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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
19th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-8 21 June 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: "Flying Saucer" Photograph
PAUL TRENT
McMinnville, Oregon

TO : Director of Special Investigations,
Headquarters USAF,
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS Photograph in the Independent-Journal, Wednesday, 14 June 1950 of a strange wingless object resembling "flying saucer".

2. DETAILS: The Independent-Journal, San Rafael, California carried a photograph of a strange wingless object resembling "flying saucer" which was photographed by PAUL TRENT of McMinnville, Oregon as it soared over his farm.

3. ACTION: None.

JOHN G. SWOPE,
Colonel, USAF,
District Commander

1 Incl: Paper clipping taken
from Independent-Journal,
San Rafael, California,
Wednesday 14 June 1950.

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24-185-19-23

SECURITY

[redacted]

JUN 29 1950

SMAMA—Feb 50—2M

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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26 JUN 1950
MANAGEMENT
DIV.
OSI

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Robert Menzies To Address Meet Of Historical Unit

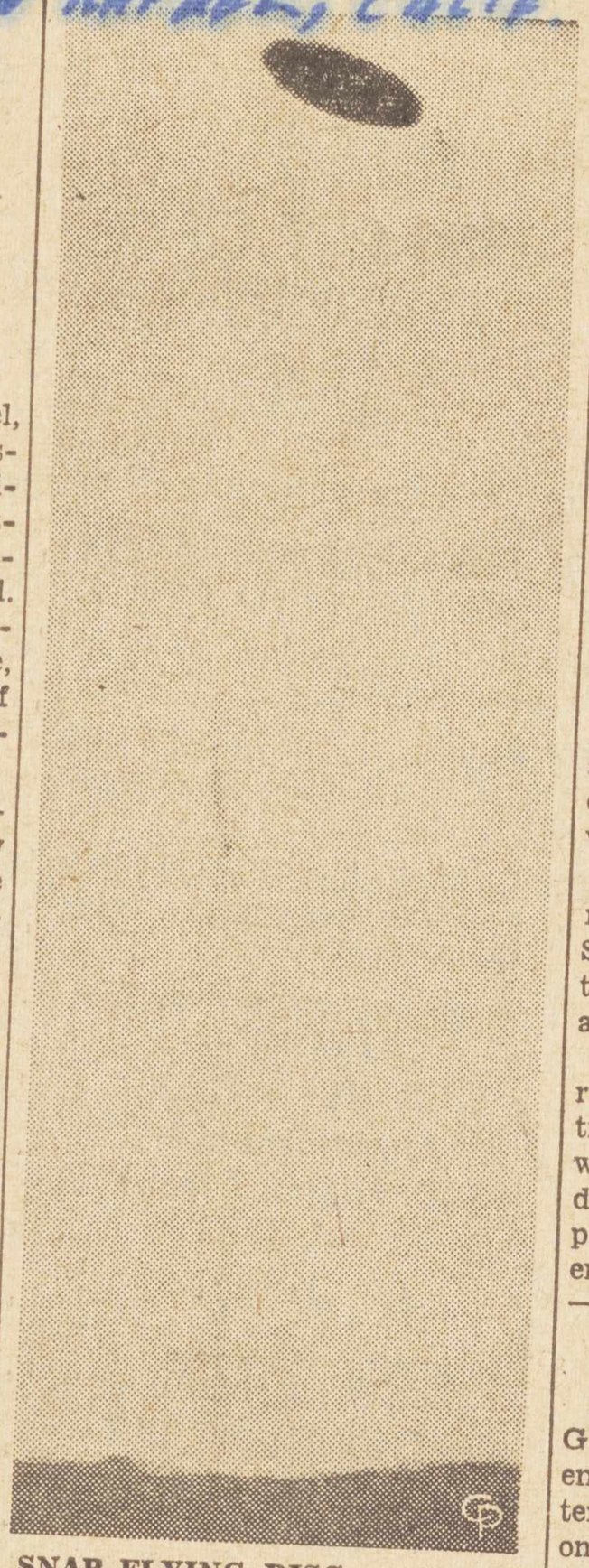
H. Menzies of San Rafael, member of the Marin Hisciety, will be the princiat the luncheon meetalifornia Historical Soy at the home of Col. ith, the former Ma- Country Clubhouse, Various phases of tory will be preaker.

ed to the meetistorical Society ns are to be Parratt, mania Historical Street, San

e meeting ld, widow for whom morial in Society's

grand- Waddell, he Pony me the nter in inental tation. unded ddell. laque, the ated

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SNAP FLYING DISC — Strange wingless object resembling "flying saucer" is photographed by Paul Trent of McMinnville, Ore., as it soars over his farm.

Nov To Cou

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Acco art, di dents week t of ant ectroni Refresh plannir and oc offered. will be

Cade rocket- Sands, test-fir as part In c represe ties and will try det" av past t encomp

MEM G. Ba ence f ter No omino of a s at the Ballen was b the fa

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
19th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-6 12 May 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting
Dougway Proving Grounds, Utah
25 April 1950

TO : Director of Special Investigations,
Headquarters USAF,
Washington 25, D. C.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC.
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF, Historian
15 DEC 1975
DATE

1. SYNOPSIS: Military security patrols reported a series of unusual lights and flying objects of unknown origin over Dougway Proving Grounds in early morning hours 25 April 1950.

2. DETAILS: G-2 Sixth Army, Presidio of San Francisco, California reports that the CID Field Office, Salt Lake City, Utah reported unconventional aircraft sighting. Military security patrols at Dougway Proving Grounds reported to the Intelligence Officer of Western Chemical Center that on 25 April 1950 in the early morning hours over the Ammunition Storage Area in the vicinity of Dougway Mountain a series of unusual lights and flying objects of unknown origin were observed. The characteristics and size of a "flying icebox" were described. This flying object while in flight was surrounded by an aura of spears of light jutting diagonally from the main body. A 24-hour search of that area at Dougway Proving Grounds is in effect until further notice.

3. ACTION: None by this office. A 24-hour search of that area by Dougway Proving Grounds is in effect until further notice.

UNCLASSIFIED

Info copy to: Commanding General,
Headquarters Sixth Army
Presidio of San Francisco,
California
ATTN: Asst. Chief of Staff
G-2.

JOHN G. SWOPE,
Colonel, USAF,
District Commander.

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
MAY 12 2 08 PM '50
SECURITY OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

JUN 5 7 1950

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
19th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-7 12 May 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC IN.
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft
Source
Sacramento Union, newspaper, Editorial

TO : Director of Special Investigations,
Headquarters USAF,
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: Editorial in Sacramento Union, Sacramento, California based on commentary of H. J. TAYLOR states that flying saucers or discs are harmless, non-explosive, and a military secret of the United States of America; their use will not be known generally until USAF releases the information.

2. DETAILS: The Sacramento Union newspaper dated 1 May 1950 carried the editorial entitled "Flying Discs" information received by this office indicates that the editorial was based upon a commentary of H. J. TAYLOR. "NEXT TIME your Sacramento neighbor tells you he saw a flying disc, do not look at him as though he had suddenly gone out of his mind. For, the chances are he did see a flying disc.

For, now it can be told - flying discs are American secret weapons. They vary in size from 20 inches in diameter and six inches thick to 250 feet in diameter. Most of them are round, but some are flat and edged upwards like saucers. They have no sound, no propelling mechanism, and no smoke, or light.

They can appear to stand momentarily in the air, but they can move like lightning. They are utterly harmless. They fly all the way from 1000 feet to 30,000 feet, and even higher. What they're used for is a military secret, which will not be generally known until the United States Air Force releases the information. But it is an important and a wonderful purpose, and the country will thrill with pride when the news is finally made known.

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007



Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-7 12 May 1950
SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT (continued)

"If a flying disc should happen to land, intact, in Sacramento or vicinity, those who found it would discovered that it had been labelled "military secret of the United States of America." The person who found it would be asked to call a long distance telephone number - printed on the disc - and report his findings to a U. S. Air Base.

The discs are harmless and non-explosive. But they're real and genuine, and they do not come from Russia, but are all released in the United States of America."

3. ACTION: None.

JOHN G. SWOPE,
Colonel, USAF,
District Commander.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SM,AM... Feb 49—10M

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
19th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-5 21 April 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1950

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting
Medford Airport,
Medford, Oregon, 8 August 1949

TO : Director of Special Investigations,
Headquarters USAF,
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: WALLACE LEE McDONALD, Aviation Photographers Mate, First Class, Naval Air Auxiliary Station, Monterey, California observed five (5) unconventional aircraft or objects, oval in shape or like a convex lens, "oval on the top and flat at the bottom" between 1300 and 1330 on 8 August 1949. The objects were traveling east-southeast from the Medford Airport in a straight line at a speed estimated to be approximately 150 miles per hour. Estimated altitude 10,000'; although from altitude of 8,000' in the air objects still appeared 10,000' higher than aircraft. Objects remained in sight for thirty (30) minutes and were observed by tower, ground and commercial airlines personnel. Objects were in a "off balance V", one leading; one to the left and three to the right.

2. DETAILS: On 12 April 1950 WALLACE LEE McDONALD, Aviation Photographers Mate, First Class, Naval Air Auxiliary Station, Monterey, California provided information regarding the observation of unconventional aircraft or unidentified objects on 8 August 1949. McDONALD'S long book showed that his SMB-5 was refueled at Medford, Oregon 8 August 1949. The pilot was P. O. HULL, AP1, of Seattle; the co-pilot R. TUGWELL, Chief Air Pilot; and J. H. SPARKS, AF1, Alameda, crewman. All observed five (5) white, luminous objects overhead traveling east-southeast in an off balanced V-formation. One object appeared to be leading the formation with one to its left and three on its right. McDONALD stated that at first the impression was one of dandelion seeds blowing along, and then it was realized

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-5 - SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT Subj: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting, Medford Airport, Medford, Oregon, 8 August 1949.

the objects were at an altitude estimated at 10,000 feet. The diameter of each object was estimated to be 35 feet. McDONALD stated the pilot called the tower and asked if they had observed anything. The tower reported that they had seen flying saucers overhead. Pilot HULL requested clearance for take-off and the tower asked if they intended to attain altitude enough to follow the objects. McDONAID further stated that on attaining 8000 feet altitude the formation of the objects could still be seen and their shapes appeared to be that similar to a camera lens; over (convex) on top, and flat on the bottom. They appeared to be traveling at a speed of 150 miles per hour, east-southeast from the Medford Airport moving in a straight line. Time of observation was between 1300 and 1330 8 August 1949. The objects did not reflect color but gave off "fluorescent glow". No sound was heard or exhaust trails observed. The objects remained in sight for a period of thirty (30) minutes. From an altitude of 8000 feet in the air McDONAID stated the objects appeared to be 10,000 feet higher than their aircraft. McDONAID attempted to obtain a photograph but was unable to do so as his camera had a six inch focal length lens and a nine inch plate which was not adequate for photographing the objects at such a distance. During the period of observation one object dropped down an estimated 1,000 feet out of the formation and then returned. This object was the last one of the right echelon.

3. ACTION: None. Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 Sixth Army forwarded this information without action.

Evaluation: (B-3).

JOHN G. SWOPE,
Colonel, USAF,
District Commander.

Info copy to: Commanding General,
Headquarters Sixth Army,
Presidio of San Francisco,
California,
ATTN: Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SMAMA—Feb 49—10M

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
19th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-4 21 April 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting
Pacific Grove, California,
11 February 1950

TO : Director of Special Investigations,
Headquarters USAF,
Washington 25, D. C.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC ...
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

1. SYNOPSIS: Three (3) objects were sighted over Pacific Grove, California between 2030 and 2100 hours on 11 February 1950 by Mrs. J. V. KAYS, housewife, 521 Laurel Avenue, Pacific Grove, California. KAYS stated the objects were traveling very fast from Northeast to Southwest and swinging from left to right as though rocking. Objects appeared low to her and she gained the impression that they were going to hit the house next door when first sighted. Objects seemed to be flying in a V-formation, one (1) above and two (2) below with "one ahead and one to each side". Due to inaccurate estimate of altitude KAYS had no definite opinion of size of objects.

2. DETAILS: Between 2030 and 2100 hours, 11 February 1950 Mrs. J. V. KAYS, housewife of 521 Laurel Avenue, Pacific Grove, California observed three (3) lights in the sky through the window of her home. She stated that the lights appeared to come out over the bay and were in formation, one higher than the other two with one ahead and two behind to the side of the leading object. KAYS stated the objects were swinging back and forth and she first thought it was sort of an advertising stunt. KAYS could hear no sound and stated she was confused as to distance and size but by cupping her outstretched hands from her position the objects measured 13½" in diameter. The objects moved very rapidly and a light seemed to emenate from them. They were traveling from northeast to southwest.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-4 - SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT Subj: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting Pacific Grove, California, 11 February 1950.

KAYS stated that she had seen nothing in her past experience with which to compare the objects sighted.

3. ACTION: None. Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 Sixth Army forwarded this information without action.

Evaluation: (C-3).

JOHN G. SWOPE,
Colonel, USAF,
District Commander.

Info copy to: Commanding General,
Headquarters Sixth Army,
Presidio of San Francisco,
California,
ATTN: Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

AFCSI/Maj Nold/dr-71776
2 May 50

UNCLASSIFIED 24-185

(Unclassified) Unconventional Aircraft Sightings
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O
ATTN: Collection Branch

3 MAY 1950

1

Office of Special Investigations, IG

Maj Nold/dr-71776
AFCSI

Attached for your information are copies of three (3) reports from District Office No. 19, subject as above, dated 21 April 1950.

3 Incls.
1. Spot Intel Rpt, 21 Apr 19th DO (Medford Ore, 8 Aug 49) (cc)
2. Spot Intel Rpt, 21 Apr 19th DO (Pacific Grove, Cal, 11 Feb 50) (cc)
3. Spt Intel Rpt, 21 Apr 19th DO (Salinas, Cal, 9 Apr 50) (cc)

JOSEPH J. CAPPUCCI
Major, USAF
Actg Chief, Counter Intelligence Div
OSI, IG, USAF

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

AFCSI FILE COPY

Disclosure of the nature, sources, or even the existence of such investigative information to persons mentioned in the report or to other persons not normally entitled to such information may be made only when expressly authorized by the Director of Special Investigations, IG, or higher authority. Unauthorized disclosure of such information will be considered to be a violation of AFR 205-1.

When Incl No. 1, 2 & 3 is (are) withdrawn or not attached, the classification of CONFIDENTIAL on this correspondence will be cancelled in accordance with par 25 e, AFR 205-1.

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OUT 3 MAY 1950 MANAGEMENT DIV. OSI

AFCSI
P. M. Nold
Major, USAF
Actg Chief

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24-185-19-18
USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

MAY 8 1950

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SMAMA—Feb 49—10M

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
19th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-3

21 April 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting at Salinas, California, 9 April 1950

TO : Director of Special Investigations,
Headquarters USAF,
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: An unconventional aircraft traveling at an altitude estimated at 4000 feet and in a Northerly direction was observed at 0653 hours on 9 April 1950 at Salinas, California. The object was seen by three persons, who varied in details but agreed that it was not a conventional aircraft. Information reported to DO#19 by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Headquarters Sixth Army, Presidio of San Francisco.

2. DETAILS: At approximately 0653, 9 April 1950 three (3) residents of Salinas, California while on Romey Lane West and South Main Street, Salinas observed an unconventional aircraft. The observations were made by RAY McBRIDE, Deputy Sheriff, Monterey County, who resides at 544 East Market Street, Salinas; L. R. BRADLEY, Deputy Sheriff, Monterey County, 610 Central Street, Salinas, and Miss MARIE STANLEY (Age 15) 517 Anita Street, Seaside, Juvenile Delinquent Home, Salinas. The weather was clear with good visibility. McBRIDE and BRADLEY estimated the altitude of the object to be 4000 feet; were undetermined as to its shape; indicated that the object gave off a bright reflection, and appeared chrome or aluminum. BRADLEY estimated the size to be 30 to 40 feet in circumference and McBRIDE could give no estimate of size. The sheriffs stated the object was traveling north. They could offer no additional information.

R & R #1 DC S/O 3 May 50

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24-185-19-18

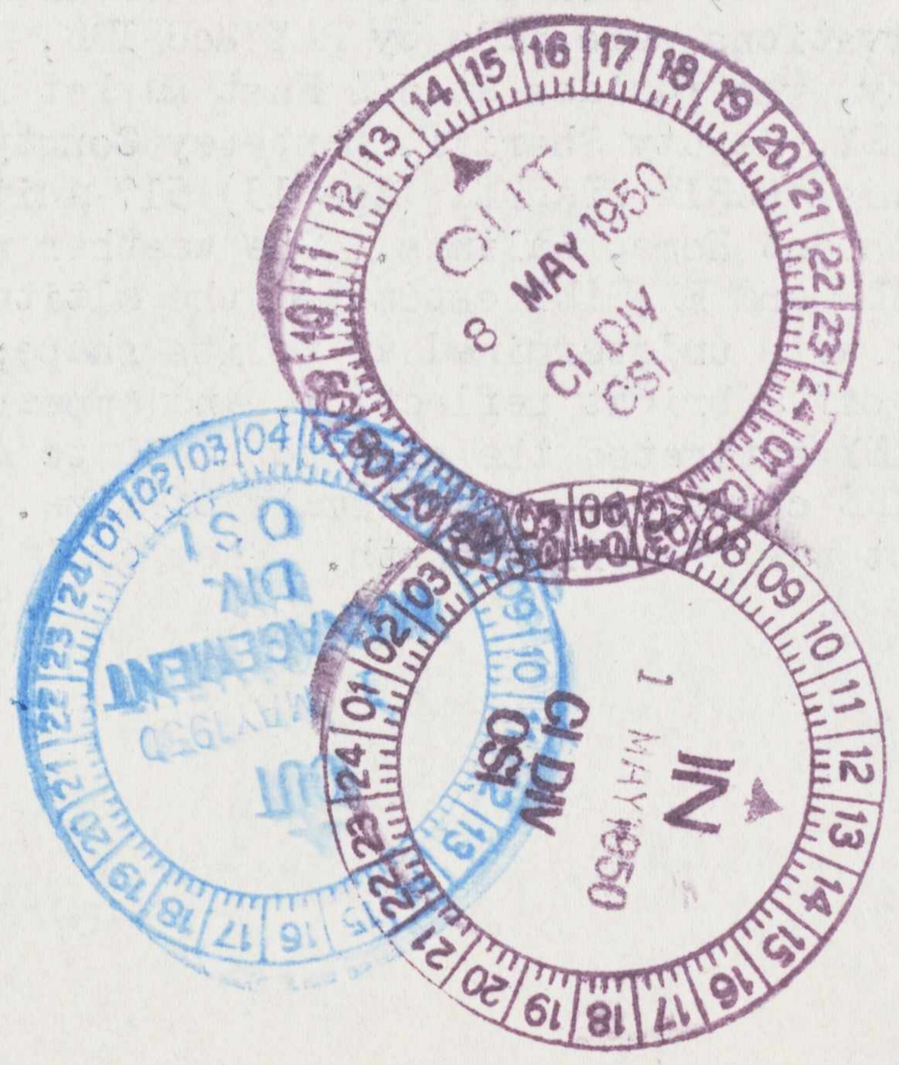
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MAY 8 1950

Declassification Authority: NND 923007



Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-3 - SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT Subj: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting at Salinas, California, 9 April 1950

MARIE STANLEY offered the same information with the additional comment that the objects shape was round like a plate or ball and its size 30 to 40 feet in diameter. When STANLEY observed the object it "seemed to be standing still".

3. ACTION: None. Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 Sixth Army forwarded this information without action.

Evaluation: (C-6)

JOHN G. SWOPE,
Colonel, USAF,
District Commander.

Info copy to: Commanding General,
Headquarters Sixth Army,
Presidio of San Francisco,
California,
ATTN: Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

AFCSI
Maj. Nold/amb/6240
27 Mar 50

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24-185

UNCLASSIFIED

(Unclassified)Unconventional Aircraft Sighting San Pedro, California, 8 March 1950 SPECIAL INQUIRY

Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O, Collection Branch

29 MAR

1

Office of Special Investigations, IG

Maj. Nold/amb/6240
AFCSI

Attached for your information is copy of Spot Intelligence Report, dated 20 March 1950, same Subject as above.

1 Incl:
Cy of Spot Intelligence
Report dtd 20 Mar 50
w/1 Incl.

GILBERT R. LEVY
Actg Chief, Counter Intelligence Div
OSI, IG, USAF

Disclosure of the nature, sources, or even the existence of such investigative information to persons mentioned in the report or to other persons not normally entitled to such information may be made only when expressly authorized by the Director of Special Investigations, IG, or higher authority. Unauthorized disclosure of such information will be considered to be a violation of AFR 205-1.

When Incl No. 1 is (~~are~~) withdrawn or not attached, the classification of this correspondence will be changed to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with par 25 a, AFR 205-1.

RICHARD G. COX
Major, USAF
Asst Chief, CI Div
OSI, IG, USAF

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED TO CONFIDENTIAL
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC IN.
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian DATE 15 DEC 1975

OUT 29 MAR 1950 MANAGEMENT DIV. OSI

AFCSI Arnold
Lt Col Boudreau
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USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

APR 3 1950

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
19th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-2

20 March 1950

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting
San Pedro, California, 8 March 1950

TO : Director of Special Investigations,
Headquarters USAF,
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: An unidentified object appearing to have the same magnitude and brilliance as the planet Venus but moving smoothly and rapidly with slightly less than the speed of a shooting star was observed at 1715 in the vicinity of San Pedro, California, traveling West to East. The object appeared again North of the observer in the vicinity of Santa Ana slightly from East to West and disappeared in the vicinity of Santa Monica. The object, reported as traveling more rapidly than any airplane observed, was seen by Colonel LAWRENCE B. BIXBY, FA, who provided a sketch to accompany his report. Information reported to DO#19 by Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Headquarters Sixth Army, Presidio of San Francisco, California.

2. DETAILS: At approximately 1715, 8 March 1950 Colonel LAWRENCE B. BIXBY, FA, walking in a westerly direction on West 30th Street, San Pedro, California observed a small speck moving rapidly accross the sky in a generally southeast direction. Immediately after sighting the speck it "seemed to become a brilliant light", BIXBY reported the brilliance and magnitude of the unknown object to be the same as the planet Venus," as an evening star". The object moved smoothly and rapidly with what appeared to be slightly less than the speed of a shooting star and, according to BIXBY, moved more rapidly

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
APR 3 1950

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-40 SIR-2 - SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT Subj: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting, San Pedro, California, 8 March 1950

than any airplane he had ever observed. The brilliant light disappeared after a few seconds, but the path of the object in the sky could still be traced. The object reappeared in the vicinity of Santa Ana moving on a broad curve from Santa Ana towards Segundo and Santa Monica. Passing over the vicinity of Inglewood - Torrance - Huntington Park, the object again appeared to become brilliantly lighted indicating it to be the reflection of the sun (See accompanying map). As before, the brilliant light lasted only two or three seconds, however the path of the object still could be traced. BIXBY states "it was impossible to estimate the size or shape of the object, as these were no more clear than the appearance of an artillery shell when watched from the breech of a gun during firing into the sky". BIXBY further stated that it was impossible to judge the speed of the object as he was uncertain as to its altitude. He was positive that the object was many times more rapid in flight than an airplane. It disappeared above the clouds, which BIXBY stated he believed were of the extreme high altitude "ice-crystal" type. BIXBY would not vouch for the accuracy of the scale of his map not knowing the altitude of the unknown object. Horizontal distances may have been greater. BIXBY's observations coincided with a deluge of reports on the radio and in the newspaper concerning "flying Discs" observed in that vicinity on 8 March 1950.

3. ACTION: Photostatic copies of the map were made by DO#19 for forwarding with this report. No investigative action taken. Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 Sixth Army forwarded the information without action.

JOHN G. SWOPE,
Colonel, USAF,
District Commander.

1 Incl:
Photostatic copies of
Map (quad).

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

LOS ANGELES

Sketch to accompany report: Report of Unusual Occurence in the Sky.



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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

LOS ANGELES

Santa Monica
Disappeared

Inglewood

Huntington
Park

Sketch to accompany report: Report of Unusual Occurence in the Sky.

Brilliant Reflection
Compton

0 1 2 3 4
Miles

Torrance

1" = approx 3 miles

Reappeared

Long
Beach

Airplane

San
Pedro

Santa
Ana

1st
Appeared

My position

Sun

Brilliant Reflection

Disappeared

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~SECRET~~ UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-40/16

DATE 30 January 1950

REPORT MADE BY
THOMAS J. SCANLAN

REPORT MADE AT
DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

PERIOD 23 Nov, 14 Dec 49
3,13,17,19,26 Jan 50

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS
CLOSED

~~SECRET~~
AUTH:C/S USAF

JGS,Col,USAF

30 Jan 50

Copy No.____

TITLE

Sighting of Rocket on 18 November 1949 at 49° North, 141° West, by Lts. SMITH, LYKINS and DE MONT. 374th Recon Sq (VLR) Weather McClellan Air Force Base McClellan, California

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY - UNCONVENTIONAL [illegible]

REFERENCE

None. This is an initial report.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 15 DEC 1975

SYNOPSIS

Three Officers of the 374th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather, McClellan Air Force Base, McClellan, California, reported sighting what appeared to be a rocket at 0240 hours Greenwich Central Time, 1840 hours Pacific Standard Time, on 18 November 1949. From an aircraft flying at an altitude of 18,000 feet, the object was sighted at approximately 49 degrees north latitude, 141 degrees west longitude, traveling on a slight descent, at a great rate of speed on a heading of 270 degrees. When first observed it was at an altitude of approximately 19,000 feet and disappeared in a layer of clouds with tops at 14,000 feet. The object appeared to leave a trail of fire about 50 feet in length, and 40 feet in diameter, and was in view for approximately 10 seconds. No unusual disturbances in radio transmission or reception. Radar not operating at time of sighting.

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Hq, OSI (1 incl)	2
CG, SMAMA (1 incl)	2
File (1 incl)	2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO
Commanding General
Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson AF Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTENTION: MCIAXC-3

APPROVED

JOHN G. SHOPE
Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP

24-185-M-15
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
FEB 28 1:59 PM '50
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
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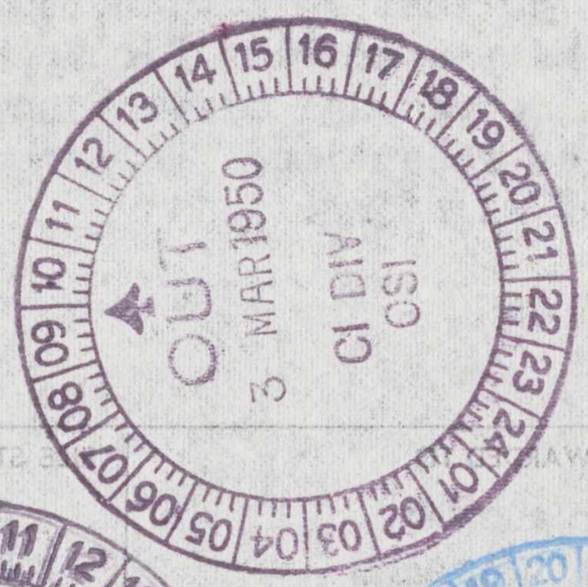
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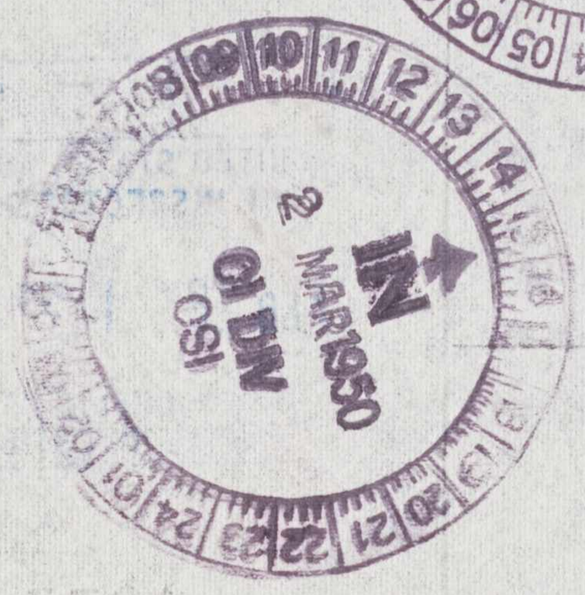
SMAMA—Nov 48—100M

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF
BY Rudi K. Kunze, Cmd. USAF
Historian
DATE 15 DEC 1975







[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted] U

19D OSI 24-40/16

DETAILS:

1. This report is submitted in compliance with AFCSI Letter Number 85, Headquarters, The Inspector General, Office of Special Investigations, Washington 25, D. C., dated 12 August 1949, Subject: Unconventional Aircraft.

AT MC CLELLAN AIR FORCE BASE, MC CLELLAN, CALIFORNIA

2. On 21 November 1949, ROBERT SMITH, First Lieutenant, AO-875 859, Weather Observer, 374th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather, McClellan Air Force Base, McClellan, California, made the following statement relative to an unusual sighting on 18 November 1949:

"Friday November 18th 1949 on Lark Dog mission, I sighted what appeared to be a rocket, at approximately position 12, 49 degrees north, 141 degrees west. We were flying approximately 18,000 feet at 0240 GCT. We sighted what appeared to be a rocket crossing in front of the aircraft traveling at a great rate of speed. It appeared to be at an altitude of approximately 19,000 feet traveling at a slight descent on a heading of 270 degrees. I called the object to the attention of the pilot, co-pilot, and the engineer, the object disappeared into the layer of altocumulus clouds, the tops which were about 14,000 feet in altitude. It was leaving a trail of fire which appeared to be about 50 feet in length and 40 feet in diameter, and gave the appearance of being followed by a ball of fire. The flame was white in color. The object was traveling at such a rate of speed it could not be estimated. The object appeared to be 1 mile distance as it passed our aircraft."

3. On 21 November 1949, DAVID H. LEKINS, First Lieutenant, AO-777 733, Pilot, 374th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather, McClellan Air Force Base, McClellan, California, made the following statement relative to an unusual sighting on 18 November 1949:

"On Lark Dog mission 18 November 1949, 1840 hours Pacific Time, I observed what appeared to be either a rocket or a meteorite descending gradually on a generally westerly heading. The object was traveling at a great rate of speed and trailing a flame which was extremely bright. Its speed and size were difficult to judge because its distance from us could not be estimated accurately. It descended to what appeared to be our same altitude or slightly lower and either burned out or disappeared into a layer of clouds."

[redacted]

1257

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-40/16

DETAILS: (cont'd)

4. On 21 November 1949, JOHN V. DE MONT, First Lieutenant, 15 636A, Pilot, 374th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather, McClellan Air Force Base, McClellan, California, made the following statement relative to an unusual sighting on 18 November 1949:

"On the 18th of November 1949 during a routine Lark Dog Weather mission, I witnessed an unusual sight.

At about 1840 hours Pacific Time in the evening, a brilliant light arced through the sky from a heading of approximately 270°.

The aircraft, at the time, was on a heading of 140° flying on automatic pilot. Lt. Smith, the weather observer, was the first man to notice the unusual phenomena and called Lt. Lykins' attention to it, who in turn notified me. When I did look out the window, I saw a brilliant light shaped somewhat like a large cigar on a downward path heading toward the ocean, however in a few seconds (approximately 10 seconds) the light was abruptly extinguished.

I have no idea of what the light may have been. At first I thought it might have been a falling star, but the phenomena lasted such a long time and the light was so large in relation to falling stars or meteors I had seen, I dismissed the possibility of its being a star."

5. On 3 January 1950, PHILIP A. FLEMING, Sergeant, AF-17 218 556, Dropsond Operator, 374th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather, McClellan Air Force Base, McClellan, California, stated he had been on Lark Dog mission on 18 November 1949, but could give no information relative to the object sighted by Lieutenants SMITH, LYKINS and DE MONT.

"NOTE: FLEMING's position is located in the rear pressurized compartment of the aircraft. There are blisters located on both sides of the compartment and one on top, but no forward visibility.

6. On 13 January 1950, LAWRENCE W. HELSCHER, Staff Sergeant, AF-39 109 692, Radio Operator, 374th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather, McClellan Air Force Base, McClellan, California, stated he had been on Lark Dog mission on 18 November 1949, but could give no information relative to the object sighted by Lieutenants SMITH, LYKINS and DE MONT. HELSCHER stated further that there had been no unusual interference or disruption of radio transmission or reception during the flight.

1257

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-40/16

DETAILS (cont'd)

"NOTE: The radio operators compartment is located aft of the engineer's position and forward of the connecting tunnel. There are no windows or blisters in the compartment.

7. On 17 January 1950, ALFRED J. STABILE, Master Sergeant, AF-42 063 172, Radio Operator, 374th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather, McClellan Air Force Base, McClellan, California, stated he had been on Lark Dog mission on 18 November 1949 but could give no information relative to the object sighted by Lieutenants SMITH, LYKIND and DE MONT. STABILE stated that radar equipment is used infrequently subsequent to leaving the coast on Lark Dog mission and was not operating at the time of alleged sighting.

8. On 19 January 1950, LEONARD B. WINSTEAD, First Lieutenant, AO-2087279, Navigator, 374th Reconnaissance Squadron (VLR) Weather, McClellan Air Force Base, McClellan, California, stated he had been on Lark Mission on 18 November 1949, but could give no information relative to the object sighted by Lieutenants SMITH, LYKINS and DE MONT. WINSTEAD stated he had plotted the position of the aircraft at the time of sighting but due to his crew position which is located aft of the pilots, had not seen the object reported.

- CLOSED -

INCLOSURES

FOR: CG, AMC; OSI HQ; CG, SWAMA;

One (1) copy of Essential Elements of Information.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

19D OSI 24-40/16

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION

1. Date of sighting - 18 November 1949

2. Time of sighting - 0240 GCT; 1840 PST

3. Object was sighted from an aircraft at 49 degrees north latitude, 141 degrees west longitude, flying at an altitude of 18,000 feet. Object was approximately one (1) mile from aircraft. Visibility was limited by failing light. Undercast at 14,000 feet; scattered cirrus aloft.

4. One object. Object itself was not seen clearly but appeared to be a rocket.

5. No observable celestial phenomena or planets to account for sighting.

6. Speed unknown and unestimated.

7. In sight approximately 10 seconds.

8. Color, shape, construction and size of object could not be determined due to approaching nightfall.

9. Object on heading of 270 degrees.

10. Object first sighted at approximately 19,000 feet traveling on slight descent at great rate of speed.

11. Object left a steady trail of white to orange colored flame approximately 50 feet in length and forty (40) feet in diameter.

12. Appeared to disappear into clouds of approximately 14,000 feet.

13. No lights observed.

14. No support observed.

15. Other than trail of flame, no means of propulsion observed.

16. No means of control or stability observed.

17. No ducts observed.

18. Exact speed unknown and unestimated.

19. No sound noted.

[redacted]

1257

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-40/16

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (cont'd)

20. Appeared to either fade from view or disappear into clouds.

All three observers are rated personnel with no physical defects. At time of sighting, observers had been in the air approximately nine (9) hours, but had not been on duty for the full flight and asserted they were well rested and not fatigued in any manner. Aircraft radio did not evidence any unusual disturbances and aircraft radar was not operating at time of sighting. Latitude and longitude plotted placed object over the Pacific Ocean approximately 800 miles from the coast line.

1257

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24/40-12

DATE 17 February 1950

REPORT MADE BY ARMIN F. HEROLD, JR.

REPORT MADE AT DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

PERIOD 8 Dec 49, 24-27 Jan. 30 Jan. 10-11 Feb 1950

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS CLOSED

TITLE

SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT ~~by Baltz~~
~~X~~COPCO, CALIFORNIA
80c749

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

UNCLASSIFIED

REFERENCE None, this is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation was initiated upon receipt of a letter from the San Francisco Office of the FBI which contained the information that an unidentified aerial object was seen by Mr. FRED ~~BALTZ~~, Irvington, California. The FBI had received the letter from BALTZ. BALTZ stated that the object was sighted by him 8 October 1949 at Copco, California and described it as approximately the size of a 4-engine aircraft, traveling at a high rate of speed. A check with the Civil Aeronautics Authority, San Francisco, disclosed that numerous aircraft fly in this area, of which a very small percent file any type of schedule or clearance for flight. No radar installations in the area are close enough or powerful enough to have recorded unusual readings at Copco, California. The files of the Centerville Police Department, the FBI and the ONI contain no record of BALTZ.

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SMAMA—Nov 48—100M

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19D OSI 24/40-12

DETAILS

1. This investigation is predicated upon receipt of a letter from the San Francisco Field Office of the FBI, which contained the information that FRED BALTZ of Irvington, California sighted an unidentified aerial object near Copco, California.

AT IRVINGTON, CALIFORNIA

2. On 8 December 1949, Mr. FRED BALTZ Route #1, Box 546, Irvington, California was interviewed and made the following statement:

"On about 8 October 1949, at approximately 1520 hours I noticed one object (see sketch) in the sky at about 3500' or less. This object was stationary and after viewing it for about 30 secs I went to my car to obtain field glasses. When I turned to look at the object again it had almost disappeared from sight, traveling at a speed approximately three times faster than jet aircraft, climbing at an angle of 45°, and going in a northeasterly direction. This object was approximately the size of a four-engined aircraft, was silvery and gray in color, had no moving parts, and no sound could be detected. At this time I was 3 miles from Copco, California, on the Ager road.

/s/ FRED BALTZ,
R 1 Box 546
Irvington, Calif."

3. The original of the foregoing statement is contained in the files of the 19th District Office of Special Investigations.

4. BALTZ prepared a sketch of the object and this sketch is attached to this report as an inclosure.

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

5. On 24 January 1950, it was learned from the San Francisco Civil Aeronautics Authority office that there are one hundred sixty-one (161) listed air carriers in the Bay Area. Only fourteen (14) of these have regularly scheduled flights and less than one per cent of the remaining file any kind of plan or clearance for their flights. A check with the Oakland Airport and the San Francisco Airport revealed that less than one per cent of the planes normally using those fields file any kind of schedule or clearance.

NOTE: Since such a large percentage of these flights file no type of clearance and the majority of them are operating without schedule, it is deemed inadvisable to check on them in the vicinity of Copco, California, around 1500 hours, 8 October 1949. Such an operation does not seem feasible, in view of the fact that many of the cities between the Bay Area and Copco, California, and North of Copco, California, could have had such a flight and in all

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19D OSI 24/40-12

DETAILS (cont'd)

probability the large percentage of these had no flight plan or clearance files.

6. On 25 January 1950, information was received from the Aerological Station Forecast Center, U. S. Weather Bureau, San Francisco Airport, South San Francisco, California, that the weather report for the vicinity of Copco, California, and the teletype sequence for 8 October 1949 were not obtainable from that office.

7. On 26 January 1950, a check of the 6th Army and 12th Naval District Intelligence Offices revealed that these commands do not possess any radar installations in California or Oregon which are near enough or powerful enough to have recorded anything unusual at Copco, California, on 8 October 1949.

8. On 27 January 1950, a check of the Air Force Early Warning Radar Stations in the Bay Area revealed that these have insufficient range to have reached as far North as Copco, California. These stations reported no unidentified aircraft or objects on 8 October 1949.

AT IRVINGTON, CALIFORNIA

9. Mr. FRED BALTZ lives on a farm approximately five (5) miles South from Irvington, California, Route 1 Box 546, and his closest neighbors were not acquainted with him; consequently, no character witnesses could be obtained to vouch for BALTZ's reliability and character.

10. There is no police force in Irvington, California, and a check of the records of the Police Department, Centerville, California, disclosed no record of FRED BALTZ.

11. On 11 February 1950, Mr. E. W. GRIMMER, M.D., Irvington, California, stated that Mr. FRED BALTZ had been a patient of his only once, and he does not feel qualified to make an estimate on SUBJECT's character, reliability or trustworthiness.

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

12. On 10 February 1950, files of the San Francisco Field Office, F.B.I., and Office of Naval Intelligence, 12th Naval District, San

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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DETAILS (cont'd)

Francisco, California, disclosed no information on FRED BALTZ.

ENCLOSURE:

FOR OO, AMC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB AND OSI HQ.

Sketch of unidentified aerial object allegedly seen by FRED BALTZ.

- CLOSED -

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SMAMA—Feb 49—10M

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975
19D OSI 24-40 SIR-1

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
19th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

15 February 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft Sighting
Alameda, California, 7 February 1950

UNCLASSIFIED

TO : Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters, United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: Unidentified cone-shaped object sighted in air over Alameda, California, 1730 PST 7 February 1950. Bright silver in color, one-half to three-quarters the size of ordinary parachute, traveling at speed of sixty to seventy miles per hour, disappearing in Southeast direction from Alameda. Under observation approximately ten minutes by two witnesses. Information taken initially by Assistant Officer of the Day, Alameda Naval Air Station, and subsequently forwarded to this district office by Fourth Air Force headquarters, Hamilton AFB, California. (Director of Intelligence, Fourth Air Force - A-3).

2. DETAILS: At approximately 1730 hours, Pacific Standard Time, 7 February 1950, an object was sighted in the air over Alameda County, California by a Mr. CLARK, 1456 Sylvia Way, San Leandro, California and by Mr. PAGE, 799 Victoria Avenue, San Leandro, California. The weather at the time was clear, with visibility approximately ten miles. Only one object was sighted, and this object appeared conicle in shape, with the base much like an ice-cream cone, and the top rounded somewhat like the canopy of a parachute. The object was bright silver in color and approximately one-half to three-fourths the size of an ordinary parachute. It was traveling at a speed of sixty to seventy miles per hour, with no definite heading. It appeared to hover at times and then "lazily" move on to another position and hover again. The object was observed by the two witnesses

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[redacted]

19D OSI 24-40 - SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT Subj: Unconventional Aircraft
SIR-1 Sighting, Alameda, California, 7 February 1950.

for a period of about ten minutes, when it finally disappeared in a Southeast direction from Alameda. In addition to the movements described above, the object would change from the perpendicular position to a horizontal position in flight. One witness reported no exhaust trail, while the other states an exhaust trail was visible and that it was much like that of a jet or rocket. Both individuals reported the object to be at an altitude of 2500 to 5000 feet.

3. ACTION: The two observers were interviewed by the Assistant Officer of the Day at Alameda Naval Air Station, who indicated that he was impressed with their story. Alameda Naval Air Station Operations informed Hamilton Flight Service that they were not investigating the sighting but were merely reporting it for information purposes. On 9 February 1950 the Director of Intelligence, Fourth Air Force forwarded a report of the sighting to the 19th District OSI.

JOHN G. SWOPE,
Colonel, USAF,
District Commander.

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24/40-31 | DATE 7 February 1950

REPORT MADE BY [redacted] A. STARRATT

REPORT MADE AT DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

PERIOD 6 February 1950

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS CLOSED

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unusual Aerial Phenomena
at Napa, California
28 Oct 49

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

UNCLASSIFIED

REFERENCE Report of Special Agent FRANK D. DEAN, DO #19, dtd 8 Nov 1949

SYNOPSIS

The Civil Aeronautics Authority (CAA), San Francisco, California, stated it is not possible for that organization to provide a schedule of all flights in the area of Napa, California, on 28 October 1949, at 1230 - 1300 hours, since there are one hundred sixty-one (161) carriers in the Bay Area and only approximately ten percent (10%) of these have regularly scheduled flights and less than one percent (1%) of the remaining file any kind of clearance for their flights. Colonel LEO J. DILLON, Executive Officer, Ordnance Section, Sixth Army, stated that he did not know of any testing devices or guided missiles released in the area of Napa, California, on 28 October 1949. Lt. Colonel ROBERT JOHNSON, Executive Officer, Signal Section, Sixth Army, Presidio of San Francisco, stated that to the best of his knowledge there were no ground radar contacts made with unidentified objects in the vicinity of Napa, California, on 28 October 1949. Records of Headquarters, Twelfth Naval District, Treasure Island, were examined and failed to disclose any naval operations in the vicinity of Napa, California, on 28 October 1949.

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SMAMA—Nov 48—100M

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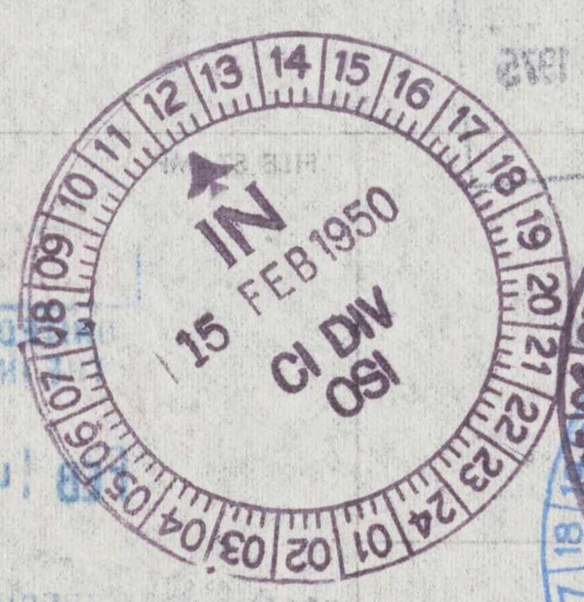
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OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

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BY
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[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D-OSI 21/140-11

DETAILS:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1. On 6 February 1950, the Civil Aeronautics Authority, San Francisco, California, stated it was not possible to provide a schedule of all flights in the vicinity of Napa, California, on 28 October 1949, at 1230 - 1300 hours since t there are one hundred sixty-one (161) carriers in the Bay Area and only approximately ten percent (10%) file plans and clearances for regularly scheduled flights and less than one percent (1%) of the remaining file any kind of plan or clearance.

2. On 6 February 1950, Colonel LEO J. DILLON, Executive Officer, Ordnance Section, Sixth Army, Presidio of San Francisco, stated that to the best of his knowledge there were no testing devices or guided missiles released in the area of Napa, California, on 28 October 1949. Colonel DILLON stated this would be handled by the Proving Ground Command at White Sands, New Mexico, and that his office would have been notified concerning any such activity in the area of Napa, California.

3. On 6 February 1950, Lt. Colonel ROBERT JOHNSON, Executive Officer, Signal Section, Sixth Army, Presidio of San Francisco, stated that to the best of his knowledge there were no ground forces radar contact with any unidentified object on 28 October 1949. Colonel JOHNSON stated it is possible that such a contact might have been made accidentially and not reported but he stated that the radar now in use by the Ground Forces in this area are primarily used for scanning the sea approaches to the Bay Area and consequently could only have picked up an object closed to the ground than four thousand (4,000) feet or considerably higher than four thousand (4,000) feet, such as a height of fifteen thousand (15,000) feet.

4. On 6 February 1950, the records of Headquarters, Twelfth Naval District, Treasure Island, were examined and failed to disclose any naval operations in the vicinity of Napa, California, on 28 October 1950.

-CLOSED -

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-30

DATE 4 January 1950

UNCLASSIFIED

REPORT MADE BY
LEON LEVIN

REPORT MADE AT
DO #18, Maywood, California

PERIOD
27, 28 December 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS
RUC

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unusual Aerial Phenomena
at Napa, California

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE
Report of S/A FRANK D. DEAN, DO #19, 8 November 1949

SYNOPSIS

MELVIN C. SHANKS, former resident Inglewood, California, bears good reputation for honesty, sobriety and truthfulness.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

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DISTRICT COMMANDER

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SMAMA—Feb 49—30M

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DETAILS:

AT INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA

1. The April 1949 Telephone Directory reflects that MELVIN C. SHANKS, telephone number Orchard 1-1337, resides at 8616 Twelfth Avenue (not street), Inglewood, California.

2. The most recent City Directory (1942) reflects that MELVIN C. SHANKS, wife BEATRICE, is a salesman who resides at 205 West 97th Street, Los Angeles, California.

3. The following named individuals were interviewed concerning the honesty and reliability of Mr. MELVIN SHANKS: WILLIAM L. JENKINS, 8616 Twelfth Avenue, who purchased home from Mr. SHANKS, not having previously known him; Mrs. SPENCELEY, 8620 Twelfth Avenue, the next door neighbor who has known the SHANKS family for approximately one year; a neighbor residing at 8617 Twelfth Avenue who did not desire that his name be used; and Mrs. FRANCES LEGG, 1016 West 81st Street, Los Angeles, a former neighbor of the SHANKS family for approximately two years.

4. From the above-named individuals the following information was developed. Mr. SHANKS had resided at the Twelfth Avenue address for some five years prior to August 1949. He resided there with his wife, BEATRICE, who was employed at the THOMPSON GLASS COMPANY, Inglewood, California, and with his two sons approximately 17 and 14 years of age. Mr. SHANKS' last known employment was as a representative of Mr. FRED L. BRASSFIELD, distributor for HYVIS OIL PRODUCTS, 1015-25 Mateo Street, Los Angeles, California. Mr. SHANKS and his family were known to be excellent neighbors whose statements were not doubted in any respect and who were regarded as being entirely sober, industrious and reliable in every respect. There was no indications that Mr. SHANKS had ever been in any difficulties with the law enforcement agencies and he was considered a model citizen of the community. It was learned also that Mr. SHANKS had a loan at the FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN COMPANY, 451 North Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills, California, which had been made in connection with the purchase of his residence. This residence was sold about August 1949 by Mr. SHANKS, with the statement that he needed funds to open up a gasoline station at Napa, California.

5. Through Mr. STROM, office manager, FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN COMPANY, the following information was developed. In November 1945, Mr. SHANKS made application for a loan of $5,500 to be used in connection with the purchase of a residence at Inglewood, California. In his application he indicated that he was born 23 August 1907, no place given; that he was then employed by HAMLIN NERNEY, 52nd and Vermont, Los Angeles, as a salesman in the FORD AUTOMOBILE AGENCY; that he formerly, for four and one-half years, was employed at CALIFORNIA SHIPBUILDERS CORPORATION; and prior to that time at the WESTERN AUTO SUPPLY COMPANY, Los Angeles. His residence was shown as 205 West 97th Street, Los Angeles. He was married to BEATRICE SHANKS, whose income was approximately $140 per month. SHANKS, himself, had an income of approximately $2,500 a year, and had two children 11 and 13 years of age. As personal reference he furnished the name of Mr. M.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

FLAHERTY, 709 - 104th Place, Los Angeles, and as a business reference, the Manchester and Vermont Branch of the Bank of America. He claimed also that he had no debts of any kind.

6. The FIRST FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN COMPANY, on the basis of an independent investigation, loaned the $5,500 to Mr. SHANKS and up to the date of 11 August 1949 MR. SHANKS had made prompt monthly payments and had reduced his indebtedness to $3,942. On the date mentioned, this loan was discharged and the amount of the loan was transferred to Mr. WILLIAM L. JENKINS, present owner of the former SHANKS home.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-28

DATE 21 December 1949

REPORT MADE BY JACK S. MARTIN

REPORT MADE AT DO # 19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

PERIOD 15 December 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO # 19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS CLOSED

TITLE

PROJECT GRUDGE
Unidentified Aircraft 1 August 1949 in Vicinity of San Francisco, California

CHARACTER Special Inquiry

REFERENCE Pending Rpt by S/A JACK S. MARTIN, DO # 19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB File No. 24-28, dated 21 October 1949.

SYNOPSIS

per Serial 2

UNCLASSIFIED

Sketches of unidentified objects sighted were obtained from Mr. EDWARD W. GURBAN D.

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

DATE 5 DEC 1975

CLOSED UNCLASSIFIED

DISTRIBUTION

DO#5 (action copies) 4
Eq OSI 2
File 2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commanding General,
Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson AFB,
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

APPROVED

for Kenneth B. King
JOHN D. SLOPE
Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP

24-185-19-10

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

DEC 29 4 07 PM '49

OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

JAN 9 1950

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION	FILE NO.
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BY
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

DATE 6 DEC 1975

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-28

DETAILS:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

On 15 December 1949, the inclosed sketch of unidentified aircraft sighted on 1 August 1949 in the vicinity of San Francisco, California, was obtained from Mr. EDWARD W. GURBAND, 1580 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California.

Inclosure:

FOR DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 19, FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AFB

Original rough sketch of unidentified aircraft drawn by Mr. EDWARD W. GURBAND.

CLOSED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED

Wrtn 12 Dec 49

24-185

(Unclassified) Aerial Phenomena

Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O, Air Intelligence
Requirements Div, Documents & Dissemination Branch

13 DEC 1949

1

Office of Special Investigations, IG

Maj Niemczyk/lse/71776
AFCSI

The attached copies of OSI investigative reports are forwarded for your information.

9 Incls
1. R/I, 30 Sept 49, DO#20
2. R/I, 7 Nov 49, DO#20
3. R/I, 10 Nov 49, DO#20
4. R/I, 18 Nov 49, DO#1
5. R/I, 22 Nov 49, DO#4
6. R/I, 23 Nov 49, DO#20
7. R/I, 28 Nov 49, DO#13
8. R/I, 30 Nov 49, DO#13
9. R/I, 1 Dec 49, DO#24

WILLIAM M. TURNER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Executive, Special Investigations
The Inspector General, USAF

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY _____

_____ 5 DEC 1975
DATE

CSI-1536

When Incl No. 1-9 ~~is~~ (are) withdrawn or not attached, the classification of Secret on this correspondence will be cancelled in accordance with par 25 e, AFR 205-1.

AFCSI
J. M. Niemczyk
Asst
WMT

24
24

185-12-9

USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

AFCSI-E-1

SECRET

DEC 19

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

Wr[illegible] 23 Nov 49

24-185

UNCLASSIFIED

(Unclassified) Aerial Phenomena

Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O, Air Intelligence Rqmts Div, Documents & Dissemination Branch

30 NOV 1949

1

Office of Special Investigations, IG

Maj Kellerman/lse/72231
AFCSI

1. Forwarded herewith for your information is copy of a report of investigation dated 17 August 1949, subject: William A. Rhodes, Panoramic Research Laboratory, (Incl 1).

2. Paragraph 8, above referenced report, states that Subject, on 7 July 1947, had taken photographs of an odd shaped aircraft. Attached hereto, as Incls 2 and 3, are copies of the photographs mentioned in the report.

3 Incls
1. Cy R/I, 17 Aug 49
2. Photo re Aircraft
3. Photo re Aircraft

WILLIAM M. TURNER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Executive, Special Investigations
The Inspector General, USAF

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

DATE 5 DEC 1975

OUT
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24-1763-17-8
USAF IG
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

OUT
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AFCSI-FILES

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF NAVAL HISTORY
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

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X24-185-19-7

Wrtn 11Jul

24-185-19

(Unclassified) WILLIAM ALBERT RHODES, Information Concerning Flying Disc
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Director Office of Public Information
Office of the Secretary of the Air Force

UNCLASSIFIED

14 JUL 1952

Counter Intelligence Division
Dir. of Special Investigations, IG

1
Colonel Barnard/mb/Code
192 Ext 140 AFCSI-6

1. Information has been received from the FBI to the effect that a Mr. Fred Blumenthal, in the office of Drew Pearson, had contacted the Bureau, advising that Pearson had been in contact with Dr. W. A. Rhodes concerning photographs which Rhodes allegedly made of a Flying Disc in the vicinity of Phoenix, Arizona, in June of 1947.

2. Dr. Rhodes allegedly informed Drew Pearson that the FBI borrowed his negatives on the Flying Disc and that he had asked for their return. The FBI informed Rhodes that the negatives were not available.

3. The FBI informed Mr. Blumenthal that the FBI did not have in its possession the negatives referred to by Mr. Rhodes, and in fact Rhodes knew full well that the FBI turned them over to Air Force Intelligence representatives, Hamilton Field, on 30 August 1947, with the understanding that he might never have them returned.

AFCSI FILE COPY

4. Blumenthal was informed by the Bureau that the FBI did not investigate this matter and did not investigate Rhodes. Mr. Blumenthal stated he would contact OSI for what assistance they might be able to give him.

5. OSI has not received any inquiry from Mr. Pearson or any of his representatives.

6. For your information on 18 October 1949, a letter was received from OSI District 19, transmitting copies of the photographs taken by Rhodes, and advising that the originals were in custody of the Assistant Chief of Staff, A-2, Intelligence, Hamilton AFB, California. A background investigation was run on Rhodes, by OSI, for the benefit of AMC, which reflected that Rhodes had created the name PANORAMIC RESEARCH LABORATORY, to impress people with his importance. He was reported to be a musician by trade, but had no steady job. Neighbors considered him to be an excellent neighbor, who caused no trouble, but judged him to be emotionally high strung, egotistical, and a genius in fundamentals of radio. He

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

5 DEC 1975
DATE

24-185-19-7

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

14 AUG 1952

AFCSI-8 UNCLASSIFIED

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CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

(Unclassified) WILLIAM ALBERT RHODES, Information Concerning Flying Disc
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Director Office of Public Information
Office of the Secretary of the Air Force

14 JUN 1952

1

Counter Intelligence Division
Dir. of Special Investigations, IG

Colonel Barnard/mb/Code
192 Ext 140 AFCSI-6

conducts no business through his "Laboratory," but reportedly devotes all his time to research.

7. The above information also furnished to the Directorate of Intelligence.

GILBERT R. LEVY
Chief

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

S[illegible] 49—10M

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY [illegible] K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
19D OSI 24-32
(AFCSI 24-185)
DATE 15 DEC 1975

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
19th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

18 October 1949

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) WILLIAM A. RHODES - Aerial Phenomena
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters, USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to letter, your Headquarters, File: AFCSI 24-185, Subject: As above, dated 30 September 1949, and to the report of Special Agent LYNN C. ALDRICH, File: 17D OSI 24-23, Subject: "WILLIAM A. RHODES, Panoramic Research Laboratory, Special Inquiry," dated 17 August 1949.

2. Inclosed are copies of the photograph that is now in the custody of the Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, A-2, Intelligence, Hamilton AFB, California, under the subject of "Investigation of Flying Discs".

3. Forwarded herewith are two copies of these photographs for OSI Headquarters, and with a carbon copy of this letter one (1) copy each of these photographs is being forwarded direct to the Commanding General of the Air Materiel Command.

UNCLASSIFIED

KENNETH W. KING
Lt Colonel, USAF
Acting District Commander

Incls

OSI Hq - 2 photographs Aerial Phenomena (dup)

CC: CG, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB,
with 1 copy each of 2 photographs Aerial Phenomena

24 | 185-19-1
UNITED STATES AIR FOR[illegible]
THE INSPECTOR GEN[illegible]
OCT 25 2 08 PM '49

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-23

DATE 17 August 1949

REPORT MADE BY
LYNN C. ALDRICH

REPORT MADE AT
DO #17, Kirtland AFB

UNCLASSIFIED

PERIOD
7,20,21 June, 15,18,19 July 49

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB

STATUS
RUC

TITLE

WILLIAM A. RHODES
PANORAMIC RESEARCH LABORATORY

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRY

24-185-100

REFERENCE
Rpt of Invest by SA THOMAS F. DOYLE, Jr., DO 5, Wright-Patterson AFB, file #5d-24-27, dtd 19 May 49.

SYNOPSIS

Better Business Bureau, Chamber of Commerce and Arizona Corporation Commission checked with negative results. Credit Bureau record attached as Exhibit A. City directories and telephone directory checked. Mr and Mrs. C. T. THOMPSON, neighbors, stated SUBJECT is excellent neighbor, caused no trouble, is emotionally high strung, egotistical and a genius in fundamentals of radio and electronics. SUBJECT is musician by trade, has no steady job and devotes all of his time to research. SUBJECT wrote scientific article for nationally known magazine and received honorary Doctor of Science degree from Columbia University for this article. PANORAMIC RESEARCH LABORATORY was name devised by SUBJECT to impress people with his importance. SUBJECT conducts no business under this name; enjoys a good reputation in community and is a loyal American. Mrs RUMMAGE, another neighbor, disclosed SUBJECT is a good neighbor and has caused no trouble in community. SUBJECT is musician by trade, but devotes his time to research in electronics, astronomy, radio and photography. SUBJECT wrote thesis on astronomy and was offered an honorary scholarship by big University in east (name unknown). SUBJECT has no close friends or associates, and informant knew no information concerning the origin of PANORAMIC RESEARCH LABORATORY. Files of T-1 reflected the report of interview and observations of Agent. Local agencies checked with negative results.

24-185-1

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC...
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 15 DEC 1975

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DO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB (1 Incl) 2
File (1 Incl) 2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO
Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXS

APPROVED
Doyle. Rees
DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander.

FILE STAMP
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24-185-19

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AFHQ FORM 15 JAN 49 **0-208** Replaces AFCSI Form 4, 23 Jul 48, which may be used.

16—57744-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

TITLE	FILE NO.
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CHARACTER

REFERENCE

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AFHQ FORM 15 JAN 49 O-208 Replaces AFCSI Form 1, 23 Jul 48.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

DETAILS:

AT PHOENIX, ARIZONA

1. On 7 June 1949, the records of the Better Business Bureau, Room 257, Adams Hotel; the Chamber of Commerce, 124 North Second Ave; and the Arizona Corporation Commission, Capitol Annex, reflected no record concerning SUBJECT or the PANORAMIC RESEARCH LABORATORY.

2. On 7 June 1949, the City Directories revealed the following information, during the years shown:

1942	No record
1945-46	RHODES, Wm A. (MAXINE, employee of Wayne's Midway Inn) h 4337 N 14th St.
1946-47	RHODES, Wm A. (MAXINE C) Research Laboratory, h 4337 N 14th St.
1947-48	RHODES, Wm A. (MAXINE C) h 4337 N 14th St.
1948-49	RHODES, Wm A. (MAXINE C) Panoramic Research, h 4333 N 14th St.
1949-50	RHODES, Wm A. (MAXINE C) musician, h 4333 N 14th St.

"NOTE: There no city directories published from 1942 to 1945."

3. On 7 June 1949, the June 1949 telephone directory was reviewed and reflected SUBJECT was listed as: RHODES, WILLIAM A. Dr., 4333 N 14th St. The classified section of the phone directory failed to disclose SUBJECT's name under Physicians & Surgeons (MD), Dentists and Veterinarians.

4. On 21 June 1949, record of the Credit Bureau, 1017 N Central Ave, were checked and a copy of RHODES credit record was obtained and is inclosed as Exhibit A. There was no record of any credit transactions under the name of PANORAMIC RESEARCH LABORATORY.

5. On 15 July 1949, Mr and Mrs C. T. THOMPSON, 4331 N 14th St. were interviewed and stated they have been neighbors of SUBJECT since 1943. SUBJECT is an excellent neighbor, has caused no trouble in the community and devotes considerable time to community projects. SUBJECT is emotionally high strung, egotistical and a genius when it comes to the fundamentals of radio and electronics. SUBJECT has no real occupation but is a musician by trade. RHODES devotes most of his time to research work in radio, electronics, astronomy, radar and photography. SUBJECT has built a small telescope to study astronomy, has made a television set and numerous other items. RHODES recently wrote a scientific article for a nationally known magazine (name unknown) which was read by someone (name unknown) at Columbia University. As a result of this article SUBJECT was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Columbia University. Informants disclosed that the name PANORAMIC RESEARCH LABORATORY was devised by RHODES to impress people and that he conducts no business under this name.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

6. SUBJECT's father and mother are presently living with RHODES. SUBJECT's mother was born in Russia and came to the United States in 1900. She married Mr. RHODES, a U. S. Citizen, shortly after the start of World War I. SUBJECT is an only child. SUBJECT is divorced from his first wife, DORIS, and has the custody of their seven (7) year old son. RHODES married MAXINE COLEMAN, a girl from a prominent Mesa, Arizona family, in 1947. SUBJECT's wife teaches the 4th grade at Longview school and this is the only source of income the RHODES family has, except when SUBJECT occasionally plays with a dance band. SUBJECT owns a 1947 Willy's Jeep station wagon as well as his home. RHODES and his family are presently on an extended vacation trip through the western states. SUBJECT is not a religious man and is a registered Democrat, although he did not vote in the last election. As far as Informants know, SUBJECT is honest, truthful, loyal, dependable and one who has no bad habits. RHODES has no close friends or acquaintances and Informants knew of no one else who knew SUBJECT except Mrs RUMMAGE, 4330 North 14th Street, a neighbor.

7. On 18 July 1949, Mrs JESSIE B. RUMMAGE, 4330 North 14th Street, clerk for the Arizona Brace Shop, 145 East Van Buren, was interviewed and related she had been a neighbor of RHODES since 1943, but does not know him too well, inasmuch as she works during the day. SUBJECT has caused no trouble in the community and is a good neighbor. SUBJECT is an inventor and devotes all of his time to research in electonics, astronomy, radio and photography. RHODES develops and prints all of his photographs, is an excellent radio repairman and built a small telescope to study astronomy. SUBJECT recently wrote a thesis on astronomy and was offered an honorary scholarship by some big University in the east (name unknown). SUBJECT is a musician by trade and has no steady job. He plays occassionally with a dance band in and around Phoenix. SUBJECT's wife, MAXINE, is a school teacher at Longview Grade school and her pay is the only source of income the RHODES have. SUBJECT has a seven (7) year old son by his first marriage and married his present wife in 1947. SUBJECT's mother was born in Russia and came to this country in 1901. RHODES is an only child, is emotionally high strung and egotistical. SUBJECT's parents are presently living with him and his mother is an invalid. Informant considers RHODES an asset to the neighborhood, as he is community minded and devotes much of his time to community projects. SUBJECT dislikes cats and dogs and has shot one dog and several cats which have come into his yard. SUBJECT owns his home and a 1947 Willy's Jeep station wagon. SUBJECT has no religious belief and Mrs RUMMAGE did not know his political affiliation. RHODES is honest, truthful, dependable and a loyal citizen. SUBJECT has no close friends or acquaintances and Informant knew of no other individuals who knew SUBJECT.

8. On 20 June 1949, the records of T-1, a Federal Investigative Agency were checked and the following information was obtained:

WILLIAM ALBERT RHODES, 4333 N. 14th Stree, Phoenix, Arizona owns and maintains the Panoramic Research Laboratory and Hobby Shop at this address, and he related the following as occurring on the afternoon of July 7, 1947:

A storm had occurred in Phoenix on the afternoon of July 7, 1947,

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

and the clouds were at approximately 5,000 feet, the color of which was grey and they resembled dense cumulus. A fifteen mile per hour wind was blowing. At approximately 5 PM on that date, Mr. RHODES was walking from his home to the Hobby Shop and he heard a noise resembling a P-80 aircraft, apparently coming in a westerly direction. Upon searching the skies he observed to the northeast what appeared to be an odd shaped ship. He described this ship as being possibly 20 to 30 feet in diameter, traveling at an estimated speed of 100 miles per hour. It appeared to be making a spiral in a small radius of possibly one-half to three quarters of a mile. RHODES stated the sound which he first heard was no longer audible; that he hurriedly procured a 120 Brownie Box Camera from his shop, and as the aircraft completed the first circle he obtained a photograph. As the ship started on the second turn, it was in a northwesterly direction from his place and he again snapped a photograph, which more closely resembled the shape of the ship than photograph #1, this being designated as Exhibit II, as submitted to the Bureau with letter dated August 4, 1947, by the Office of Assistant Chief of Staff A-2 Intelligence, Hamilton Field, California. RHODES further described the direction of the ship by stating that instead of completing the left-hand downward spiral the ship banked to the right and disappeared into the clouds. He stated that just as it banked, he had snapped the second photograph, Exhibit II.

At the last point, which was at the time the ship made this turn, Mr. RHODES estimated it to be between 1,000 and 2,000 feet high. He further described the appearance of this ship as closely resembling a picture which appeared on the front cover of the May 1947, issue of the Mechanics Illustrated Magazine, the only difference noted by Mr. RHODES being that the ship appeared to be flying backward.

Mr. RHODES also related that he did not associate the appearance of this ship with the numerous reports of flying discs. He related, however, that after a three minute interview with newspaper reporters the story that appeared in the local papers was "blown up" to the extent that he, RHODES, barely recognized the information furnished by him. Mr. RHODES explained that the aforementioned dimensions and distances were only estimated, pointing out that his previous experience probably assisted him in making fairly close estimates. He related that he had been doing experimental work for the past ten years. He also stated he was employed at the Naval Ordnance Laboratory, Washington, D. C. during the early part of World War II and left there the beginning of 1942. Upon his return to Phoenix, he was employed at Falcon Field near Phoenix which was leased by the British Government for training purposes. He instructed in instrument training, aircraft identification and gunnery practice. He explained that his hobbies have to do with science, physics, radio, electronics and astronomy. He produced a model which he had made of a radio controlled airplane. He related that most of his work consists of building transformers but it is also necessary for him to depend upon his musical ability for his livilihood.

In explaining the results of photographing the shipm Mr. RHODES stated that he was surprised that the object appeared dark on a light back-

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

ground; that he fully expected that the object would be light on a dark background. He described the light spot which appears in the center of the object (Exhibit II) as being a green house. RHODES insisted that the ship made no noise that was audible to his ear and he was unable to detect the presence of any propeller. He also related that after the newspaper release over Radio Station KTAR, wherein statements were made that he, RHODES, had stated Army officials were studying the photographs, and that it was a top secret, he attempted to determine the source of this release and the Radio station finally told him that it was a United Press release from Washington, D. C.

The following description of RHODES was obtained from observation and interrogation:

Age	30
Date birth	12-29-16
Place birth	Garden City, Kansas
Height	6' 3"
Weight	155 pounds
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Education	Phoenix Union High School
Marital status	Married - one son

It should be stated that at the time of interview with RHODES, Mr. BROWER identified himself as an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigaion and exhibited his credentials. However, pursuant to a request from Mr. FUGATE, he was introduced only as a representative of the United States goverrment. His exact official connection was not made known to Mr. RHODES. Agent BROWER advised that he felt it was a peculiar procedure, but it was not his business. However, at the conclusion of the interview, Mr. FUGATE requested Mr. RHODES to furnish him with the negatives and RHODES stated he would be glad to do so, but they were not in his immediate possession, andhe would deliver them to the FBI the following morning. Mr. RHODES requested that the negatives be returned to him. Agent BROWER states that to this request, Mr. FUGATE made no reply. Agent BROWER states that after leaving Mr. RHODES he asked FUGATE if the negatives would be returned to Mr. RHODES and FUGATE stated that he doubted very much that they would be returned. Mr. BROWER then advised Mr. FUGATE that before he, BROWER, would accept these negatives that RHODES must be advised of Mr. FUGATE's identity and also advised that the negatives, if turned over to Mr. FUGATE, would not be returned to him.

In view of which, on the morning of August 30, 1947, when Mr. RHODES called at the Phoenix office to deliver the negatives, they were accepted only after he was advised that they were being given to Mr. FUGATE, a representative of the Army Air Force Intelligence, United States Army, and that there was little, if any, chance of his getting the negatives back. Mr. RHODES turned the negatives over to this office with the full understanding that they were being given to the Army and that he would not get them back.

9. On 20 June 1949, name files of the following agencies were checked with negative results:

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Police Department
Sheriff's Office, Maricopa County
State Bureau of Criminal Identification

INCLOSURES

FOR CG, AMC, (MCIAXS), WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

Exhibit A, the original copy of RHODES credit record as maintained at the Credit Bureau of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona.

FOR DO #5, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

Exhibit A, a carbon copy of RHODES credit record as maintained at the Credit Bureau of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona.

FOR OSI HEADQUARTERS

Exhibit A, a carbon copy of RHODES credit record as maintained at the Credit Bureau of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona.

FOR DO #17, KIRTLAND AFB

Exhibit A, a carbon copy of RHODES credit record as maintained at the Credit Bureau of Phoenix, Phoenix, Arizona.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

SECRET 7 Nov 1949
Auth CS, USAF

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-33

DATE 30 September 1949

REPORT MADE BY RALPH R. HOUSER, SA

REPORT MADE AT DO #20, McChord AFB

PERIOD 8 August, 22 September 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #19

STATUS RUC

UNCLASSIFIED

TITLE

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT
(PROJECT SIGN)
Sighted at Rogue River, Oregon,
on 24 May 1949

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE Rpt of CHARLES E. BROOKS, DO#19, dated 20 July 1949, File No. 24-14
Rpt of CHARLES E. BROOKS, DO #19, dated 28 July 1949, File No. 24-14

SYNOPSIS

Mrs. OLIVE ELIZABETH McBETH, Box #207, Gold Beach, Oregon, advised that her attention was called to this object while on a fishing party on the Rogue River near Gold Beach on 24 May 1949. She described it as being round in shape, silver in color, and about the size of a C-47 aircraft. It made no noise, left no exhaust trail, and made no maneuvers. When first called to her attention, the object appeared to be three or four miles away. It was coming from the east, but later turned to the southwest. The position of the observer is as follows: 42° 25' North Latitude and 124° 24' West Longitude. Personnel of the CAA Weather Station, Medford Airport, Medford, Oregon, advised that there are no reports available exclusively for Gold Beach and vicinity. However, charts for the coastal area indicate the coast was open and clear on 24 May 1949.

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

DISTRIBUTION
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1cy SA rpt from DO #20 by Houser dtd 7 Nov 49

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Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTENTION: MCIAXO-3

APPROVED
R. D. MELCHER
Major, USAF
Acting
District Commander.

FILE STAMP
84-185-11-6
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
DEC 5 2 15 PM '49
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
2377
DEC 19 1949
File

Ind #1
R-84793

AFHQ FORM 15 JAN 49 O-208 Replaces AFCSI Form 4, 23 Jul 48, which may be used.

16—57744-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

OUT
7 DEC 1949
MANAGEMENT
DIV.
OSI

IN
7 DEC 1949
CI DIV
OSI

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

SECRET
Auth CG, USAF
~~30 September 1949~~
7 Nov 1949

File No. 24-33

DETAILS:

AT GOLD BEACH, OREGON

1. On 8 August 1949, Mrs. OLIVE ELIZABETH McBETH, Box #207, Gold Beach, Oregon, was interviewed and advised that at approximately 1700 hours, 24 May 1949, she and four other persons, while fishing on the Rogue River near Elephant Rock approximately 1½ miles above the highway bridge near Gold Beach, Oregon, sighted an object described as being round in shape, silver in color, and about the size of a C-47 aircraft. When first brought to Mrs. McBETH's attention by one of the other witnesses, the object appeared to be three or four miles away. It was coming from the east, but later turned to the southwest. It appeared to be traveling at the same rate of speed as a C-47. It made no noise, left no exhaust trail, and made no maneuvers. The interviewee stated that she was not familiar with aircraft; therefore, she could not estimate with any accuracy the speed or altitude at which the object was traveling. Mrs. McBETH made the comparison between the object and a C-47 because she is familiar with that type aircraft. Her son has pointed out C-47's to her as they flew over Gold Beach. The position of the observer at the time of sighting is as follows: 42° 25' North Latitude and 124° 24' West Longitude.

AT MEDFORD, OREGON

2. On 22 September 1949, personnel of the CAA Weather Station, Medford Airport, Medford, Oregon, advised that there are no reports available exclusively for Gold Beach and vicinity. However, available weather charts for the coastal area indicate the coast was open and clear on 24 May 1949.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

~~SECRET~~

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-33

DATE 7 November 1949

REPORT MADE BY
RALPH R. HOUSER

:SECRET

REPORT MADE AT
DO #20, McChord AFB

:Auth: CS, USAF

PERIOD
25 October 1949

: 7 November 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO# 19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS
RUC

TITLE

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT
(PROJECT SIGN)
Sighted at Rogue River, Oregon,
on 24 May 1949

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE Rpt of S/A CHARLES E. BROOKS, DO#19, dtd 20 Jul 49, File 24-14, and Rpt of S/A BROOKS dtd 28 Jul 49; Rpt of S/A HOUSER, DO#20, dtd 30 Sep 49, File 24-33

SYNOPSIS

AFCSI 24-185

On 25 October 1949, Colonel JAMES R. MC NITT, CO, 505th Aircraft Control and Warning Group, advised that the vicinity of Gold Beach, Oregon, is not under radar coverage by his unit or any other unit at present.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

5 DEC 1975
DATE

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Dayton, Ohio
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APPROVED

R. D. MELCHER
Major, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP

AFCSI FORM 4
23 JULY 1948

9-1073, AF

~~SECRET~~

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

20D OSI 24-33

DETAILS:

1. Special Agent ANDREW LEXA conducted this portion of the Investigation.

AT SILVER LAKE, WASHINGTON

2. On 25 October 1949, Colonel JAMES R. MC NITT, Commanding Officer, 505th Aircraft Control and Warning Group, Silver Lake, Washington, was interviewed and information was requested as to whether or not any unidentified aircraft had been detected in the vicinity of Gold Beach, Oregon, on 24 May 1949. Colonel MC NITT informed this agent that the area in question was not covered by the 505th Aircraft Control and Warning Group net and, in fact, is not under radar coverage by his unit or any other at present time.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-37

DATE NOV 2 - 1949

UNCLASSIFIED

REPORT MADE BY FRANK D DEAN

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unusual Aerial Phenomena
at Napa, California

REPORT MADE AT DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

PERIOD 31 October, 1-2 November 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS PENDING

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
5 DEC 1975
DATE

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE None. This is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

This investigation requested by Lt Col KENNETH W KING, Acting District Commander, DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California upon receipt of information that Mr. MELVIN C SHANKS and Mr ROBERT LARGENT, both of Napa, California, sighted an unknown circular object flying north over the town of Napa, California at approximately 1250 on 28 October 1949. LARGENT and SHANKS interviewed and revealed following information regarding unidentified object: estimated altitude 4-5 thousand feet; object in sight approximately thirty (30) seconds; speed of object unknown; size appeared to be five (5) feet in diameter, actual size estimated thirty (30) to thirty-five (35) feet in diameter; apparent metal construction with appearance of aluminum; no exhaust or vapor trail; no sound; no projections visible. LARGENT and SHANKS diverted attention and object disappeared during this period. No witnesses. Interview with local residents indicated LARGENT considered truthful and dependable, not addicted to alcohol. SHANKS not known. Record and agency check reveals no derogatory information regarding SHANKS or LARGENT. Interview with manager of local airport, Napa, California revealed observation of two (2) or three (3) Jet Fighter Aircraft in vicinity and one B-29 or C-54 type aircraft in vicinity on 28 October between 1230 and 1300.

UNCLASSIFIED

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DO#18 (Incl) -2
CG, Fairfield-Suisun AFB (Incl) -1
File (Incl) -2

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Commanding General
Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

APPROVED
Kenneth W. King
KENNETH W KING
Lt Colonel, USAF
Acting DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP
24-18519-5
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
NOV 25 2 31 PM '49
OFFICE OF
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
NOV 25 1949
1813

SMAMA—Nov 48—100M

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

TITLE	FILE NO.
	DATE
	REPORT MADE BY
	REPORT MADE AT
	PERIOD
	OFFICE OF ORIGIN
	STATUS
CHARACTER	
REFERENCE	
SYNOPSIS	

UNCLASSIFIED

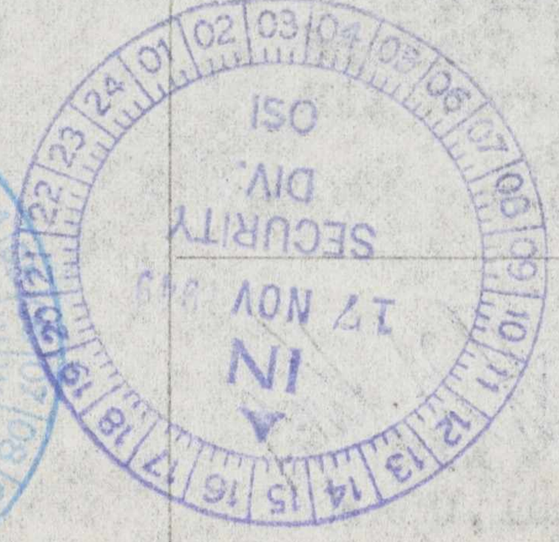
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BY
8 DEC 1975
DATE

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FILE STAMP







APPROVED

DISTRICT COMMANDER

SHAMA—Nov 48—100M

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-37
DETAILS:

1. This investigation requested by Lt Col KENNETH N KING, Acting District Commander, DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California on 31 October 1949 upon receipt of information that Mr. MELVIN C SHANKS and Mr. ROBERT LARGENT, both of Napa, California had seen an unknown circular object flying over the town of Napa, California on 28 October 1949 at approximately 1250.

AT NAPA, CALIFORNIA

2. On 31 October 1949 Mr MELVIN C SHANKS, 1624 "E" Street, Napa, California was interviewed and advised that on 28 October 1949 at 1230-1300 hours, he and his assistant Mr ROBERT LARGENT were hanging a canvas curtain in the west end of the grease rack of his service station, located at 2303 Jefferson Street, Napa, California. SHANKS further advised that, while handing one end of the canvas to LARGENT (standing on a ladder) he noticed a round silver object in the sky immediately overhead and called LARGENT's attention to this object. Both stood looking at it for about thirty (30) seconds and then glanced away to call a Mrs MARIE McKENZIE's attention to the object. When SHANKS and LARGENT again looked up to point out this unknown object to Mrs McKENZIE it could not be seen. SHANKS stated this circular object was headed due north and was, in his opinion, between four thousand (4000) and five thousand (5000) feet altitude. SHANKS further stated this object appeared to be rotating, was silver in color, appeared to be aluminum, moved very quickly, was about the size of a fighter plane, perfectly round, flew straight and level, left no exhaust trail, had no visible means of support, and had no apparent projection. SHANKS stated this object made no sound as it passed through the air and that, if it had, he would have noticed as it was very quiet in the neighborhood at the time. SHANKS advised that the only other person who had seen this object was Mr. ROBERT LARGENT. Mr. SHANKS volunteered the signed statement set forth verbatim below:

"On Oct 29 at approximately 12:30 to 1:PM I saw a circular object which looked to be four or five feet in diameter going north it was west of Jefferson St. and we lost it at about six or seven miles north from where I first saw it, it was silver in color and appeared to be rotating, it did not seem to go as fast as a jet however the way it disappeared it was probably going very fast, it was in sight for about 45 seconds and compared to a fighter plane about 4 or 5 thousand feet. I called it to BOBBY LARGENT's attention and we watch it together."

The original of this statement is on file at DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California.

3. On 31 October 1949 Mr ROBERT ALLEN LARGENT, 1709

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-37
DETAILS (Continued)

Lincoln Ave., Napa, California was interviewed and stated that on 28 October 1949, at approximately 1250, while he and Mr. SHANKS were hanging a canvas curtain in the west end of the grease rack of SHANKS service station, located at 2303 Jefferson Street, Napa, California, Mr SHANKS called LARGENT's attention to a round silver object, directly overhead. LARGENT stated that he was standing on a step ladder and, when he looked up, he saw a single object about the size of a single seater fighter type aircraft moving due North and travelling at a high rate of speed. LARGENT stated this object was perfectly round, appeared to be manufactured of aluminum, flew straight and level, left no exhaust trail, and had no visible means of support. LARGENT judged the height of this object to be about four thousand (4000) to five thousand (5000) feet in altitude and stated that it was in sight for about thirty (30) seconds. LARGENT advised that this object made no sound as it passed through the air and that, if it had made any sound, he would have noticed as it was very quiet in the neighborhood at that time. LARGENT stated that he looked down at the ground for a second and when he again looked up, the object had disappeared. LARGENT advised that there were no clouds in the sky on this particular day and that this object could not have disappeared behind a cloud or cloud formation for this reason. LARGENT advised that the only other person who had seen this object was Mr. MELVIN C SHANKS, his employer. LARGENT volunteered the signed statement set forth verbatim below:

"On October 28, 1949 at 12:50 P.M I sighted a perfectly round,aluminum colored disc, traveling at a speed far greater than any airplane I have ever seen. At the time I sighted the object it was directly over Napa, and was traveling due North. I would estimate the heigth at about 4,000 feet. At the time I sighted the object I was at Mels Richfield service station, 2303 Jefferson St, Napa, California where I am employed. This object was called to my attention by Mr. SHANKS. This object left no vapor trail and I could not distinguish on this object any conventional parts of a regulor airplane, such as, wings, tail, propeller, or engine. This object was in my sight approximately 30 seconds, and I lost sight of this object by looking down and back up again."

The original of the above statement is on file at DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California

4. On 2 November 1949 Mr. E. C. CONNORS, Napa Union High School and Reverend CLYDE WOLFE, 1701 Lincoln Ave, both of Napa, California advised they have known LARGENT for two (2)

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-37
DETAILS (Continued)

years and would vouch for his honesty, trustworthiness and dependability. Both advised that SUBJECT is a very quiet, unassuming type of boy who would not be inclined to exaggerate or distort the truth under any circumstances.

NOTE: Mr. MELVIN C SHANKS has resided in Napa, California for a period of only eight (8) weeks, consequently character references for SHANK could not be obtained thru interviews with local residents.

5. A check of the records maintained by the Napa Police Department, Napa, California revealed no record of SHANKS or LARGENT.

6. Mr. HERBERT B THOMAS, 2216 Adrian Street, Napa, California, Manager of Napa Sky Ranch located at 1320 Trancas Road, Napa, California was interviewed and stated that on 28 October 1949 no local or cross-country flights were made from his airport. THOMAS further stated that on this date, between the hours of 1200-1300 he observed two (2) or three (3) jet type aircraft over Napa, California, flying at approximately 10,000 feet altitude, and a B-29 or C-54 flying north at approximately 15,000 feet.

AT FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AFB, CALIFORNIA

7. The only weather reporting station in the vicinity of Napa, California is Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California. Weather charts maintained at the Base Weather Station, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California list the following weather conditions for the area of Napa, California at 1230-1300 hours, 28 October 1949:

General: Clear with no wind.
Sky Conditions: Cirrus clouds to East- no other cloud formation.
Visibility: Four (4) miles with ground haze.
Winds Aloft: No surface wind
5000 ft 10 mi per hour fr 180°, temp 16°C
10000 ft 10 mi per hr fr 320°, temp 7°C

INCLOSURES

FOR DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 5, WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB, OHIO (4 cys); CO, AIR MATERIAL COMMAND, WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB, OHIO; CO, FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AFB, CALIF; DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 16, ~~MARYSVILLE~~, CALIFORNIA; FILE

1. Sketch of unknown flying object as described by SHANKS and LARGENT.

PENDING

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

19D OSI 24-37
UNENVELOPED LEADS

UNENVELOPED LEADS

DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 19, FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AFB, CALIFORNIA

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1. Will contact Civil Aeronautics Authority, San Francisco, California for schedule of all flights in the area of Napa, California on 28 October 1949 at 1230-1300 hours.

2. Will contact the Intelligence Division, 6th Army Area, Headquarters, Presidio of San Francisco, California to ascertain if any testing devices or missiles were relased in the area of Napa, California on 28 October 1949 at 1230-1300 hours.

3. Will contact the Intelligence Division, 6th Army Area, Headquarters, Presidio of San Francisco, California to ascertain if any radar (ground) contacts were made with unidentified objects in the area of Napa, California on 28 October 1949 at 1230-1300 hours.

4. Will contact Commander, Air Force Pacific Fleet, to ascertain if any Naval Operations were conducted in the area of Napa, California on 28 October 1949.

DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 18, MAYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

AT INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Will conduct discreet inquiry regarding the honesty, and reliability of Mr MELVIN C SHANKS, former resident of 8616 Twelfth Street, Inglewood, California.

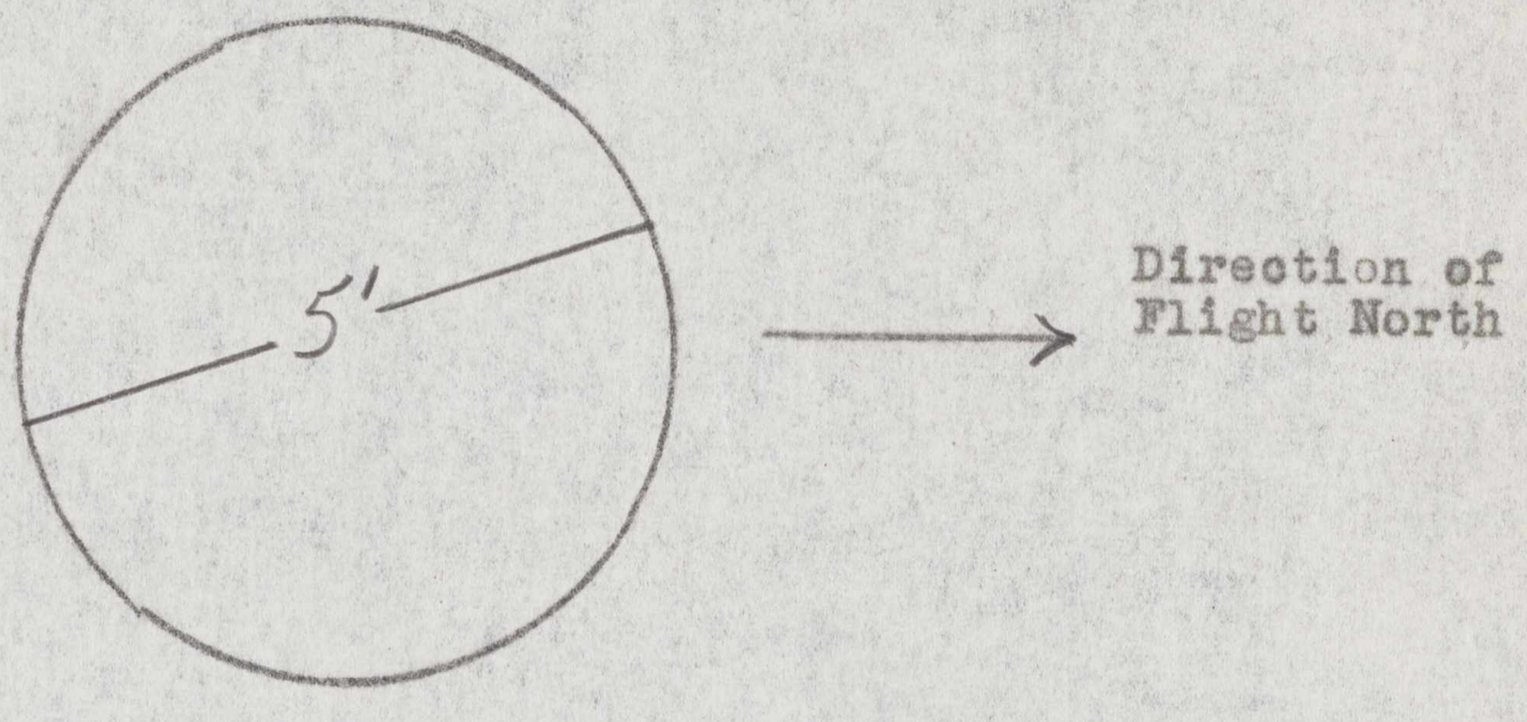
[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

Case No. 24-37

[redacted]

Apparent Size



Altitude - Estimated, 4,000 to 5,000 feet.

Speed - Unknown

Color - Aluminium

Incl 1

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-21

DATE 31 October 1949

REPORT MADE BY
S/A WILLIAM I CASSELL

REPORT MADE AT
DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

PERIOD
10-11 October 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS
CLOSED

TITLE
UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unusual Aerial Phenomena
Near Position #6(4415N x 1325W)
Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California
"Project Sign"

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRY

UNCLASSIFIED

REFERENCE
Rpt of S/A J W CAGLE, DO#19, File 24-21, dtd 21 September 1949

SYNOPSIS

A check of the flight clearance records maintained by the San Francisco Office Civial Aeronautics Authority (CAA) and Municipal Airports located in San Francisco and Oakland, California revealed no information concerning unusual aerial phenomena sighted on 2 August 1949. Information received from G-2, Sixth Army; ONI, Twelfth Naval District, and Air Force Early Warning Radar Station, Bay Area, San Francisco, California revealed no identifying data concerning the unusual aerial phenomena sighted on 2 August 1949.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
5 DEC 1975
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APPROVED
Kenneth W. King
KENNETH W. KING
Lt Colonel, USAF
Acting
DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP
24-18-1949
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GEN
Nov 8 2 11 PM '49
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1636
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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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5 DEC 1975
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IN
10 NOV 1949
GEN. INVEST. DIV.
ISO

OUT
MANAGEMENT DIV.
C&T
10 NOV 1949

IN
14 NOV 1949
SECURITY DIV.
OSI

OUT
18 NOV 1949
CI DIV
OSI

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-21
DETAILS

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1. On 10 October 1949 information received from the San Francisco, California Office, Civil Aeronautics Authority (CAA) revealed that there are one hundred sixty-one (161) listed air carriers in the Bay Area, San Francisco, California. Fourteen (14) of the listed air carriers operate on regular schedules and less than one (1) percent of the remaining carriers file any type of flight plan or clearance, consequently it is impossible to determine the existence of any known aircraft in the area 44° x 15'N, 132°-57'W on 2 August 1949.

2. On 10 October 1949 a check of the San Francisco and Oakland, California Municipal Airports revealed that less than one (1) percent of the aircraft normally using these airports file any type of flight plan or clearance, consequently it is impossible to determine the existence of any known aircraft in the area 44° x 15'N, 132°-57'W on 2 August 1949.

3. On 10 October 1949 a check of the records maintained by G-2, Sixth Army and ONI, Twelfth Naval District, San Francisco, California revealed that these commands do not possess a radar installation which is powerful enough to reach the area 44° 15'N, 132° 57'W

- CLOSED -

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-30

DATE 24 October 1949

REPORT MADE BY
RALPH R. HOUSER, SA

REPORT MADE AT
DO #20, McChord AFB

PERIOD
21 Sept, 11 Oct 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #20, McChord AFB

STATUS
PENDING

TITLE

"PROJECT SIGN"
UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT SIGHTED
IN SOUTHERN OREGON ON
27 May 1949

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE Report of S/A BRYDEN E. MOON, DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California, dated 8 July 1949, File No. 24-15

SYNOPSIS

Investigation predicated upon report of S/A BRYDEN E. MOON, DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California, dated 8 July 1949, File No. 24-15. The writer was unable to contact anyone who had seen any unconventional aircraft in the Hart Mountain area.

UNCLASSIFIED

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

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Dayton, Ohio
ATTENTION: MCIAXO-3

APPROVED

G. L. Foucart, Capt USAF
for R. D. MELCHER
Major, USAF
Acting *District Commander.*

FILE STAMP

24-185-19-3
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
NOV 11 32 AM '49
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION
1450

AFHQ FORM 15 JAN 49 O-208 Replaces AFCSI Form 4, 23 Jul 48, which may be used.

16—57744-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR

BY _____

DATE 5 DEC 1975

UNCLASSIFIED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

File No. 24-30

DETAILS:

1. Investigation predicated upon report of S/A BRYDEN E. MOON, DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California, dated 8 July 1949, File No. 24-15.

2. Special Agent EARL D. JAMESON assisted in the investigation of this case.

AT LAKEVIEW, OREGON

3. On 21 September 1949, Sheriff TOM ELLIOTT, Lake County, Lakeview, Oregon, advised that his office has received no reports of unconventional aircraft in the Hart Mountain area.

4. On 21 September 1949, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. ADAMS, superintendent of the antelope game reserve, Hart Mountain, in Lake County, Oregon, advised that they have neither seen nor heard of any unconventional aircraft in the Hart Mountain area.

AT PLUSH, ORMGON

5. On 21 September 1949, Mr. J. C. CONKLAM; and Mr. RAY ATKINS, both of Plush, Oregon, advised that they have neither seen nor heard of any unconventional aircraft in the Hart Mountain area.

AT PORTLAND, OREGON

6. Mr. STERNS, U. S. GOVERNMENT, Weather Bureau, Customs House, 220 NW 8th Ave., Portland, Ore., was interviewed in his office on 11 Oct 1949. After reviewing weather charts for 27 May 1949, he advised that there are no teletype sequence charts for Lakeview, Oregon; however, the nearest weather to the time of sighting of unconventional aircraft is for 1247 hours (PST), 27 May 1949. This weather report was sent out from Burns, Oregon, and reads as follows: Amount of clouds: 1- at 4500 feet; Surface winds from south, 9 miles velocity; Visibility: 30 miles; Humidity: dry bulb - 76.8, wet bulb - 56.2; Pressure change - 060. Mr. STERNS also advised that the only winds aloft report for that area was at Burns, Oregon, as contained in published chart. After reviewing chart for 1900 hours (PST), 27 May 1949, nearest report to time of sighting of unconventional aircraft, he advised that winds aloft were as follows: Surface: 340° at 10 knots; 6000 feet: 340° at 39 knots; 8000 feet: 300° at 16 knots; 10,000 feet: 240° at 22 knots; 12,000 feet: 220° at 30 knots; 14,000 feet: 210° at 32 knots; 16,000 feet: 190° at 33 knots; 18,000 feet: 180° at 39 knots; 20,000 feet: 190° at 39 knots. He further advised that since Lakeview is not a weather station, there could not have been any weather balloons or testing devices

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sent aloft in that area.

7. There are no Ordnance, Naval, Army, or Air Force Units in Lakeview, Ore., or any other organizations which could have sent weather testing devices aloft.

8. On 11 October 1949, Mr. BASFORD, of the CAA, Portland Airport, Portland, Oregon, was interviewed and advised that schedules for commercial, military, and local flights in the Lakeview area for 27 May 1949 would have to be obtained from the Chief Controller, Seattle Air Route Traffic Control Center, Seattle-Tacoma Airport, Seattle, Washington.

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File No. 24-30

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 20, McCHORD AFB

AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Contact Chief Controller, Seattle Air Route Traffic Control Center, Seattle-Tacoma Airport, Seattle, Washington, and obtain flight schedules of commercial, military, and local aircraft in the vicinity of Hart Mountain, near Lakeview, Oregon, at approximately 1430 hours (PST), 27 May 1949. This information is pertinent to the investigation of this case as required in AFCSI Letter No. 85, dated 12 August 1949.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-28

DATE 21 October 1949

REPORT MADE BY JACK S. MARTIN

REPORT MADE AT DO # 19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

PERIOD 29 September 1949
18 October 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO # 19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS PENDING

TITLE

PROJECT GRUDGE
Unidentified Aircraft 1 August 1949 in Vicinity of San Francisco, California

Aerial Phenomena

CHARACTER Special Inquiry

REFERENCE Pending Rpt by S/A JACK S. MARTIN, DO # 19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB File No. 24-28, dated 28 September 1949

SYNOPSIS

UNCLASSIFIED

Mr. EDWARD W. GURBAND, 2518 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California; Mr. ROY OLIVER NEELY, 1550 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, California; and Reverend CURTIS DANIELS, 825-35th Avenue, Oakland, California, all signed statements to the effect that they saw unusual and unidentifiable objects in the sky on 1 August 1949. Sketches were obtained from NEELY and DANIELS.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR, AFOSI INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
5 DEC 1975
DATE

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APPROVED

Kenneth W. King
KENNETH W. KING
Lt Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER
Acting

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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BY Historian
DATE 8 DEC 1975

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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19D OSI 24-28

DETAILS:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1. On 29 September 1949, Mr. EDWARD W. GURBAND, 2518 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California, signed the following statement:

"On Monday, 1 August 1949, at approximately 1400 hours, PST, while riding on a commercial passenger fishing boat approaching the Golden Gate, I sighted two (2) objects appearing to be in formation and traveling at a speed greater than that of jet aircraft. These objects were oval in shape, from 10,000 to 25,000 feet in altitude, at a distance laterally of approximately eight (8) miles, and at an angle of elevation from the horizon of approximately 55°. Sighting time was approximately 35 to 40 seconds and the objects appeared to be silvery in color, having oval shapes, and apparently of solid construction. Size of these objects, as they appeared from my view, were approximately 40 feet in diameter. The objects were going due North, and made no tactics or maneuvers. There was no evidence of exhaust, no effect on clouds, no visible lights, and other than the shape of the objects, there was no means of aero dynamic support. There was no sound, no fins or stabilizers were visible, and nothing was seen of any means of propulsion. No slots or duct openings were noticed and the speed of objects was estimated at from one to one and one-half times faster than jet aircraft. The objects disappeared behind fog bank. I called the attention of the other members of the boat to these objects which appeared to be in formation, and after they had disappeared from view, several minutes later, I spotted approximately seven (7)

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DETAILS (cont'd)

1. (cont'd)

more of these objects in trail formation at the same altitude, traveling in the same direction and being identical with the original objects."

/s/ EDWARD W. GURBAND
EDWARD W. GURBAND

WITNESSES:

/s/ CHARLES A. STARRATT

/s/ JACK S. MARTIN

2. On 29 September 1949, Mr. ROY OLIVER NEELY, 1550 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, California, signed the following statement:

"On Monday, 1 August 1949, at approximately 1400 hours, PST, Mr. GURBAND, who was a passenger on the commercial passenger fishing boat belonging to Jerry's Bait Shop, of which I am Captain, called my attention to several objects (four or more) in the sky. At this time the fishing boat was approaching San Francisco in the main ship channel of the No. 2 Buoy, and was due East of the San Francisco Light Ship. At this time, the objects were approximately nine (9) miles away, laterally, at an angle of elevation from the horizon of 45°, at an approximate altitude of 1000 feet. Sighting time was less than a minute. Objects were described as being silver in color, and having a square shape, approximating that of a box kite. Construction seemed to be solid, and the size, as it appeared from my view, was twelve (12) inches square. The direction

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DETAILS (cont'd)

2. (cont'd)

of flight was approximately SSE and appeared to be climbing. There was no evidence of exhaust, no effect on clouds, no lights were noticed, either reflected or attached, no aero dynamic support was visible other than shape of object. There was no evidence of any means of propulsion, either propeller or jet, no fins or stabilizers were noticed and no slots or duct openings were visible. No sound was heard, and the speed was approximately at jet speed or better. These objects faded from view."

/s/ ROY OLIVER NEELY
ROY OLIVER NEELY

WITNESSES:

/s/ JACK S. MARTIN

/s/ Mrs. ROY O. NEELY

AT OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

3. On 29 September 1949, Reverend CURTIS DANIELS, 825 - 35th Avenue, Oakland, California, signed the following statement:

"On Monday, 1 August 1949, at approximately 1430 hours, PST, while riding in a commercial passenger fishing boat approaching the Golden Gate, my attention was called, by Mr. GURBAND, a fellow passenger, to six (6) or more objects appearing in formation and traveling at a speed slower than that of a jet aircraft. These objects in the sky were oval in shape, at an undetermined altitude, at a distance, laterally, of approximately ten (10) miles, and at an angle of elevation from the horizon of approximately 55°. Sighting time was approximately 3 to 4 seconds.

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DETAILS (cont'd)

3. (cont'd)

Color was silvery, and objects apparently were of solid construction. Approximate size, as they appeared from my view, was "half dollar" and approximate size was 20 feet in diameter. The objects were going ENE and made no tactics or maneuvers. There was no evidence of exhaust, no effect on clouds, no visible lights, and other than the shape of objects, there was no means of aero dynamic support. There was no sound; no fins or stabilizers were visible and nothing was seen of any means of propulsion. No slots or duct openings were noticed and the speed of objects was slower than jet aircraft. Objects faded from view."

/s/ CURTIS DANIELS
CURTIS DANIELS

WITNESSES:

/s/ JACK S. MARTIN

/s/ STEVE FORD

AT SAN FRANCISCO AND OAKIAND, CALIFORNIA

4. On 18 October 1949, sketches were obtained from Reverend CURTIS DANIELS, 825 - 35th Avenue, Oakland, California, and Mr. ROY OLIVER NEELY, 1550 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, California.

Inclosures:

FOR DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 19, FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AFB

The original signed statement (and 5 copies) of Mr. EDWARD W. GURBAND dated, at San Francisco, California, 29 September 1949.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D OSI 24-28

DETAILS (cont'd)

Inclosures (cont'd)

The original signed statement (and 5 copies) of Mr. ROY OLIVER NEELY dated, at San Francisco, California, 29 September 1949.

The original signed statement (and 5 copies) of Reverend CURTIS DANIELS dated, at Oakland, California, 29 September 1949.

The original copy of sketches of objects by Mr. ROY OLIVER NEELY.

The original copy of sketches of objects by Reverend CURTIS DANIELS

FOR CG, AMC AND OSI HEADQUARTERS

Two (2) copies of sketch drawn by Reverend CURTIS DANIELS.

Two (2) copies of sketch drawn by Mr. ROY OLIVER NEELY

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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19D 0SI 24-28

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 19, FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AFB

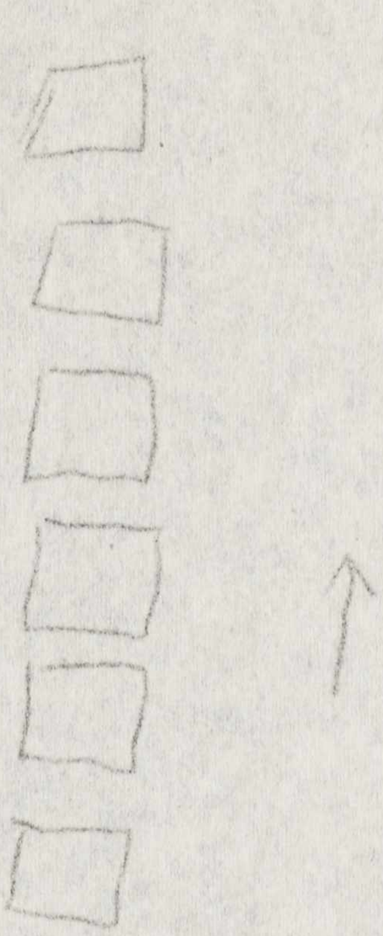
AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Will obtain sketches of objects seen by Mr. EDWARD W. GURBAND, 2518 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California, when he returns from vacation, 8 November 1949.

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SKETCHES OF OBJECTS AS SEEN BY MR. ROY OLIVER NEELY

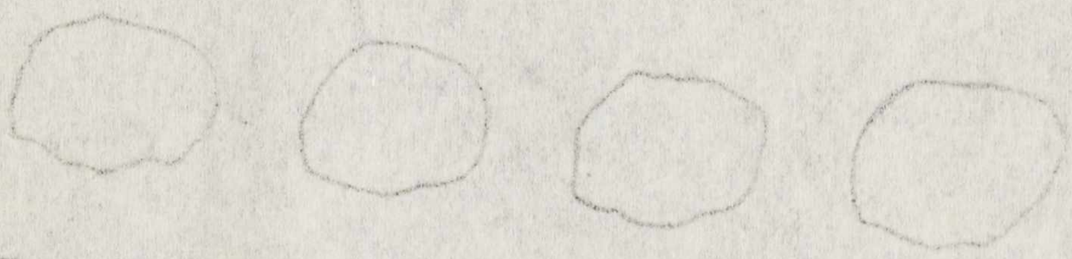


s/ ROY OLIVER NEELY

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SKETCHES OF OBJECTS AS SEEN BY REV CURTIS DANIELS

s/ FIRST SAW THEM



s/ SECOND



s/ REV. CURTIS DANIELS

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-30

DATE OCT 17 1949

REPORT MADE BY
BERL E. PENNINGTON

REPORT MADE AT
DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California

PERIOD
6,7,13,14,16,21,22,28 Sep, 5-8 Oct 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California

STATUS
CLOSED

TITLE
UNCONVENTIONAL TYPE AIRCRAFT
(Sighted 5 September 1949 near
Camp Oak Flat, California)

Aerial Phenomenon

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRY

UNCLASSIFIED

REFERENCE
None, this is an initial report

SYNOPSIS

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

~~SECRET~~
Auth: C/S USAF
KWK, Lt Col., USAF
OCT 17 1949

Investigation requested by CAPT GORDON T. COLLEY, Base Security Officer, Mather Air Force Base, California. SGT RICHARD W. MILLAR and SGT RUDY W. PALMER stated that while flying in a private aircraft in the vicinity of Lebec, California, they had observed an unconventional type aircraft. Aircraft was described as ovular in shape and constructed of a dull, grey metalic substance, approximately thirty-five (35) feet in diameter. Object rapidly gained altitude to approximately seven thousand (7,000) feet, turned in a sharp left bank, and headed in a southernly direction, climbing gradually, and straight out in the direction of the ocean, approximately over Santa Paula and Venturas. No sign of exhaust or vapor trail, and no sounds were noticeable. Object in sight approximately two (2) minutes before disappearing in the distance. Investigation revealed no other witnesses. Aerial photographs taken of area disclosed unidentifiable objects on the ground. A trip was made to Lebec, Calif., to investigate unidentifiable objects, as illustrated in aerial photographs, at which time these objects were determined not to be connected with unconventional aircraft. Interview with SUBJECTS indicated them to be truthful and dependable and not addicted to narcotics or alcohol. Last physical examinations completed on SUBJECTS indicated no abnormalities; no other physical examinations available. Record and Agency checks revealed no derogatory information concerning SUBJECTS.

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Lt Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER
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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.

DATE

REPORT MADE BY

REPORT MADE AT

PERIOD

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STATUS

TITLE

CHARACTER

REFERENCE

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BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

DATE 6 DEC 1975

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28 OCT 19
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OSI

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

OSI Case #24-30
DETAILS:

1. This investigation was requested by CAPT GORDON T. COLLEY, 10552A, Base Security Officer, Mather Air Force Base, California, and was predicated upon a report to the effect that SGT RICHARD W. MILLAR, AF-14291295, 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather Air Force Base, California, and SGT RUDY (NMI) PALMER, AF-17101902, 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather Air Force Base, California, had observed an unconventional type aircraft in flight in the vicinity of Lebec, California, on 5 September 1949. Lebec, California, is approximately seventeen (17) miles north of Camp Oak Flat on U.S. Highway 99. Sandberg Weather Station, thirteen (13) miles to the southeast of Lebec, forms a rough equalateral triangle with Lebec and the small hamlet known as Camp Oak Flat, which is ten (10) miles southwest of Sandberg.

2. Special Agents LEE B. NOLTON and LAWRENCE W. BROUSSARD assisted the writer in this investigation.

AT MATHER AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

3. On 6 September 1949, SGTS MILLAR and PALMER reported to the Office of Special Investigations, Mather Air Force Base, California, that they had observed an unconventional type aircraft in flight in the vicinity of Lebec, California, while flying in a Piper Cub aircraft operated by SGT MILLAR.

4. SGT MILLAR executed the following statement on 6 September 1949. Original signed, witnessed statement and carbon copies on file at 19th District Office of Special Investigations, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California:

Mather Air Force Base
Mather Field, California
6 September 1949

I, SGT RICHARD W. MILLAR, AF-14291295, assigned to the 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather Air Force Base, California, voluntarily make the following statement to BERL E. PENNINGTON, who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent, OSI, USAF.

On 5 September 1949, at approximately 1200 hours, while flying at approximately 7,000 feet enroute from Los Angeles to Sacramento, California, I sighted an object over Camp Oak Flat which was several thousand feet below us coming up with a terrific ascent headed approximately due south as if to go over Los Angeles. We were just rounding an 8,000 foot mountain and took him by surprise. He was coming up at about an 85° angle and coming up from some small foothills to the right of the large mountain. When he reached our altitude he seemed to hover for a time and changed course as if going out to sea over Santa Paula. I followed him with my eyes until he was out of sight. I could not detect any sign of power or controls as the shadows underneath prevented it. It looked metal with a canopy on top with approximately 35 feet of span. There was no way to determine speed but the rate of climb was terrific.

I have read this statement consisting of one (1) page and have initialed each page thereof and all corrections thereon. This statement is given freely

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

OSI Case #24-50
DETAILS (Cont'd):

and is the truth to the best of my knowledge or belief.

S/ Richard W. Millar
RICHARD W. MILLAR
Sgt., AF-14291295
3535th Bomb Trng. Wing
Mather Air Force Base
Mather Field, California

WITNESSED: S/ Gordon T. Colley,
GORDON T. COLLEY, Capt., USAF
S/ Berl E. Pennington,
BERL E. PENNINGTON, S/A OSI

5. SGT PALMER executed the following statement on 6 September 1949. Original signed, witnessed statement and carbon copies on file at 19th District Office of Special Investigations, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California:

Mather Air Force Base
Mather Field, California
6 September 1949

I, SGT RUDY PALMER, AF-17101902, assigned to the 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather Air Force Base, California, voluntarily make the following statement to BERL E. PENNINGTON, who has identified himself to me as a Special Agent, OSI, USAF.

On 5 September 1949, Sgt Millar and I left San Fernando at approximately 1200 hours, headed in a northernly direction straight over Grapevine Pass. Just before we reached the highest point of the pass, with an 8,000 foot mountain to our left and on the right other lower mountains, we sighted an object ascending from the foothills at about an 80 or 85° angle. It was about 3,000 feet below us when we spotted it and came right up approximately even with us, about 1,000 feet off our right wing tip. Our elevation at this time was approximately 6,500 feet above sea level. It seemed to rise from the floor of the hills but we didn't actually see it leave the ground. When it reached our altitude, it seemed to hover for a moment and then it shot off almost directly south. It was traveling at a terrific speed, slightly ascending at about a 5° angle. It headed south over the ocean disappearing from our view. This object appeared to be like a sphere, slightly oval in shape, appearing a little longer than wide. This object did not appear to have any support of any kind, no exhaust or control surfaces whatsoever, and was of a dull metalic substance, similar to aluminum. It appeared to be about 30 or 35 feet in diameter.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

OSI Case #24-30
DETAILS (Cont'd):

I have read this statement consisting of one (1) page and have initialed each page thereof and all corrections thereon. This statement is given freely and is the truth to the best of my knowledge or belief.

S/ Rudy Palmer
RUDY PALMER
Sgt., AF-17101902
3535th Bomb Trng. Wing
Mather Air Force Base
Mather Field, California

WITNESSED: S/ Gordon T. Colley
GORDON T. COLLEY, Capt., USAF
S/ Berl E. Pennington
BERL E. PENNINGTON, S/A OSI

6. Review of MILLAR'S Service Record and 201 File maintained at 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather Air Force Base, California, revealed that MILLAR enlisted in the Air Force on 30 June 1948 and has an efficiency rating of excellent and is considered a conscientious hard worker, and was recently promoted for his work. MILLAR completed one (1) year of high school and has an AGCT score of 115. Last physical examination was given on 30 June 1948, at that time no physical abnormalities were noted. Vision test revealed vision to be 20/20. No evidence of the use of narcotics or alcoholic beverages were noted.

7. 1ST SGT STANLEY J. TOMASZEWSKI, 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather Air Force Base, California; M/SGT ANDREW COLUCCI, 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Hangar Chief; and MR W. H. JENKINS, Civilian Foreman, Propeller Shop, stated that MILLAR is dependable and trustworthy, and an exceptionally good worker, and to their knowledge, does not drink or use narcotics.

8. Review of PALMER'S Service Record and Military 201 File maintained at 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather Air Force Base, California, revealed that PALMER enlisted in the Air Force on 10 November 1947 and has an efficiency rating of excellent and is considered an excellent worker. PALMER completed three-fourths (3/4) year of high school and has an AGCT score of 108. Last physical examination was given on 10 November 1947. At that time, no physical abnormalities were noted. Vision test revealed vision to be 20/20. No evidence of the use of narcotics or alcoholic beverages was noted.

9. 1ST SGT TOMASZEWSKI, 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather Air Force Base, California; M/SGT COLUCCI, 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Hangar Chief; and MR JESSE JAMES, Civilian Foreman, Electrical Shop, stated that PALMER was a steady good worker and exercised good judgement, and to their knowledge, does not drink or use narcotics.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

OSI CASE #24-30
DETAILS (Cont'd):

AT SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

10. Review of the files at the Office of the Sheriff and the Police Department at Sacramento, California, failed to reveal any record or information pertaining to either MILLAR or PALMER.

AT LEBEC, CALIFORNIA

11. On 7 September 1949, Special Agent LAWRENCE W. BROUSSARD and CAPT COLLEY flew to Lebec, California, to take aerial photographs of the area to determine if there were any indications on the ground of unusual activities in the area. Photographs were taken to CAPT ROBERT J. SCOTT, JR., 12905A, Hq & Hq Squadron, 3535th Bomb Trng. Group, Mather Air Force Base, California, for photo interpretation. Photograph number 9R-25-1-VV-3535BTW-7 Sep 49-6 3/8"-7500-3450N 11847W-CORRAL, indicated a well traveled road in the back country and unidentified dark spots on the ground. Photograph number 9R-25-2-VV-3535BTW-7 Sep 49-6 3/8"-7500-3450N11847W-BLDGS, revealed well traveled road in back country and indication of unusual activity around constructions. Photograph number 9R-25-5-VV-3535BTW-7 Sep 49-6 3/8"-5500-3450N11847W-CONSTRUCTION, revealed an unfinished structure with piles of lumber and construction materials and metal drum containers in the vicinity. Photograph number 9R-25-6-VV-3535BTW-7 Sep 49-6 3/8"-5500N11847W-BLDG-SILVERTOP revealed the presence of a newly constructed Nissen type building with metal top partially concealed in the wooded area. Photographs included as Exhibits A, B, C & D respectively.

12. On 13 September 1949, Special Agents BERL E. PENNINGTON and LAWRENCE W. BROUSSARD, accompanied by CAPT COLLEY, proceeded by automobile to Lebec, California, to investigate questionable area as indicated by aerial photographs. Area as illustrated by photograph number 9R-25-1-VV-3535BTW-7 Sep 49-6 3/8"-7500-3450N 11847W-CORRAL, revealed no unusual markings or indentations in the ground. Area as illustrated by photograph number 9R-25-2-VV-3535BTW-7 Sep 49-6 3/8"-7500-3450N11847W-BLDGS, revealed the presence of a cattle corral and shed used to house feed for cattle. Area as illustrated by photo number 9R-25-5-VV-3535BTW-7 Sep 49-6 3/8"-5500-3450N11847W-CONSTRUCTION, revealed a permanent type structure with the second story incomplete, with metal drum containers and building material in the immediate area that is to be a Bell Telephone Company, Micro-Way Relay Station upon completion. Area as illustrated in photograph number 9R-25-6-VV-3535BTW-7 Sep 49-6 3/8"-5500N 11847W-BLDG-SILVERTOP, revealed a newly completed Nissen type structure that is being used as a hunting lodge by the owners of the Tejon Ranch, Lebec, California.

13. Discreet investigation in the area of Lebec, California, revealed no one who had observed the presence of unusual aircraft in the vicinity of Lebec.

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

[redacted]

OSI Case #24-30
DETAILS (Cont'd):

AT MATHER AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

14. On 6 October 1949 at 1115 hours, Special Agent LEE B. NOLTON contacted CAPT CLARENCE P. TALBOT, JR., AO-581273, Station Weather Officer, Mather Air Force Base, California, relative to weather conditions in the vicinity of Lebec, California. After reviewing weather reports, CAPT TALBOT stated that Sandberg Weather Station, California, reported the sky condition clear with visibility of fifty (50) miles, wind from Southeast at 15 knotts, temperature 81°, dew point 22°, in the weather report of 5 September 1949, at 1230 hours. Sandberg Weather Station is located approximately thirteen (13) miles Southeast, in line of sight, from Lebec, California. The weather reports further revealed that a pilot balloon, for winds aloft purposes, was released at Sandberg on 5 September shortly prior to 1300 hours. Pilot balloons are approximately twenty-six (26) inches in diameter, with an ascension rate of two hundred (200) to two hundred and sixty (260) yards per minute, and the type generally used on a clear day, such as reported on 5 September at Sandberg, is white in color. CAPT TALBOT stated that, according to the Sandberg Winds Aloft Report at this time, the balloon would have drifted northwest, towards Lebec, during the first two thousand (2,000) foot ascension, and then veered Northeast towards Mojave, California.

15. Review of the records at Base Operations, Mather Air Force Base, California, revealed that no aircraft had either arrived or departed that station which could have been in the vicinity of Lebec, California, at the time of the sighting of the unconventional aircraft by MILLAR and PALMER.

AT MCCLELLAN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

16. On 5 October 1949, perusal by Special Agent LEE B. NOLTON of the Report of Aircraft Departures, maintained by the Base Operations Office, McClellan Air Force Base, California, revealed that an L-13 type aircraft, #47-300, piloted by CAPT G. M. LIVERS, 2600 A.B.U., Pope Air Force Base, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, departed McClellan Air Force Base on 5 September 1949 at 0932, estimated true air speed one hundred and ten (110) miles per hour, with arrival at March Air Force Base, California, at 1354; L-13 type aircraft, #47-302, piloted by 1ST LT W. K. ALLEN, 2600 A.B.U., Pope Air Force Base, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, departed McClellan Air Force Base at 1004, estimated true air speed one hundred and ten (110) miles per hour, and arrived at Ontario Airport, Ontario, California, at 1402. As it is two hundred and seventy (270) air miles from McClellan Air Force Base to Lebec, California, with a climb to six thousand (6,000) feet required, eighty-five (85) air miles from Lebec to Ontario, California, and one hundred and five (105) air miles from Lebec to March Air Force Base, it is estimated that CAPT LIVERS was over Lebec at approximately 1230 and LT ALLEN was in the same vicinity at approximately 1300 hours.

- CLOSED -

[redacted]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

SECRET

OSI Case #24-30

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION

1. 1. Date of sighting - 5 September 1949.

2. 2. Time of sighting - Approximately 1200 PST.

3. Sighted from air.

a. SUBJECT was in the air about 7,000 feet above sea level, flying approximately northeast coming around a mountain which was about 8,000 feet when unconventional aircraft was sighted. Unconventional aircraft was headed approximately due south as if going right through Los Angeles. Object was approximately 3,000 feet below SUBJECT when sighted. This occurred east of Camp Oak Flat.

4. One (1) object.

5. Not applicable as it was approximately 1200 hours and object was below observer.

6. Distance of object from observer

a. Appoximately 3,000 feet below.

b. Altitude 3,000 feet rising to approximately 7,000 feet.

7. In sight about forty-five (45) seconds.

8. Appearance of object

a. Metal painted silver or just plain metal.

b. Oval shape, like a teardrop from side view.

c. Metal painted silver or just plain metal.

d. Approximately 35 feet in diameter.

9. Direction of flight - South veering to Southwest.

10. Object came up at an 85° angle, seemed to stop as if he saw SUBJECT, then broke off his climb, and then shot off in direct line of flight.

11. Evidence of exhaust - none visible

12. Effect on clouds - cloudless sky

13. Lights - none visible

SECRET

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ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (Cont'd)

14. Support - none visible

15. Propulsion - none visible

16. Control and stability - none visible

17. Air ducts - none visible

18. Speed - No way of determining miles per hour rate of speed, although rate of climb was terrific and by the time SUBJECT could bank his plane the aircraft had almost vanished from sight.

19. Sound - none heard

20. Manner of disappearance.

a. Maintained straight level flight until it disappeared from view in the distance.

RELATIVE TO THE OBSERVER

1. SGT RICHARD W. MILLAR

2. 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather AFB, California.

3. Airman, United States Air Force

4. Mather Air Force Base, California

5. Hobbies - Flying

6. Ability to determine

a. Color - no abnormalities in perception of color.

b. Speed - Average estimation of speed.

c. Size - Estimation of size at distance based on comparison of known aircraft.

7. Reliability of observer

a. Agency checks; neighbor and fellow employee checks; reveal no derogatory information. Observer is considered truthful and reliable.

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OSI Case #24-30

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (Cont'd)

8. Object was noticed accidentally and attention was not drawn to it by any specific occurrence, but because of daily association with aircraft.

9. Witnesses.

a. SGT RUDY PALMER

b. 3538th Maintenance Squadron, Mather AFB, California

c. Airman, United States Air Force

d. Agency checks; neighbor and fellow employee checks; reveal no derogatory information. Observer is considered truthful and reliable.

10. SGT MILLAR and PALMER'S actions and comments during discussion of incident would indicate persons of above average intelligence. It was apparent that MILLAR was extremely sincere in his report and that PALMER was inclined to be influenced by MILLAR'S observations. All persons interviewed regarding SGT MILLAR and PALMER stated that their character, integrity and dependability are of the highest caliber.

GENERAL

1. Local Weather Conditions, Sandberg Weather Station, California, 5 September 1949

a. 1230 PST; no cloud cover; visibility 50 miles; wind SE at 15 knotts; temperature 81°F; Dewpoint 22°F

2. Winds aloft, Sandberg, California, 1200 hours, 5 September 1949

7,000 feet - 250° at 15 knotts

3. Aircraft in vicinity of Lobec, California, 1200 to 1300 hours, 5 September 1949

a. L-13 type aircraft, AF #47-302, enroute to Ontario, Calif.

b. L-13 type aircraft, AF #47-300, enroute to March AFB, Calif.

c. No commercial or civilian aircraft reported in this area between the hours of 1200 and 1300, 5 September 1949.

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ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION (Cont'd)

4. Weather reports from Mather Air Force Base, California, indicate that a pilot balloon for winds aloft testing purposes was released at Sandberg, California, shortly prior to 1300 hours, 5 September 1949. Pilot balloons are approximately twenty-six (26) inches in diameter, with an ascension rate of two hundred (200) to two hundred and sixty (260) yards per minute, and the type generally used on a clear day,such as reported on 5 September at Sandberg, is white in color. According to the Sandberg Winds Aloft Report, at this time the balloon would have drifted northwest towards Lebec during the first two thousand (2,000) feet of ascension, and then veered northeast towards Mojave, California.

5. Not applicable

6. Not applicable

7. Photostatic copies of sketches submitted by SGT MILLAR and PALMER inclosed as Exhibits E and F respectively. Original copies of sketches on file at DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California.

a. Object appeared oval in shape

b. Surrounding terrain is hilly with hills ranging to 8,000 feet.

c. Not applicable

d. Object rapidly gained altitude, seemed to pause, then sped away in level flight.

e. Not applicable

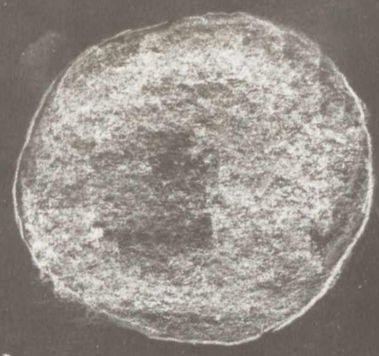
8. Statements secured. On file at 19th District Office of Special Investigations, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, California

9. Not applicable

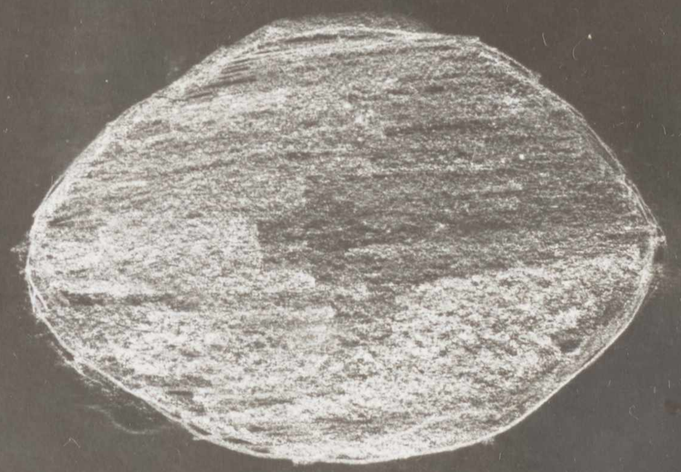
10. No projections of any kind were observed

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Rear View



Side

Sketch submitted by SGT RUDY (NMI) PALMER, AF-17101902, of unconventional aircraft sighted on 5 September 1949 between 1200 and 1300 hours near Camp Oak Flat, California.

Sgt. Rudy Palmer

EXHIBIT F, OSI Case #24-30

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

OFFICIAL
AIR [illegible] PHOTO
RELEASED BY
MATHER AIR FORCE BA[illegible]
SACRAMENTO, CALIF[illegible]

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

CONFIDENTIAL

Sketch submitted by SGT RICHARD W. MILLAR, AF-14291295, of unconventional aircraft sighted on 5 September 1949 at 1200 hours near Camp Oak Flat, California.

Sgt. Richard Millar

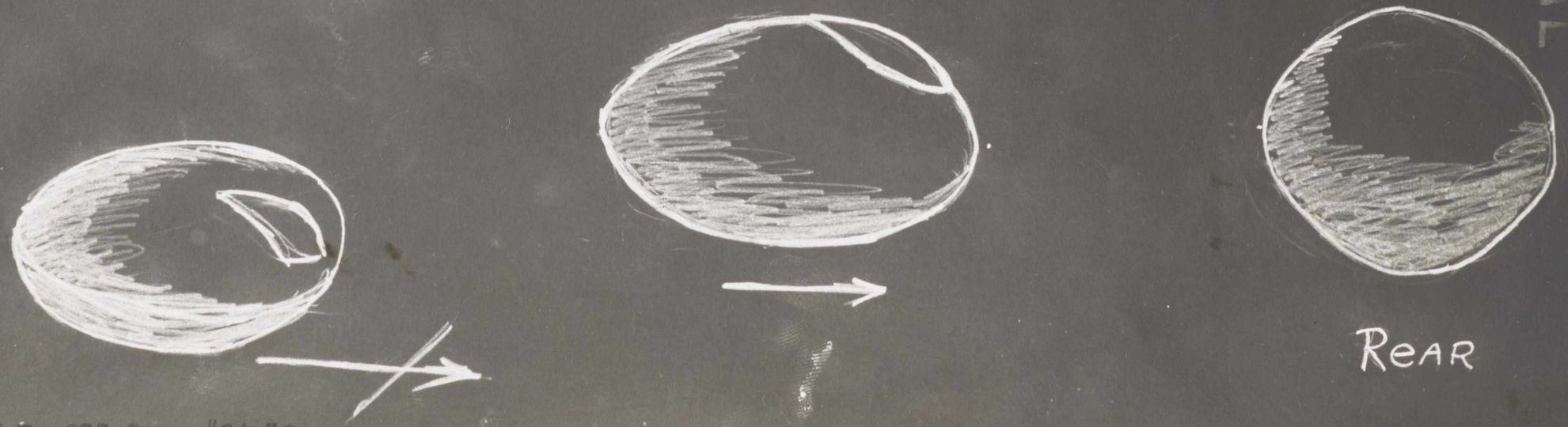


EXHIBIT E, OSI Case #24-30

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

OFFICIAL
AIR FORCE PHOTO
RELEASED BY
MATHER AIR FORCE BASE
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

Declassification Authority: NND 923007

JSM: aha

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE NO. 24-28

DATE

REPORT MADE BY JACK S. MARTIN

REPORT MADE AT DO # 10, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

PERIOD 29 September 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO # 10, Fairfield-Suisun AFB

STATUS CLOSED

UNCLASSIFIED

TITLE

PROJECT GRUDGE
Unidentified Aircraft 1 August 1949 in Vicinity of San Francisco, California

CHARACTER Special Inquiry

REFERENCE Pending Rpt by S/A JACK S. MARTIN, DO # 10, Fairfield-Suisun AFB File No. 24-28

SYNOPSIS

Mr. EDWARD W. GURNARD, 2518 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California; Mr. ROY OLIVER MERRY, 1550 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, California; and Reverend CURTIS DANIELS, 825 - 35th Avenue, Oakland, California, all signed statements to the effect that they saw unusual and unidentifiable objects in the sky on 1 August 1949.

Returned to Presidio Detachment 6 Oct 1949 for corrections -

CLOSED

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DISTRIBUTION

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CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED TO UNCLASSIFIED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
DATE 5 DEC 1975

APPROVED

KENNETH W. KING
Lt Colonel, USAF
DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP

24 | 28 | 7

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
12th DIST.
4 OCT 1949
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

SMAMA—Nov 48—100M

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19D OSI 24-28

DETAILS:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

1. On 29 September 1949, Mr. EDWARD W. GURBAND, 2518 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California, signed the following statement:

"On Monday, 1 August 1949, at approximately 1400 hours, PST, while riding on a commercial passenger fishing boat approaching the Golden Gate, I sighted two (2) objects appearing to be in formation and traveling at a speed greater than that of jet aircraft. These objects were oval in shape, from 10,000 to 25,000 feet in altitude, at a distance laterally of approximately eight (8) miles, and at an angle of elevation from the horizon of approximately 55°. Sighting time was approximately 35 to 40 seconds and the objects appeared to be silvery in color, having oval shapes, and apparently of solid construction. Size of these objects, as they appeared from my view, were approximately 40 feet in diameter. The objects were going due North, and made no tactics or maneuvers. There was no evidence of exhaust, no effect on clouds, no visible lights, and other than the shape of the objects, there was no means of aero dynamic support. There was no sound, no fins or stabilizers were visible, and nothing was seen of any means of propulsion. No slots or duct openings were noticed and the speed of objects was estimated at from one to one and one-half times faster than jet aircraft. The objects disappeared behind fog bank. I called the attention of the other members of the boat to these objects which appeared to be in formation, and after they had disappeared from view, several minutes later, I spotted approximately seven (7) more of these objects in trail formation at the same altitude, traveling in the same direction and being identical with the original objects."

/s/ EDWARD W. GURBAND

WITNESSES: EDWARD W. GURBAND

/s/ CHARLES A. STARRATT

/s/ JACK S. MARTIN

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19D OSI 24-28

DETAILS (cont'd)

2. On 29 September 1949, Mr. ROY OLIVER NEELY, 1550 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, California, signed the following statement:

"On Monday, 1 August 1949, at approximately 1400 hours, PST, Mr. GURBAND, who was a passenger on the commercial passenger fishing boat belonging to Jerry's Bait Shop, of which I am Captain, called my attention to several objects (four or more) in the sky. At this time the fishing boat was approaching San Francisco in the main ship channel of the Golden Gate, was approximately 200 yards South of No. 2 Buoy, and was due East of the San Francisco Light Ship. At this time the objects were approximately nine (9) miles away, laterally, at an angle of elevation from the horizon of 45°, at an approximate altitude of 1000 feet. Sighting time was less than a minute. Objects were described as being silver in color, and having a square shape, approximating that of a box kite. Construction seemed to be solid, and the size, as it appeared from my view, was twelve (12) inches square. The direction of flight was approximately SSE and appeared to be climbing. There was no evidence of exhaust, no effect on clouds, no lights were noticed, either reflected or attached, no aero dynamic support was visible other than shape of object. There was no evidence of any means of propulsion, either propeller or jet, no fins or stabilizers were noticed and no slots or dust openings were visible. No sound was heard, and the speed was approximately at jet speed or better. These objects faded from view.

/s/ ROY OLIVER NEELY
ROY OLIVER NEELY

WITNESSES:
/s/ JACK S. MARTIN
/s/ Mrs. ROY O. NEELY

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DETAILS (cont'd)

AT OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

3. On 29 September 1949, Reverend CURTIS DANIELS, 826 - 35th Avenue, Oakland, California, signed the following statement:

"On Monday, 1 August 1949, at approximately 1430 hours, PST, while riding in a commercial passenger fishing boat approaching the Golden Gate, my attention was called, by Mr. GUMBARD, a fellow passenger, to six (6) or more objects appearing in formation and traveling at a speed slower than that of a jet aircraft. These objects in the sky were oval in shape, at an undetermined altitude, at a distance, laterally, of approximately ten (10) miles, and at an angle of elevation from the horizon of approximately 55°. Sighting time was approximately 3 to 4 seconds. Color was silvery, and objects apparently were of solid construction. Approximate size, as they appeared from my view, was "half dollar" and approximate size was 20 feet in diameter. The objects were going ENE and made no tactics or maneuvers. There was no evidence of exhaust, no effect on clouds, no visible lights, and other than the shape of objects, there was no means of aero dynamic support. There was no sound; no fins or stabilizers were visible and nothing was seen of any means of propulsion. No slots or duct openings were noticed and the speed of objects was slower than jet aircraft. Objects faded from view."

/s/ CURTIS DANIELS
CURTIS DANIELS

WITNESSES:

/s/ JACK S. MARTIN

/s/ STEVE FORD

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Declassification Authority: NND 923007

19D 0SI 24-28

DETAILS (cont'd)

Inclosures:

FOR DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 19, FAIRFIELD-SUISUN AFB

The original signed statement of Mr. EDWARD W. GUERARD dated, at San Francisco, California, 29 September 1949. (with 5 copies)

The original signed statement of Mr. ROY OLIVER MEELY dated, at San Francisco, California, 29 September 1949. (with 5 copies)

The original signed statement of Reverend CURTIS DANIELS dated, at Oakland, California, 29 September 1949. (with 5 copies)

CLOSED

Declassification Authority: NND 923007