north edge of Monmouth on a road leading to the plant.

Reports of unidentified flying objects have ranged from the Quad-Cities to Peoria the past two days.

Glued Together

Merwin said the soda straws were glued together and held the bag open. It was believed that the candle provide heat to propel the object and also gave off a soft, greenish light. The plastic bag was similar to those used by dry cleaners.

Ralph Eckley, city editor of the Monmouth Review Atlas, said recent magazines on newsstands in Monmouth have given descriptions of how UFO's were built by college students elsewhere.

Eckley noted that there are more than 1,000 students at Monmouth College and a similar number at Knox College in Galesburg.

Filmed By Policeman

One of the latest in the Quad-Cities to report "a strange object in the air" was Bill Fisher, a Moline policeman. Fisher said he was cruising in a patrol car near Sacred Heart parochial school at the time. He quickly aimed a movie camera, and filmed the object.

At about the same time a man rushed into the Silvis police station with a report he had seen a light aircraft go down at Friendly Farms, south of Carbon Cliff and between Black Hawk Road and the Rock River. Rock Island County sheriff's authorities investigated but found nothing. They coupled the report with UFO sightings.

Mrs. Leo Schmitz of 1437 25th Ave., Moline, described an object she saw as "very white ... and moving northwesterly."

Similar sightings were reported throughout the area.

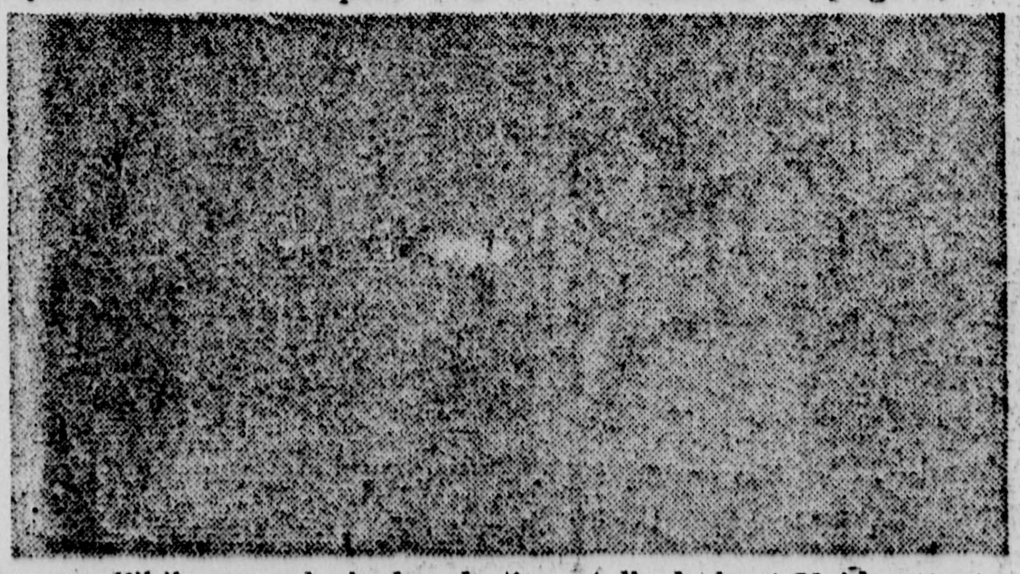
Another Theory

Another theory advanced before the report from Monmouth was that the strange object was a helicopter. A check showed an Iowa National Guard 'copter was in the air Thursday but only during daylight hours.

A UFO investigator from the Air Force was due in the Quad-Cities later today to view Fisher's movies.

Meanwhile a Northwestern University astronomer associated with the Air Force UFO investigation speculated that

(Continued on Page 5)



While some looked and others talked about Unidentified Flying Objects, Moline Policeman Bill Fisher aimed his 8 mm movie camera at what he described as an "elongated shape."

'It Hung In The Air'

From Page 1

what everybody is seeing might be merely the planet Venus.

"Venus is the brightest thing in the western sky as dusk deepens at this time of the year," said William T. Powers, assistant to Dr. J. Allen Hynek, astronomy professor connected with the Air Force investigation.

Powers said a careful observer can see Venus move and may therefore think it's a UFO.

At Augustana

Gary Bennett, 20, Colona, a sophomore at Augustana College, reported seeing an unfamiliar airborne vehicle about 9:30 p.m. in the East Moline hill district near Seventh Street as he as headed east for his home.

"It appeared hanging in the air and it had two bright white lights at one end and two red lights at the opposite end," Bennett said.

The student said it appeared as though the object was at an altitude of 1,000 feet, but he couldn't determine a shape because of the darkness and heard no sound.

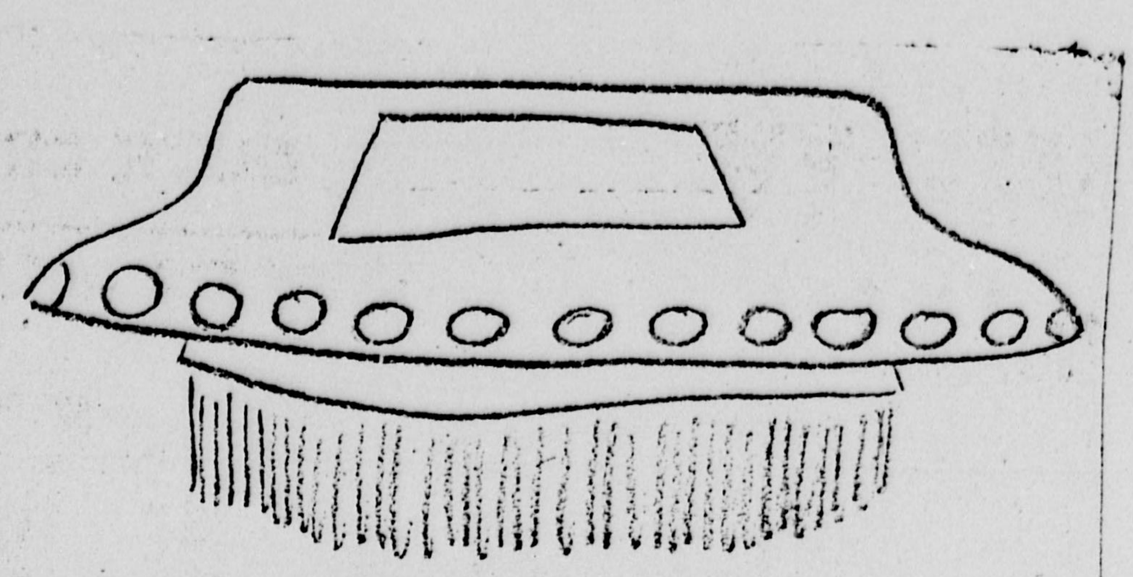
In Southern Illinois

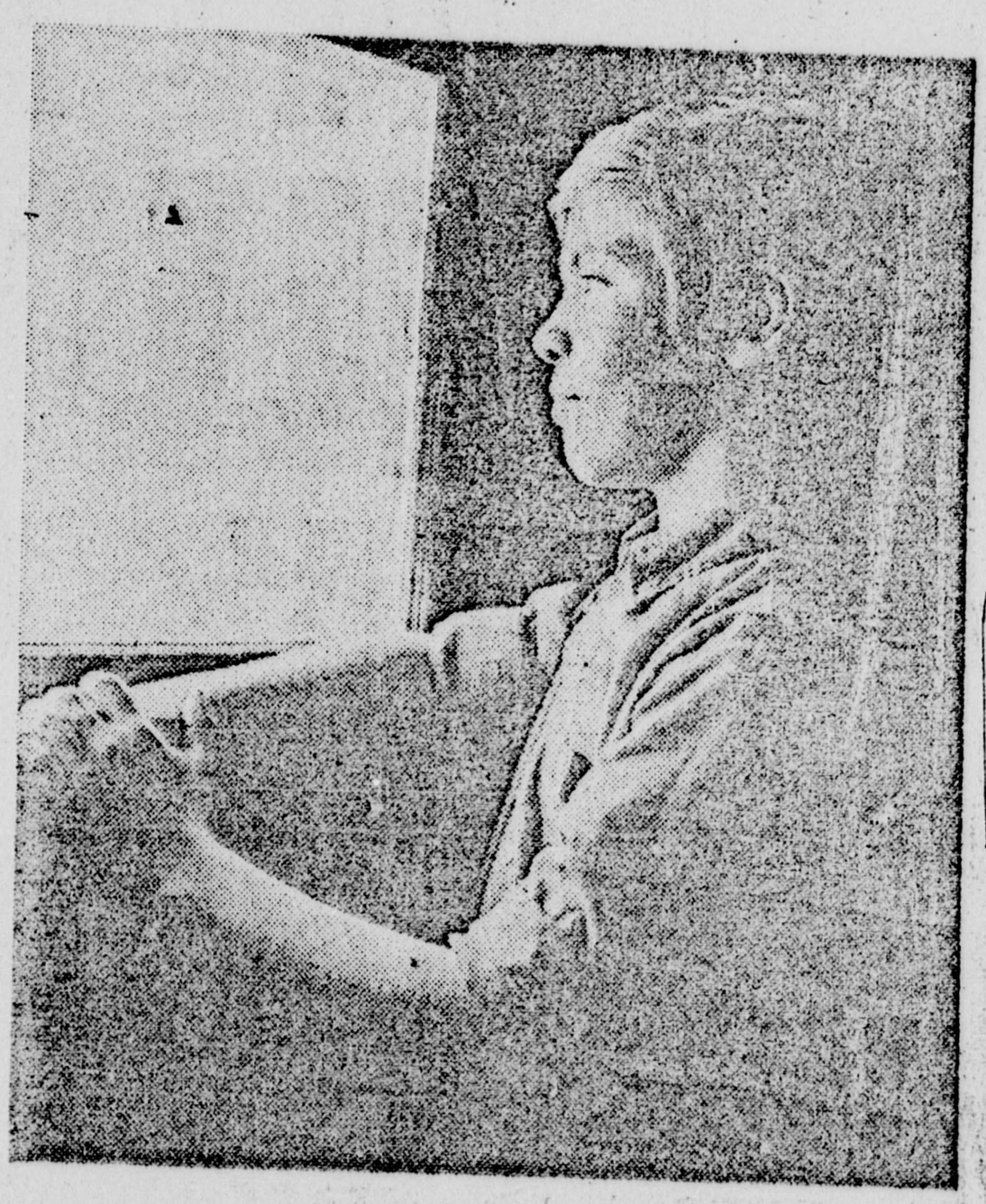
Several mysterious objects were reported in Southern Illinois.

Arthur Sills notified the sheriff's office at Salem he and his sister, Alice, spotted an object coming down the road near their home northeast of Salem.

Sills said the diamond-shaped object, traveling 15 to 20 feet in the air, kept changing from bright red to white. It suddenly shot upward and vanished.

John Konhorst and his wife, Faye, who live on a lake northeast of Centralia, said they observed a bright, vibrating object in the eastern sky Wednesday night.





By Greg Beaumont

Jimmie Scott, 12, looks out a window at his home in Buffalo as he relates to newsmen how he saw what appeared to be an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) early Thursday. Jimmie, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Scott, said he got up about 2 a.m. to get a drink of water and noticed the bright object in the sky. He drew a picture of the object as it appeared to him.

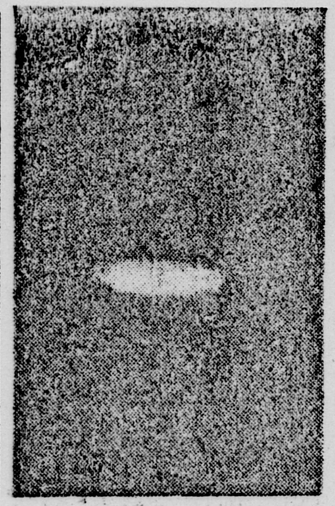
MOLINE DAILY DISPATCH

Moline, East Moline, Ill. – The Farm Equipment Capital Of The World

9 34 PAGES FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1967 NEWSSTAND P1

Who wants to argue with these young UFO spotters? The sixth and seventh grades of Sacred Heart Catholic School were on the playground yesterday when they spotted the mysterious object in the sky — and they have a policeman to back them up — Bill Fisher, who was cruising in the area. Sister Mary Mark, who was monitoring the grounds, however, would not put the religious order on the spot. She would not say that she saw the object, but she didn't say she did not see it either. (Dispatch Photo)

Is Something Up



Eight millimeter movie film, taken of the UFO spotted yesterday over Moline, shows a cigar shaped object, clearly visible in the sky. The film was shot by Bill Fisher, a Moline policeman, who was carrying his camera to "finish the roll." The officer was joined by children at Sacred Heart School in viewing the object, which appeared to them like a huge boxcar. Many local residents reported spotting strange objects in the sky over a wide range.

Moline Policeman Takes Movies Of 'Boxcar' In Sky

By DOROTHY BURESH
Dispatch Writer

Sneer if you will.

You are not going to convince persons in this area who sighted unidentified flying objects that they are candidates for the "booby hatch."

No matter if the reports vary from "saucer type" to "boxcar type," some hearing explosive noises and others hearing nothing.

They saw what they saw.

The facts from Edward J. Ruppelt, former head of the United States Air Force Project Investigating Flying Saucers, is this:

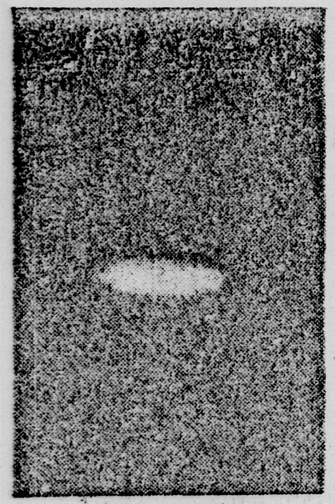
"More than 20 per cent of all sightings are classified as "unknowns." These are objects seen in our skies that cannot be identified as balloons, man-made aircraft or meteors, and that cannot be attributed to weather or atmospheric illusions. Neither can they be explained away as hoaxes or hallucinations."

iffs in the area, F. W. Courson of Knox County and Robert Powell of Geneseo made detailed reports of their sighting. A Moline woman, Mrs. Arnold Buchmeyer, 2222 6th St., and her neighbors, also reported viewing the UFO through binoculars.

'White Light'

Through the day and last night the list grew longer with a Silvis man, James Maifeld, Sunset View Trailer Court, reporting that he and his wife had watched "a white light" in the sky for several minutes which disappeared behind a hill. Rock Island County sheriffs searched to be sure that no small aircraft had crashed in the area.

Something Up There?



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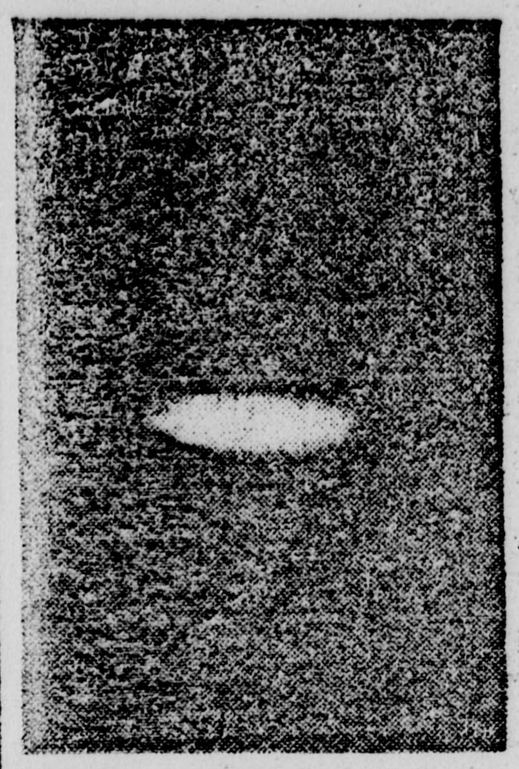

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If you are really interested, "The Report On Unidentified Flying Objects" by Ruppelt in paperback form is available. And when you finish it, you too may be out scanning the evening sky with your binoculars — or perhaps packing for a trip on a little green ship to some other planet.

At any rate, the sightings continue to be reported by people considered very reliable.

Policeman Films It

Early yesterday afternoon a Moline policeman, Bill Fisher, aimed his movie camera at an object in the sky which he described as shaped like a "boxcar." He was riding patrol in the vicinity of Sacred Heart Catholic School, Moline, at the time.

An Air Force UFO investigator was due in the Quad-Cities today to view the film and to acquire a copy of the film for the investigation files.

Several children also spotted the object, which appeared to be joined by a second object which followed the course of the Mississippi River out of sight.

Yesterday two deputy sheriffs in the area, F. W. Courson of Knox County and Robert Powell of Geneseo made detailed reports of their sighting. A Moline woman, Mrs. Arnold Buchmeyer, 2222 6th St., and her neighbors, also reported viewing the UFO through binoculars.

'White Light'

Through the day and last night the list grew longer with a Silvis man, James Maifeld, Sunset View Trailer Court, reporting that he and his wife had watched "a white light" in the sky for several minutes which disappeared behind a hill. Rock Island County sheriffs searched to be sure that no small aircraft had crashed in the area. Nothing was found.

At the same hour, 6:30 p.m., a dispatcher at the Silvis police station, who prefers to remain anonomyous, reports she looked out the west window and saw a "weird" white light in the sky. When she turned to call attention to the light to others in the station it had disappeared.

Jimmie Scott, 12-year-old Buffalo boy, also reported seing the UFO early last night and drew a picture to prove it.

But — wait, before you realtors begin to lay out more plots designed especially for "little green people" with swimming pools and storm doors that stick, it is evident that the space people are "shopping around."

Many Sightings

Sightings were also reported Thursday in Canton, Salem, Centralia, Peoria, Pekin and many other communities. Worse than that they also were reported in Kansas and Ohio.

A Northwestern University astronomer associated with the Air Force's UFO investigation explained that what every-

(Continued on Page 3)

More UFO Reports...

(Continued from Page One)

body was seeing might have been merely the planet Venus. "Venus is the brightest thing in the western sky as dusk deepens at this time of year," said William T. Powers, assistant to Dr. J. Allen Hynek. Hyne an astronomy professor at NU, is in charge of the Air Force Program.

Well — those two! Probably can't see the forest for the trees!

After all, five counties in northwest Kansas viewed the object the Moline policeman tried to photograph.

A U.S. Weather Bureau employee in Peoria told of seeing a speck in the western sky as dusk deepened, and you know how reluctant weather people are to put out information. He must have been shook.

At the tower controlling air traffic at Quad-City Airport, however the luckless personnel saw nothing but planes, planes, planes — and felt rather cheated.

It also has been learned that a number of dogs, who have not been off the leash all winter, were "walked" last night. These cautious folks were reportedly just "glancing" at the sky, but of course they were really out just to walk the dog.

This report came from a canine friend who is considered reliable.

Dispatch Worker Viewer

And, if any more proof is needed, one of "our boys," Joe Lacaeyse of 313 15th Ave., Moline, a Dispatch employee also saw the saucer. And if you think we are going to risk losing an employee by discounting his intregrity, you better catch the next Sinister Saucer yourself.

So join the stiff-neck crowd, get those binoculars out and keep those reports coming in. I'll be off tomorrow.

Find Balloon

A solution to the western Illinois flying saucer sightings mystery may have been found near the Monmouth waste disposal plant today.

Robert Merwin, superintendent of the city's disposal plant, found a hot air balloon made of a clear plastic bag, soda straws and a candle. He found the object tangled in brush on the north edge of Monmouth on a road leading to the plant.

The soda straws were glued together and held the bag open. It was believed that the candle provided heat to propel the object and also gave off a soft greenish light. The plastic bag was similar to those used by drycleaners.

Ralph Eckley, city editor of the Monmouth Review Atlas, said recent magazines on newsstands in Monmouth have given descriptions of how UFO's were built by college students elsewhere.

He noted that there are more than 1,000 students at Monmouth College and a similar number at Knox College in Galesburg.

Area Residents See UFOs

A policeman photographed what he saw. Some watched through binoculars. A 12-year-old boy sketched a picture. Fears were aroused that a plane had crashed.

Numerous residents of the Quad-Cities and surrounding area said they saw Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) late Wednesday, early Thursday, and Thursday night. Sightings in other portions of the Midwest were reported during the same period.

In the Quad-City area, these were added to the growing list of reported UFO sightings:

— A man rushed into the Silvis police station Thursday night with a report he had seen a light aircraft go down at Friendly Farms, south of Carbon Cliff and between Black Hawk Road and the Rock River. Rock Island County sheriff's authorities investigated the report but found nothing. They coupled the report with UFO sightings.

— **Bill Fisher, a Moline** policeman, aimed an 8mm movie camera at an object he described as elongated in shape. He and several other persons said they viewed the strange object for five or six minutes. Fisher's color films will not be developed for several days.

— **F.W. Courson, a Knox** County deputy sheriff, said he was with a group of persons viewing objects through binoculars for more than half an hour as the objects danced over two radio transmitting towers. One of the objects emitted a hissing sound, Courson reported.

— **Bob Powell, Geneseo, a** Henry County deputy sheriff, and Bill Green, another police officer, reportedly saw objects, and their descriptions matched those of the objects seen by Courson.

— **Jimmie Scott, 12-year-old** son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Scott of Buffalo, Iowa, reported seeing a UFO about 2 a.m. He sketched a picture of the object.

— **Mrs. Arnold Buchmeyer** of 2333 6th St., Moline, said she watched a UFO from 8 to 10 p.m. Wednesday. She said she was alerted to the object by Mrs. Helen DeRocker, Moline, who reportedly noticed the UFO when she was returning from work earlier in the evening.

Elsewhere in the Midwest, a policeman at Goodland, Kan., reported seeing an object, brilliantly white in front with red and amber sidelights. It hummed "like a big vacuum cleaner," he said.

Tom Dreiling, editor of the Goodland Daily News, said that in his four years with the Air Force he never heard propellers, jets or any other object sound like that.

Kansas Also

Sightings were also reported in five counties in northwest Kansas.

Several persons said they viewed the object which the Moline policeman attempted to photograph.

Mrs. Leo Schmitz of 1437

—UFO: Page 3

13

UFO—

25th Ave., Moline, described it as "very white . . and moving northwesterly."

She said the object was moving slowly across the sky.

Twin Streams

At first, she said, she saw the twin streams of a jet above the object. Later, as the UFO disappeared from her sight, Mrs. Schmitz noticed two twin-contrails moving in the same direction as the object, she said.

The object was also reportedly seen by several nuns at Sacred Heart Catholic School and by several students.

A spokesman for the U.S. Weather Bureau at the Quad-City Airport said it is possible the object may have been a weather balloon.

He said weather balloons tend to flatten out into an elongated "cigar shape" after being in the air for awhile.

Night Weather Balloon

George N. Kirk, manager of the airport, said the object described by several Moline residents, including Mrs. Buchmeyer and her neighbors, may have been a large night weather balloon.

"Of course, not having seen the object reported last night, it would be pretty hard for me to identify it as such," Kirk said Thursday.

Courson said the objects in the sky above Knox County were "very distinguishable." He said he took notes and made a sketch of one.

The object which emitted a hissing sound also released "a white beam of light that hit the ground with a kind of flash," Courson said.

Five Minutes

Powell said he first noticed the object about one mile north of the junction of Illinois 81 and 82. He said he watched the object for about five minutes.

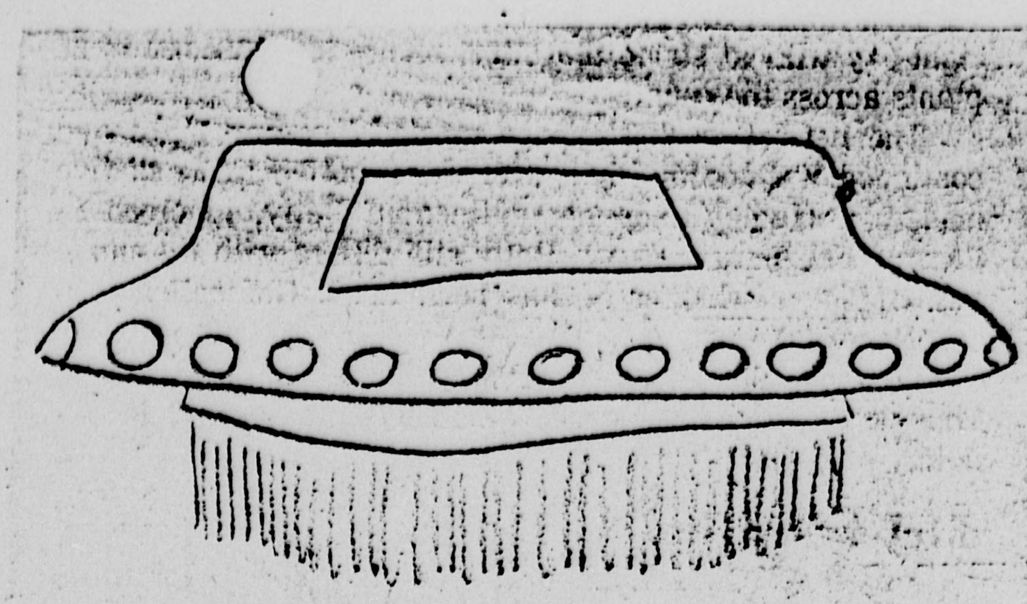
Powell said the object moved from east to west and then headed toward Knox County.

Green said he viewed the object for about 45 minutes.

Jimmie Scott said he got out of bed about 2 a.m. Thursday to get a drink of water. He looked into the sky and saw a "bright, white object that looked like a saucer," he said.

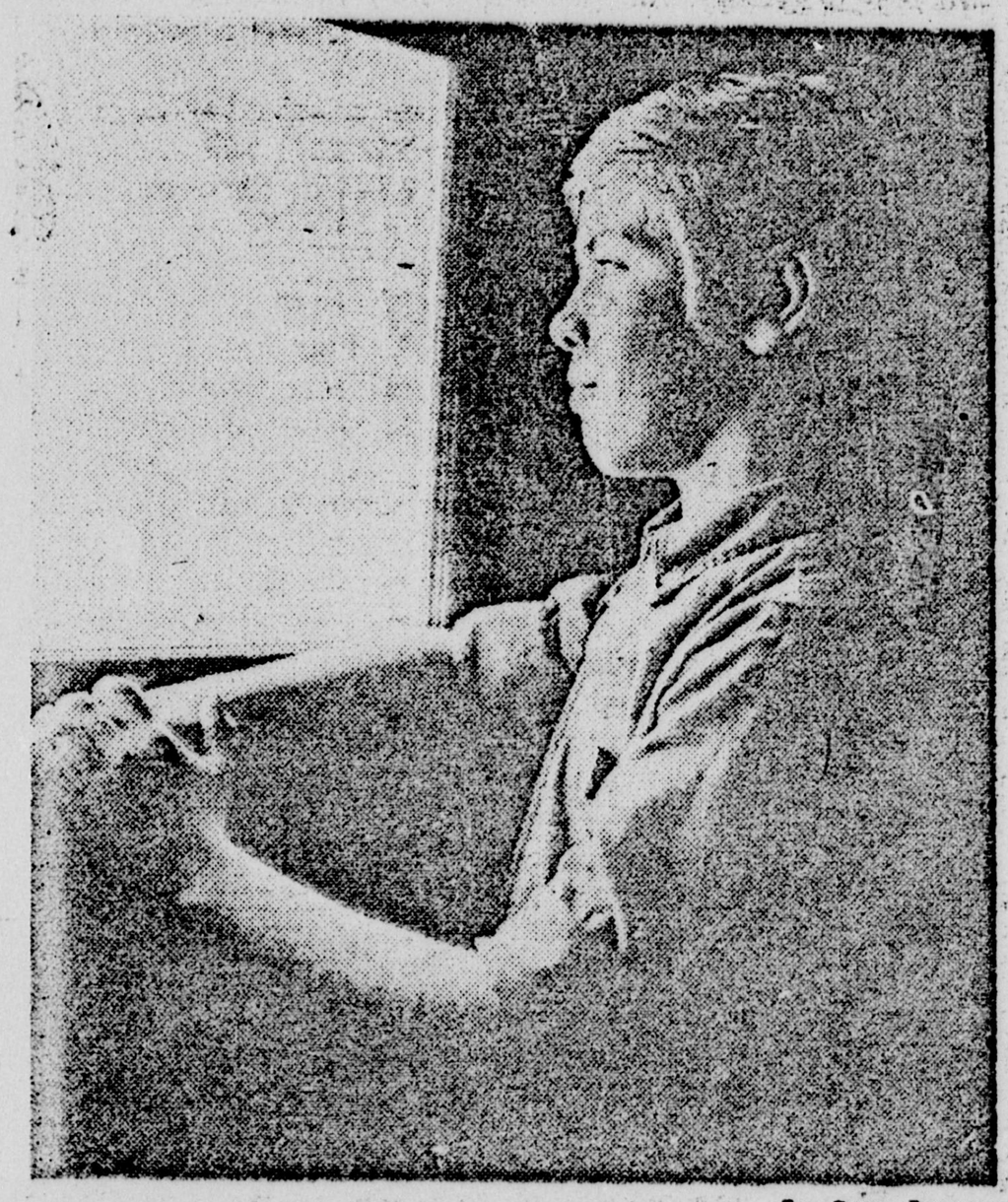
The youth said that the object was moving, and he sketched a picture of it.

Several other persons called radio stations late Wednesday and early Thursday to report sightings.



'Object' In Sky Sketch

A "bright, white object" in the sky over Buffalo early Thursday morning looked like this to Jimmie Scott, 12, who drew this picture of what he saw.



By Greg Beaumont

Jimmie Scott, 12, looks out a window at his home in Buffalo as he relates to newsmen how he saw what appeared to be an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) early Thursday. Jimmie, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Scott, said he got up about 2 a.m. to get a drink of water and noticed the bright object in the sky. He drew a picture of the object as it appeared to him.

New Downstate UFOs Reported; 'Like A Boxcar'

From Sun-Times Wires

Two unidentified flying objects were reported over Moline, Ill. Thursday afternoon, about 45 miles north of where alleged sightings were made Wednesday night.

A Moline policeman, William Fisher, said he spotted a UFO while patroling on his motorcycle. He said the object, about the size of a boxcar, hovered for four or five minutes some 3,000 feet above ground.

A second UFO appeared while he was watching, Fisher said, then both sped out of sight.

Scores of persons, including policemen, reported spotting unidentified flying objects late Wednesday and early Thursday in west-central Illinois and northwest Kansas.

The objects near Moline also reportedly were highted by a number of other persons, including a woman, two nuns and about 40 students at the Sacred Heart elementary school.

Fisher said he photographed the objects, using motion picture color film. He said the film was sent to a laboratory for processing.

The object sighted over five counties in northwest Kansas reportedly made sounds like a large vacuum cleaner. One observer in Illinois reported he watched an object which made a hissing sound.

A Goodland (Kan.) policeman reported seeing an object brilliantly white on the front, with red and amber lights on the sides, roaring like a huge vacuum cleaner.

Tom Dreiling, editor of the Goodland Daily News, said in his four years with the Air Force he never heard propellers, jets or anything else sound like that.

UFO's were sighted in Rawlins, Cheyenne, Wallace, Thomas and Sherman Counties in Kansas, and in Henry and Knox Counties in Illinois.

Frank Courson, a Knox County deputy sheriff who said he had been on the force 19 years and had been a private pilot for three years, said the UFO he watched was "very distinguishable."

Courson said he watched the object, which he said was later joined by a second UFO, for more than an hour and during that time took notes and made a sketch of the object.

He said the object was "bluish white and pulsating red." It had a "rim that looked like it was about five feet thick" at the bottom of what looked like "an upside down bowl."

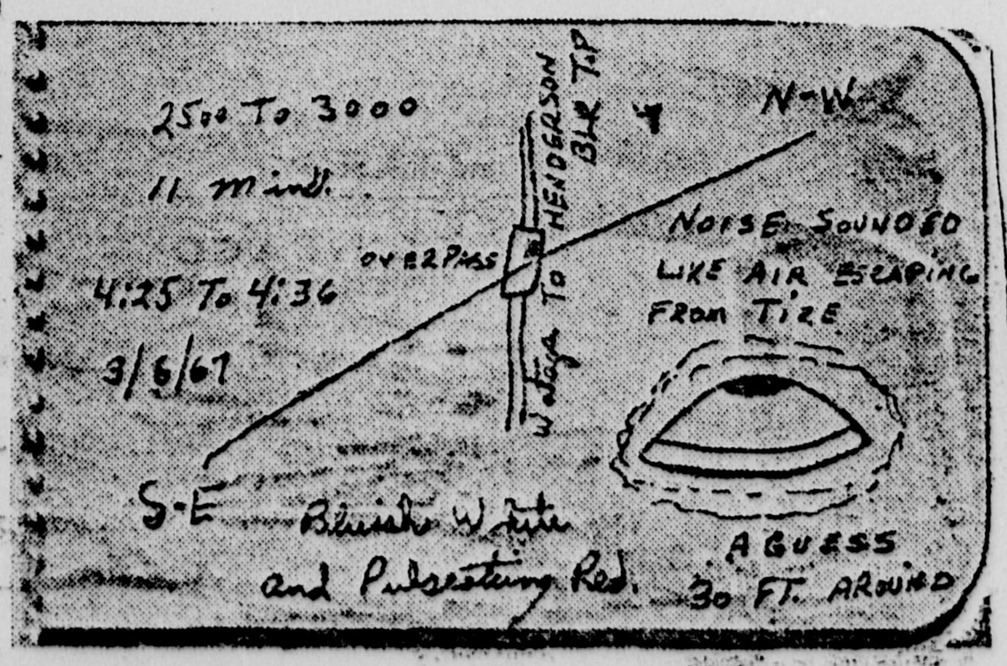
"Taking into consideration the altitude and distance," he said the UFO appeared to be about 30 feet in diameter.

The object was first spotted in northern Henry County. Deputy Sheriff Bob Powell said he saw the UFO and his description matched Courson's. Both men denied knowing the other.

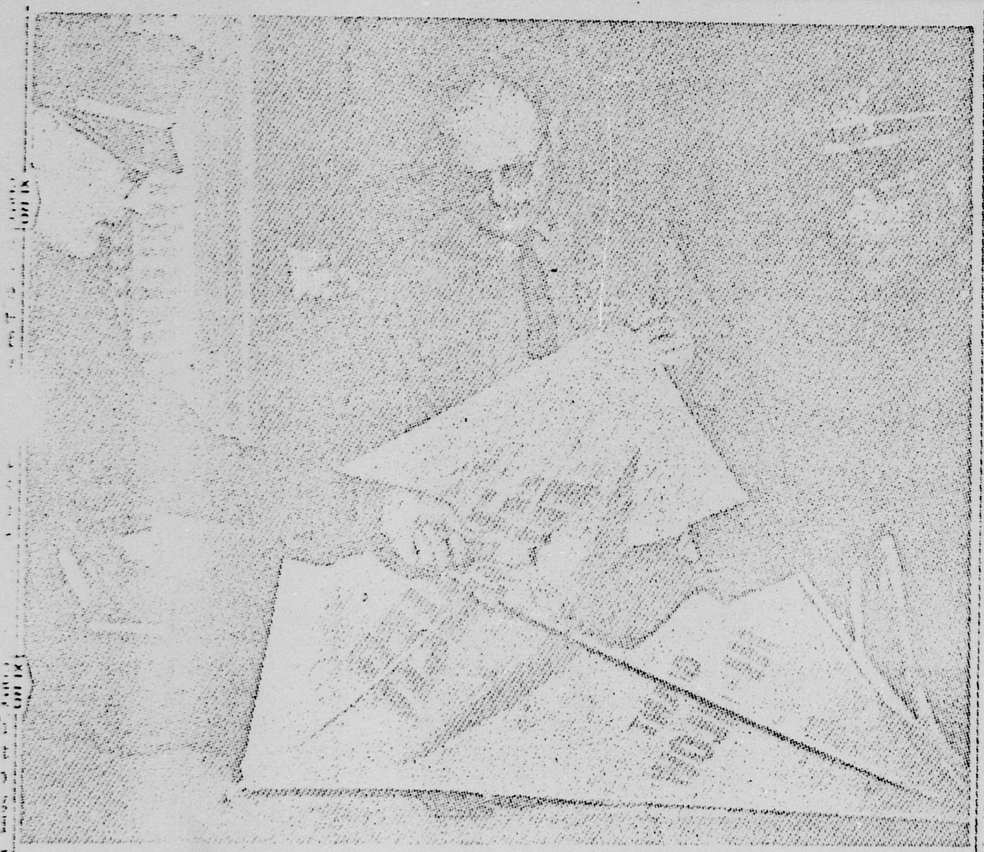
Policeman Bill Green said he watched the UFO for 45 minutes before it was joined by a second, identical craft.

Courson said he and a group of people watched the objects through binoculars for more than half an hour as they danced about over two radio transmitting towers.

He said at one point he saw an airplane fly by. The time he said the plane flew by was confirmed by radar operators in Chicago who scan the area with remote-controlled equipment. The radar men said they saw nothing else on their screen but Courson said the objects were too low to be spotted by radar.



Deputy Sheriff Frank Courson jotted these notations in a small notebook while watching unidentified object. (UPI)



One UFO Case Solved

The mystery of one UFO in the Galesburg area was solved Monday night. Guards at Butler Manufacturing Co. sighted it shortly before midnight and began following it. They found a string and hauled in the UFO. It was a red plastic kite with a flashlight bulb and two batteries. The wiring was rigged so that the swaying of the kite would cause the bulb to flash. Depending upon the direction of the kite, either a red or white light was seen. Looking over the kite are Patrolman Edmund Watson, Capt. Eugene Smith and Patrolman Earl Wilson.

Copy Capt Kato, Chanute Air Force Base, Rantoul Ill

GALESBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT Case Number_____

PRELIMINARY REPORT

CRIME Misc. Report CLASSIFICATION Unidentified Flying Objects

Victim [redacted] of Monmouth, Ill.(Butler Guards)

Residence Address [redacted] Residence Telephone

Business Address Business Telephone

Where Committed Butler Guardhouse, So. Henderson When Reported 3-13-67 (date) 11:48Pm (time)

When Committed Above time

Reported By Above subjects Address

Description of Property Stolen None

Amount of Loss $ None

INVESTIGATION

Received a call from the [redacted] guardhouse that they had something they wanted us to look at. Upon arrival, they showed me a plastic kite, red in color , and very glossy and wired up with two pen light batteries and a small light bulb. [redacted] the joints were soldered to the batteries and the bulb, except for one connection which appeared to have been left twisted together loosely so that a slight vibration would cause the bulb to go on and off at random. This bulb when illuminated would cause the kite to cast a reddish glow when the bulb was turned away from the ground, and to give off a white light when the bulb was turned toward the ground. There was quite a long length of nylon string attached to the kite as it came out of the northeast and was sighted by the guard, [redacted] and when the kite was close enough to the ground he grabbed it, and discovered the electrical hook-up.

With the permission of the guards, I brought the kite to hq. with the promise of returning it to them. At hq., we used fresh dry cells and hooked them to the kite, and the bulb, and turned out the lights in therooms, and with the bulb on, the kite did give off with a distinct red glow, which might explain some of the U.F.O!S that have been spotted in this area recently. The Register Mail reporter, [redacted] was called down to photograph the kite and he also saw the demonstration with the batteries and bulb.

Since the kite is plastic and quite durable, being able to withstand wind and weather, it is impossible to estimate how long the kite might have been flying around in the sky.

Note; This kite is the property of [redacted], and he would like same returned when this dept. is finished with it.

[redacted]

1 G.P.D.—13

[redacted] Police Dept.
Galesburg, Illinois
3/15/67

24

24

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

A. PLASTIC CLOTHING BAG

B. PLASTIC CLOTHING BAG

C. MAGNETIC TAPE RECORDINGS

D. RED PLASTIC KITE

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

The following evidence collected or viewed in association with the investigation is submitted.

A. Plastic Clothing Bag.

The bag was found 5 nautical miles west of Mounouth, Illinois at 0800 hours, 10 March 1967 in brush beside a road leading to the city sewage treatment plant. The hot air improvised balloon was found by [redacted] Superintendent of the disposal plant.

B. Plastic Clothing Bag.

Another plastic bag was found 4 nautical miles northeast of Monmouth, Illinois by [redacted] This bag was in much better condition. It was located off highway 34 by a Science Teacher (Junior High School). It was found 0815 CST, 11 March 1967. Reported find to WRAM Radio and Police Department.

C. 8mm Color Film.

The film taken by Officer Fisher on 9 March 1967 at 1330 CST was viewed by Captain Orenic and Captain Kato. The film strip of the object was essentially non-discript. It appeared on a blue background with no terrain or surface objects visible. Motion or speed could not be judged as no comparison could be made. The camera was hand held and shaky. The object appeared silver-white and oblong. At slow projector speeds, there appeared to be a strob effect on the forward edge. Possibly indicating a rotor. After four viewings, a firm determination of this susision could not be made. Closer inspection of the film is desired. Offic[redacted] said he would be glad to give the USAF a copy after he settles with any news or magazine media. He intends to keep the original in his possession.

TAPE RECORDINGS

Although we conducted numerous interviews, we felt the three that were recorded were the most significant. Other interviews, in some cases, supported the original sightings. The tape recordings were taken in private under the most ideal conditions available. The parties involved were not under duress; they were counseled concerning the statements made and they were informed that the interviews would not be given national publicity but would be used for support of the investigation. A transcript accompanies the tape.

PART VI

COMMENTS OF INVESTIGATING OFFICERS

COMMENTS OF INVESTIGATING OFFICERS

As a result of the numerous reported sightings and the notification of the 8mm movies of a sighting, we felt a thorough investigation should be conducted. We received telephone confirmation from Major Quintinella at FTD Wright-Patterson AFB and proceeded via military aircraft to the Quad City Airport.

During the flight to the Galesburg-Moline area, we noted positions of high tension lines, radio and television towers, smoke stacks, new construction, airports, highway overpasses, power stations and also the general lay of the land noting hills, valleys, etc.

Upon arrival at Quad City Airport there were three sightings that were considered to require further investigation. These were the sighting and movie film made by William Fisher in Moline, the sighting made by [redacted] in Galesburg and last the sighting made by [redacted] at Henry County. All three of the sightings had received extensive local news coverage. It is believed, as a result of the news publicity, a form of public response resulted in many other sightings. The investigation concentrated on the original three sightings with interest in any and all confirming reports. In the area of confirming reports were those made by Sister [redacted] and [redacted] Both of these individuals witnessed the object Officer Fisher filmed from the same area at the same time. Jailer [redacted] observed an object in the same period of time a[redacted] and in the same general area. The report made by [redacted] was believed to be the first report in the area and was not observed by anyone else during his viewing.

Our first act in [redacted] was to visit the Police station. We met with Patrolman [redacted] and other law enforcement individuals and proceeded to the courtroom for the first viewing of the movie film taken of the reported sighting. The film was run through four times for our benefit. The film was approximately 2 minutes in length. The object was unclear and white in color. The camera was hand held and this resulted in a jerky movement of the object. The object was centered in the picture with the blue sky as background. There were no ground references or other objects to aid in determining the speed or height of the object. From where the film was taken the angle of elevation had to be above 60 degrees in order to clear the top of buildings and trees in the direction of the object. There were no visible clouds. The object did not appreciably decrease in size.

On the last three viewings, we detected a strobe effect could be caused by the camera speed and the rotor speed of a helicopter or propeller speed of a conventional aircraft. After viewing the film, we conducted a personal interview with Patrolm[redacted]d made a tape recording of his narrative. We had him sketch the object he saw.

Patrolman [redacted] seemed to be a very conscientious and dedicated officer. He is active in church activities particularly scouting. Because of his stated strong interest in Science Fiction and "Flying Saucers", he carries binoculars and a movie camera with him while on duty. He made the statement that he "watches the sky every chance he gets" and this was the reason that he made the sighting on that Thursday afternoon. He also stated he was aware of the previous sightings, made in the area, on the preceeding days. Patrolman [redacted] also stated he had a better view of the object with the naked eye than with the view finder on the camera.

As a result of the discussions with Patrolman [redacted] there exists the possibility that the object was either a conventional aircraft or a helicopter. Assuming this, we contacted airports, FAA, Flight Service Stations, private air vehicle owners, military units, and other affected

agencies. Since air traffic throughout the area is moderately heavy, and since it is virtually impossible to pin-point an air vehicle in that exact position at that time, we are unable to positively identify the object.

Statements made by the Catholi[redacted]seem to corroborate Patrolman [redacted] However it must be noted that Sister [redacted] had only a 5 second glimpse of a "Silvery Object" during that time and Sister [redacted] observed a different object some 25 minutes later.

Mrs [redacted] was standing near Patrolma[redacted]. She also saw a silvery elongated object, but could not add anything to what Patrolman [redacted] had seen.

In summary, all witnesses appeared to be reliable. They did see an object. Due to the extended news coverage of previous sightings, we feel the individuals were partially affected by imagination and a strong desire to "see something". The possibilities that the object was an air vehicle, burning amonia gas, a plastic bag "UFO", or an actual UFO still exist. However, we strongly suspect this sighted object to be an Air Vehicle.

The sighting b[redacted]as on 6 March 1967 at 0425 CST. He viewed the object with binoculars and gave an extremely detailed description of what he saw. From his description "the object was a space ship" as depicted in current science fiction media. The Deputy seemed very sincere and expressed no doubt of his sighting. The road where he made his sighting was visited but no evidence could be found. The witness expressed an intense interest in possible future scientific advancement and air travel. He also stated he did quite a bit of reading on the subject of flying saucers prior to his sighting.

There are several possibilities of what Deputy[redacted]ould have seen. First of all, the wind in the area of sighting at the time of sighting was from the south to the north. Two balloons, constructed of plastic clothing bags were found in the Monmouth area. There is a possibility that the wind carried other bags over Galesburg. The point of launch would determine the path of flight. This point has not been determined. The construction of the balloon, its enery source and color emitted could be interpreted to be what the Deputy described (with the minimum of imagination). The apparent speed of 250 to 300 mph must be judged on size and height. The same interpretation would be formed from a 3 ft. object at low height as a 30 ft. object that is higher. This is especially true at night when viewed through binoculars. The apparent white ray could have been a spilling of the fuel used to inflate and provide the hot air in the balloon. The crystaline like surface could have been the plastic bag. The open flame, necessary to provide hot air, would appear to pulsate and would cast a red glow to the lower surface of the bag. The radial construction of the supporting members of the balloon could appear as slots or vanes on the lower surface as described by the Deputy.

Another posibility, considered but not substantiated, is the theory presented by Dr[redacted]c., Falls Church, Va. The area was experiencing its first thaw and warm weather. It is also a large farming area. The odor of ammonia was very strong. If his theory is correct and there was sufficient ammonia gas emitted from somewhere south of Galesburg, the object Officer [redacted]could have seen was burning ammonia gas. There is also a low altitude airway that parallels the route of flight of his sighting. The airway is V-434. There is the possibility of a non-IFR aircraft flying the airway, at low altitude.

In summary, the object that was sighted could have been any of the possibilities mentioned, including the space ship described. However, in the opinion of the investigators, it was most likely a plastic clothing bag.

We arrived at Cambridge, Illinois, and proceeded to the Henry County Sheriff's office to interview Deputy [redacted] As in other interviews, this one was made in private with the subject apparently at ease. He stated that his attention was caught by the peculiar lighting arrangement of what he thought was an aircraft. Since the object in question was at a considerable distance and since the viewing was of a short duration, it is possible that his recall of the light positions was in error and the object was in reality an aircraft flying to the South West. IFR airways V434 and V10 are south of the sighting area. VFR traffic could be flying any desired route. Again, it would be virtually impossible to pinpoint air traffic in this area at the sighting hour. However, we strongly suspect this sighting to be an aircraft.

Two plastic clothing bags were found in the Monmouth area. These bags had been made into Hot Air Balloons. The construction is simple. A frame is built from straws to hold the bottom of the bag open and serve as a platform for the Hot Air Generator. The generator has been found to be either candles or a small tub made from aluminum. The fuel in tub or the candles burn and provide hot air to lift the balloon.

How many of these contraptions have been made or witnessed as UFO's is unknown, but it is believed to have been considerable. This belief is based on the fact the construction of this balloon was published in a national magazine. Two red plastic kites with batteries and a bulb were found in the Galesburg area. These in addition to the plastic bag "UFO", any number of bright stars or planets, and air vehicles, most probably accounted for most all the sightings.

In conclusion, it is the opinion of the undersigned investigators that the U. S. news reporting media unwittingly causes a type of mass hysteria associated with unknown object sighting. Most all observers appear to be extremely reliable but have a "strong desire to see something" or "thought I'd never see a saucer" attitude about them. These two conditions along with "prank launchings" seem to have resulted in wide spread "UFO sightings".

Edward J Orenic

EDWARD J ORENIC, Captain, USAF
UFO Investigating Officer

Anton R Kato

ANTON R KATO, Captain, USAF
UFO Investigating Officer

4 Galesburg Register-Mail, Galesburg, Ill., Fri., March 10, 1967

Amateur Investigators Seek Background of UFO Reports

By KENNETH CROUCH

At least one of the objects sighted near Galesburg this week may be a bona fide unidentified flying object, two amateur UFO researchers reported today in Galesburg.

Orvil R. Hartle, director of the Universal Research Society in Laporte, Ind., for investigating unknown phenomena, and his assistant, Dean W. Goers, explained today that an UFO is an object that is not a plane or star but an identifiable craft that is not similar to known aircraft.

One True UFO?

The sighting of the saucer-shaped object reported Monday morning by deputy sheriff Frank Courson may possibly fall into this category, the researchers maintained. However, they are searching for other persons who sighted the object Monday at 4:30 a.m. on the Wataga-Henderson blacktop before they reach any firm opinion.

The two investigators, who arrived in Galesburg Thursday after they learned of the sightings, spent two hours after midnight last night at the location of yesterday's sighting. They concluded that the first sighting at 12:30 a.m. was probably a star. They based their opinion on interviews they made and the fact that it moved so slowly.

They explained that a star can appear in different colors if it is low on the horizon and is sighted through hundreds of miles of atmosphere. A third sighting made Thursday morning by Courson at Monday's location was not a star, they added.

UFO discovered in Monmouth. Story on page 5.

The two Indiana men said that Courson was a good witness.

Interview Viewers

Normal procedure for the researchers after report of a sighting is to go to the area and interview persons involved to determined if there was a valid UFO.

They are most interested in near approaches or landings which they determine with the use of ultra violet radiation equipment. If a landing is established, samples of soil, vegetation and water are taken for a thorough chemical analysis. All their research is filmed in color, said the pair.

Their greatest interest is in unusual sightings or in landings, because aerial sightings are too frequent to be pursued.

Three popular theories advanced by persons interested in the study of UFOs are that they could be interplanetary spacecraft, animal life that possibly exists in the upper atmosphere, or secret space devices developed on earth.

Avoid Hysteria

Also warned against by the experts was the hysteria factor that always develops after a sighting. Many of the subsequent sightings are a result of this hysteria, said Hartle. The men reported that they have no evidence of any landings or danger here.

A LaPorte, Ind., official said today that the Universal Research Society, which these men represent, is a reliable organization that delves into UFO sightings, although the official questions its scientific approach.

Hartle, who has written a book on such sightings, A Carbon Experiment?, said that 400 persons are in the organization.

No Sightings of UFOs Despite Dozens of Gazers

The fascination of possibly seeing an unidentified flying object in Galesburg brought out droves of Galesburg residents last night to scan the skies.

Prevailing was the atmosphere of a great sports event along County Highway 10. There were about 15 carloads of young persons star gazing and a stream of cars driving slowly past.

The young persons spoke seriously about the possibility of visitors from outer space and were prepared if any space ship should fly into view.

Some Reports

Equipped with binoculars, cameras, citizens' band radios and thermos jugs of hot coffee, the crowd continually scanned the sky. And numerous sightings of something were reported: a red light that jogged around a radio tower and speeded off and a white light that traveled across the sky at "an unbelievable speed."

Then about 10:15 p.m., a report on the CB radio indicated that a red UFO had landed in the area. Six cars loaded with teen-agers hurried off.

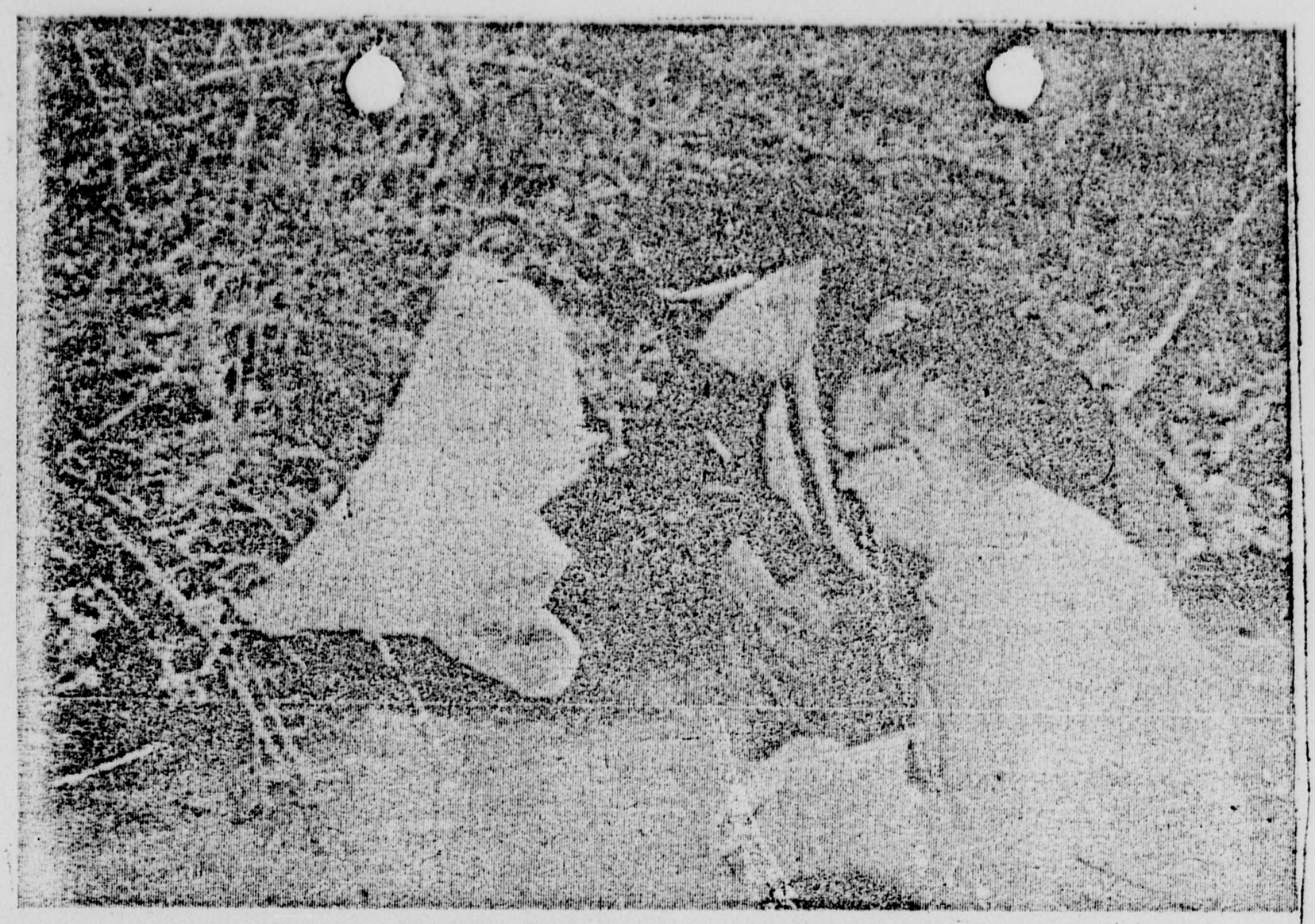
As the cars rounded the corner and flashed their lights on the object, the taillights on a car came on, and a startled couple looked at the crowd.

And if one wants more sightings to ponder, any number of persons in the local pubs will confide, "I've never told anyone about this, but. . ."

Meanwhile, back at the sheriff's office, deputy sheriff Robert Canfield revealed a laboratory report on the mysterious object reportedly from outer space that had struck a Galesburg man on Jan. 15. It was a tiny piece of bright yellow wood.

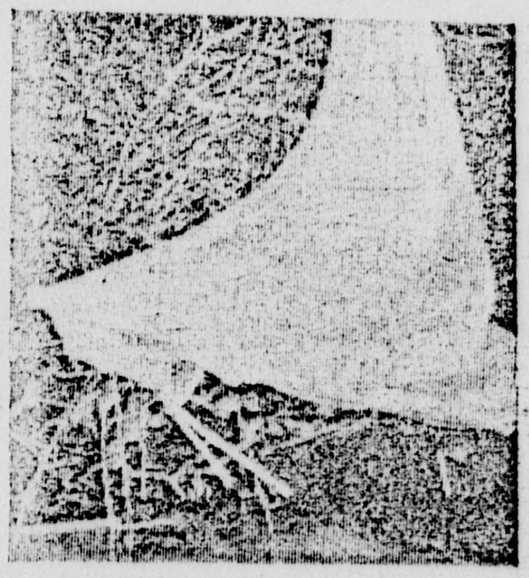
"These people (space visitors) may be far advanced in transportation," Canfield said, "but they're still in the stone age as far as weaponry."

16



Monmouth Different---Has an 'IFO'

While lots of flap goes on about Unidentified Flying Objects, Monmouth came up with a new angle today—an IDENTIFIED Flying Object. It was a candle-hot-air-inflated plastic garment bag which presumably has been floating around in the sky over Western Illinois, a light at night and a glitter by day; it was found at 8 a. m. today grounded on brush on the north edge of Monmouth beside a road leading to the city's sewage treatment plant. Looking at the contraption, in photo, are Robert Merwin, the disposal plant superintendent, and (in uniform) Police Chief Tinder. Home-made "object" was a copy of the old-time Fourth of July hot air balloons. Galesburg Register-Mail photo by R. M. Cardwell.)



CLOSE-UP—Clear plastic garment bag is shown as found this morning north of Monmouth. It was a deflated balloon, which apparently had been supplied with its elevating hot air from a lighted candle supported on a crosspiece at the bottom formed from soda fountain straws. Design for this was printed in national magazines describing a prank which some students on the West Coast had reported. Officials in Monmouth said the balloon did not contain any clue to its source or its makers.

Galesburg Register-Mail, Galesburg, Ill. Friday, March 10, 1967

DAVENPORT—BETTENDORF, IOWA, SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1967 20 Pages

QUAD-CITIES' DAILY JOURNAL

Dep... pri... Sen... iss... Lb...

26-5111

Air Force Officers See Q-C UFO Film

Two U.S. Air Force officers made guarded statements Friday after viewing a Moline policeman's color movie film of an unidentified flying object (UFO) in the sky.

"Let's just say we're interested," said Capt. Edward Orenic after he and Capt. Richard Kato, both of Chanute AFB, Illinois, viewed the film in Moline.

The movie was taken Thursday by Bill Fisher, who spotted a white object in the sky. Fisher stood near Sacred Heart Catholic School and pointed an 8 millimeter camera at the unidentified flying object for several minutes.

During the "private" screening of the film, one of the officers exclaimed "that's it," when a white object on film turned direction. The film shows an object with an elongated shape. The film also shows the color of the object changing from white to a deep pink at one point.

The Air Force officers asked Fisher to relinquish the film. Their request was denied, but Fisher later said he would permit the Air Force to recopy the film as long as he could "be in the laboratory when it is done."

The two Air Force officers expect to remain in Moline for several days in order to question other witnesses who viewed the object with Fisher.

Fisher has been deluged with offers to sell the film and to appear before television camera. He said he has not determined what to do with the film.

In other UFO developments Friday:

— **Robert Merwin,** superintendent of the Monmouth, Ill., disposal plant, found a hot air balloon made of a clear plastic bag, soda straws and a candle tangled in brush on the north side of Monmouth. There was a possibility that this was the object seen by several residents in the Knox-Warren counties area late Wednesday and early Thursday, Merwin said.

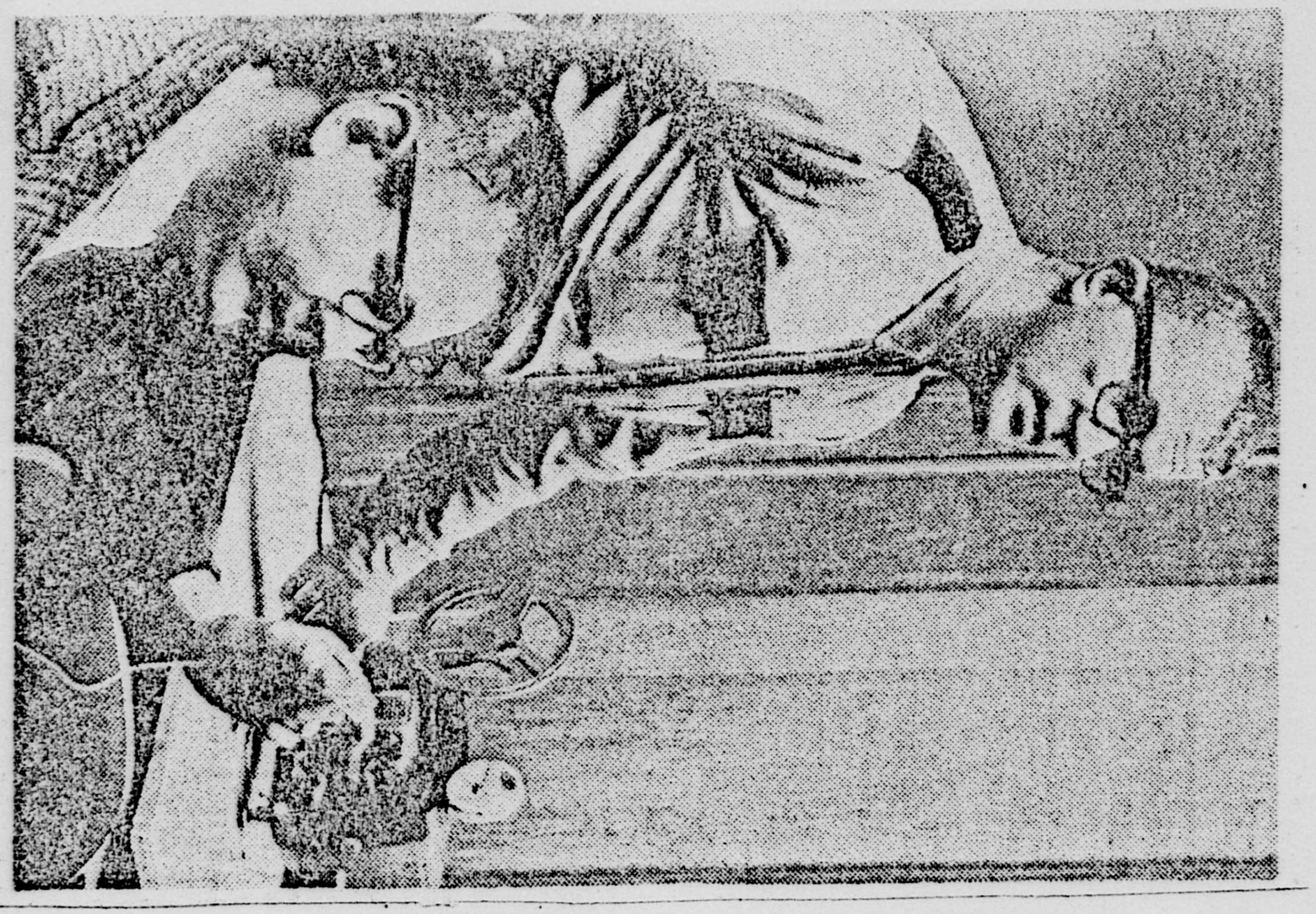
— **Northwestern** University astronomer theorized that persons may be seeing the planet Venus.

— **Gary Bennett, 20, of Colona,** an Augustana College sophomore, reported seeing an unfamiliar airborne vehicle about 9:30 p.m. Thursday in the East Moline hill district.

MOLINE DAILY DISPATCH

Moline, East Moline, Ill. – The Farm Equipment Capital Of The World

NO. 190 44 PAGES SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1967 NEWSSTAND PRIC



Moline Police Officer William Fisher prepares to show his movie film of the two UFOs he took Thursday afternoon to William Powers, systems engineer for the Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University, who interviewed the officer this morning after vewing the film in the city council chambers. Powers taped the interview and said he hopes to obtain a negative of Fisher's film for further study at the observatory. (Dispatch Photo)

'Big UFO, Followed By Smaller Blue One'

"It was a great big object, much bigger than a star. It changed color from yellow to red to green, and behind it was a smaller, light blue object that blinked continually. The two moved together, and then would hover about 10 minutes, and then move about the sky again."

This was the description a Silvis woman gave of the latest Unidentified Flying Object sighted the last three nights in the Quad-City area.

Mrs. Stanley Land, 1325 12th St., Silvis, and her husband, and a neighbor couple, Mr. and Mrs. James D. King, 1329 12th St., spent a considerable part of the night watching the strange object.

"The Kings saw it first and called us out to view it about 12:30 this morning," Mrs. Land said. "We watched about an hour and a half, but Mrs. King stayed out about three hours until the fog moved in and obscured the objects."

The Lands are positive that what they saw was not a planet. "It was much larger and brighter than any star or planet we've observed in the sky," she said.

"The objects were very high in the sky to the east of our home," said Mrs. Land.

"It's possible the smaller object was part of the big one," she said, "but we couldn't see any connection. Both objects moved together, the smaller one always in the same relative position behind the big one."

Check Film

Meanwhile, William Powers, systems engineer for Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University, this morning viewed movie films Moline Police Officer Bill Fisher took of the two UFOs while in the vicinity of Sacred Heart School at 1:30 Thursday afternoon.

After viewing the films several times, Powers taped an interview with Fisher, which he took back to the observatory with him and said he hoped to obtain a negative of Fisher's film for further study.

Yesterday and again today an Air Force investigating team from Chanute Field viewed the film and questioned Fisher. The two, Capt. Edward Orenic and Capt. Richard Kato, said after viewing the film and talking with Fisher that, "We're interested." They also hope to obtain a copy of the film. Both they and Powers will talk with others who have reported seeing UFOs.

This morning Powers said he did not believe the UFOs Fish-

(Continued on Page 5)

Observatory Man Sees UFO Films...

(Continued from Page One)

er photographed were "foreign objects." He said he had no idea what they were, but suggested they might be atmospheric phenomena or possibly space ships, from where he would not venture to guess. He said he did not think whatever the things are came from a foreign country "because they would have been tracked by radar."

Stars, Planets

At night, Powers said, the Planets Jupiter and Venus are very bright, as is the star, Sirius. Venus appears in the west, Jupiter high in the east and Sirius in the east - southeast, moves west and flashed red green and white.

The Illinois Civil Defense Department has asked anyone sighting UFOs should call the operations officer, U.S. Air Force, O'Hare Field, Chicago. The number is 312-296-4411, Ext. 503. After 4 p.m. the number is 312-296-4419.

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Investigation of UFOs Continuing

(Photo on Page 20.)
By JACK TUMBLESON
(Argus State Editor)

An Air Force investigating team which moved into the Quad - Cities yesterday was joined today by William Powers, systems engineer for Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University, in an attempt to determine what area residents saw in the sky two nights this week.

The Air Force yesterday began a typical, tight-lipped investigation, doing all of the listening and none of the talking.

The pair, Capt. Edward Orenic and A. Richard Kato, were met at the Quad-City Airport by two Argus reporters.

The investigators had first called THE ARGUS Thursday for information on the sightings in Henry, Knox and Warren Counties and again Friday for information on the sighting by Bill Fisher, Moline policeman, who took 8mm movies of an object in the sky Thursday afternoon.

On the way from the airport to the Moline Police Station, where the film was going to be shown, the officers were very interested in the weather.

In particular, they wanted to know if it had been significantly warmer Thursday than Wednesday and if there had been any other warm days since the last cold spell.

When asked if they believed a temperature inversion might be responsible for the recent sightings, they replied, "Oh, no. We just have to consider everything.

A temperature inversion is aused when unseasonably warm weather occurs. Then the air, instead of being colder as it gets higher, is warmer. This is because the warm air is in contact with the cold ground which cools it off at lower altitudes.

Some UFO investigators have claimed that this phenomenon creates a mirror above the area and objects several hundred miles away are magnified and reflected back to earth.

After this the investigators,

(Continued on Page Two)

Investigate UFOs—

(Continued from Page One)

from Chanute Field, gave no indication of any possibilities which they were considering.

At the Moline Police Station they, THE ARGUS team and a group of police officers viewed the film about a dozen times.

The film, shot about 1:30 p.m., showed an enlongated silver object which appeared to dip at the "front" several times. No distinct shape could be seen, however.

Very Disappointed

Fisher said he was, "disappointed, very disappointed," in the clarity of the film. He said he could see the object much better with the naked eye.

At one point in the viewing, one of the Air Force officers said, "Did you see that?" to the other officer who replied, "I sure did, if you'll write it up that way, I will." However after the viewing Capt. Orenic said he had seen nothing every one hadn't seen. He would not say if he had been able to interpret anything from the film and warned against reading anything into his comments during the viewing.

Before leaving the airport the officers gave the impression they intended to leave later in the afternoon. However after viewing the film they rented a car and announced plans to stay overnight and continue their investigation.

The officers viewed the film again today and questioned Fisher further. The pair said after viewing the film again and talking with Fisher, "We're interested." They also hope to obtain a copy of the film.

This morning Powers viewed the film and taped a statement by Fisher. He took the tape back to the observatory with him and said he hoped to obtain a negative of Fisher's film for further study.

Not From Foreign Country

Powers said he did not believe the UFOs Fisher photographed were "foreign objects" meaning from a foreign country. He said he had no idea what they were but suggested they might be atmospheric phenomena or possibly space ships, from where he would not venture to guess.

He said he did not think whatever the things are came from a foreign country "because they would have been tracked by radar."

This morning a Silvis woman reported that she, her husband and a neighbor couple had spent a considerable portion of the night watching two strange objects.

"It was a great big object, much bigger than a star. It changed color from yellow to red to green and behind it was a smaller, light blue object that blinked continually. The two moved together, and then would hover about 10 minutes and then move about the sky again."

This was the description Mrs. Stanley Land, 1325 12th St., Silvis, gave of the object she, Mr. Land and Mr. and Mrs. James D. King, 1329 12th St., had watched.

They first saw the objects about 12:30 this morning and the sighting continued until the objects were obscured by fog about three hours later.

At night, Powers said the planets Jupiter and Venus are very bright, as is the star Sirius. Venus appears in the west, Jupiter high in the east and Sirius in the east-southeast and moves to the west flashing red, green and white.

Another explaination given for the UFOs comes from research by Minneapolis-Honeywell which has done extensive research on the subject.

They attribute the objects sighted to ionized atmosphere.

It seems a lot of the sightings occur near or in the general vicinity of power stations or high voltage tranmission lines. When the atmosphere is right clouds of ionized atmosphere will appear and sometimes take on various shapes, generally elongated, and can be quite huge and of brilliant luminosity. Sometimes they will be dome shaped.

The high speed at which they appear to be traveling is attributed to the evaporation of the cloud.

They also add, that ionized atmosphere is a solid mass and is detectable on a radar screen.

The Illinois Civil Defense De-

Champaign-Urbana
The News-Gazette

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Find UFOs Plastic Kites

GALESBURG (AP) — Two unidentified flying objects landed Monday night on the southwest edge of Galesburg and were identified as red plastic kites with battery - powered light bulbs.

Two guards at the Butler Manufacturing Co. called police to report sighting UFOs. The kites had landed by the time police arrived.

Two bulbs attached to each kite were wired to flicker on and off when wind jarred the kite. The resulting reddish glow fit the description of numerous UFO sightings last week in the Galesburg area, police said.

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UFO's Sighted In Numerous Places

By The Associated Press

A solution to the western Illinois flying saucer sightings mystery may have been found near the Monmouth waste disposal plant Friday.

Reports of unidentified flying objects ranged from the Quad Cities to Peoria Wednesday and Thursday.

Robert Merwin, superintendent of the city's disposal plant, found a hot air balloon made of a clear plastic bag, soda straws and a candle. He found the object tangled in brush on the north edge of Monmouth on a road leading to the plant.

The soda straws were glued together and held the bag open. It was believed that the candle provided heat to propel the object and also gave off a soft greenish light. The plastic bag was similar to those used by drycleaners.

Ralph Eckley, city editor of the Monmouth Review Atlas, said recent magazines on newsstands in Monmouth have given descriptions of how UFO's were built by college students elsewhere.

He noted that there are more than 1,000 students at Monmouth College and a similar number at Knox College in Galesburg.

After the sightings a Northwestern University astronomer associated with the Air Force's UFO investigation explained that what everybody was seeing might have been the planet Venus "is the brightest thing in the western sky as dusk deepens at this time of year," said William T. Powers, assistant to Dr. J. Allen Hynek. Hynek, an astronomy professor at NU, is in charge of the Air Force program.

Powers said the careful observer can see Venus move and may therefore be led to think it is a UFO.

A Moline policeman, however, said he spotted two UFOs in the afternoon.

Policeman William Fisher said he was riding his motorcycle on patrol when he spotted a boxcar-sized object hovering at about 3,000 feet. He said a second UFO materialized as he watched, and then both sped from sight. Fisher said he made color motion pictures of the objects and has sent the film to be developed.

A number of others confirmed the sightings, including two nuns and 40 students at the Sacred Heart elementary school.

Other sightings were reported in Canton, Pekin and Peoria. Elmer Widby of Pekin reported to police "a bright orange object in the western sky which appeared about 7:15 p.m." The sighting was confirmed by two policemen. A U.S. Weather Bureau employe in Peoria told of seeing a speck in the western sky that got brighter as dusk deepened.

Several mysterious objects were reported in Southern Illinois.

Arthur Sills notified the sheriff's office at Salem he and his sister, Alice, spotted an object coming down the road near their home northeast of Salem.

Sills said the diamond-shaped object, travelling 15 to 20 feet in the air, kept changing from bright red to white. It suddenly shot upward and vanished.

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