PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP	2. LOCATION
21 April 49	Ludington, Michigan
3. SOURCE Civilian	**10. CONCLUSION** AIRCRAFT
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS ONE	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not Reported	**11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS** Observer sighted a white object. It looked like a comet with a tail and it was heading West.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE West	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

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

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 5D 24-21M

DATE 20 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY EDWIN A. CRAVER blk

REPORT MADE AT DO #5, W/PAFB, Dayton, Ohio

PERIOD 18 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #5, W/PAFB, Dayton, Ohio

STATUS PENDING

TITLE

PROJECT "GRUDGE"
Incident, Ludington, Michigan and
Homer, Michigan

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

NONE. This is an initial report.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by Chief, Analysis Division, Intelligence Department, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. Information received reflects The Grand Rapids Press Newspaper released information on 21 April 1949 indicating two youths, [redacted] and [redacted], Sophomores in Ludington High School, reported seeing flying disc pass over Ludington, Michigan Wednesday afternoon, traveling west, and disappearing over Lake Michigan. The Detroit Free Press Newspaper released information indicating [redacted] and [redacted], employees of the Pet Milk Company, reported they sighted six flying discs over Homer, Michigan about 0915 hours Thursday.

No case
Not officially reported to the USAF

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEARS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

DISTRIBUTION

CG, AMC (Incls)	2
Hq. OSI (Incls)	2
DO #25 (Incls)	2
File -	2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXS

APPROVED

JOHN E. MORRILL
WOIG USAF

THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Acting DISTRICT COMMANDER

FILE STAMP

SMC
1003309

7-3712-18

AFOSI FORM 4
23 JULY 48

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

5D 24-21M
PROJECT "GRUDGE"

DETAILS:

1. This investigation is predicated upon receipt of a Routing & Record Sheet, dated 13 May 1949 from W. R. CLINGERMAN, Colonel, Chief, Analysis Division, Intelligence Department (MCIAXS), Headquarters, Air Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio who received information hereinafter set forth regarding the sighting of unidentified aerial phenomena, reported by news clippings, in the vicinity of Ludington, Michigan on 21 April 1949 and Homer, Michigan on 29 April 1949.

2. Information received indicates that the observers, [redacted] and [redacted], saw flying disc which looked like a comet with a tail a "block long." It was traveling west and disappeared over Lake Michigan. The object was white and clearly visible as there were no clouds over Ludington Wednesday afternoon.

3. Information received indicates that the observers, [redacted] and [redacted] sighted six flying discs over Homer, Michigan about 0915 hours Thursday. They pursued the discs in an automobile for about five miles on M-60 before losing sight of the low flying objects. They said the discs appeared to be about ten (10) inches in diameter, moving in wide circles, following a course which closely paralleled the highway.

4. Request return of completed leads to reach this office not later than 10 June 1949.

INCLOSURES:

CG, AMC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

1. Copy of Grand Rapids Press News Clipping, 4/21/49, "Flying Disc" (in dup)
2. Copy of Detroit Free Press News Clipping, 4/29/49 "Lose Sight of Saucers". (in dup)

HEADQUARTERS OSI

1. Copy of Grand Rapids Press News Clipping, 4/21/49, "Flying Disc" (in dup)
2. Copy of Detroit Free Press News Clipping, 4/29/49, "Lose Sight of Saucers." (in dup)

DISTRICT OFFICE #25, DETROIT, MICHIGAN

1. Copy of Grand Rapids Press News Clipping, 4/21/49, "Flying Disc" (in dup)
2. Copy of Detroit Free Press News Clipping, 4/29/49, "Lose Sight of Saucers." (in dup)
3. Guide to Investigation.

UNCLASSIFIED

PENDING

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

INCIDENT NO. 307

1. Date of Observation 21 April 1949 Date of Interview _____
2. Exact Time (local)
3. Place of Observation Ludington, Mich.
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object White
9. Shape Like comet with tail
10. Altitude
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) West
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail Block long
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather Conditions No clouds

(over)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

SOURCE: Grand Rapids Press Newspaper
21 April 1949

'Flying Disc'

Youths Say It Passed Over Ludington

Ludington—Two youths reported seeing a fast traveling "flying disc" pass over Ludington Wednesday afternoon.

Paul Tims, sophomore in Ludington High school, and a companion, Pat O'Connell, said the disc looked like a comet with a tail a "block long." It was traveling west and disappeared over Lake Michigan.

They said it was white and clearly visible. There were no clouds over Ludington Wednesday afternoon.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

COPY

SOURCE: Detroit Free Press Newspaper
29 April 1949

Lose Sight of Saucers

AUTOISTS TELL OF CHASING
FLYING DISCS IN STATE

Special to the
Free Press

HOMER, Mich.—WILLIAM SACKETT and WILLIAM GIBSON, employes of the Pet Milk Co., reported they sighted six flying discs over Homer about 9:15 a.m. Thursday.

They said they pursued them in an automobile for about five miles on M-60 before they lost sight of the low flying objects.

The man said the discs appeared to be about 10 inches in diameter, moving in wide circles, following a course which closely paralleled the highway.

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

UNCLASSIFIED

COPY
CONFIDENTIAL

Headquarters Fifth Army
1660 E. Hyde Park Blvd.
Chicago 15, Illinois

UNCLASSIFIED

AJFOR-I

26 April 1949

SUBJECT: Reported "Flying Disc"

TO : Commanding General
Hq Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Wright Field, Ohio
ATTN: MCAMO-3

1. Inclosed herewith is a newspaper clipping (w/2 copies) from the Grand Rapids Press, dated 21 April 1949, on the "flying disc."

2. No further investigation is contemplated by this headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Incl.
n/s

ROBERT P. BELL
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFIED

COPY

SOURCE: Grand Rapids Press Newspaper
21 April 1949

'Flying Disc'

Youths Say It Passed Over Ludington

Ludington--Two youths reported seeing a fast traveling "flying disc" pass over Ludington Wednesday afternoon.

[redacted] Sophomore in Ludington High School, and a companion, [redacted] said the disc looked like a comet with a tail a "block long". It was traveling west and disappeared over Lake Michigan.

They said it was white and clearly visible. There were no clouds over Ludington Wednesday afternoon.

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

UNCLASSIFIED

COPY

CONFIDENTIAL

Sheet 2

4. On 26 July 1949, the [redacted] were interviewed at their home at [redacted], Vandercook Lake, [redacted] miles [redacted], Jackson, Michigan. [redacted], age 13, stated that she was with a group of friends at her home, and on looking out the front door at around 2100 hours EST she saw an object burning in the road in front of her home. The object glowed without flame for about three minutes. [redacted] then ran out to the road, and picked up the remains of the object on a cardboard. On questioning, [redacted] stated that she had not seen the object fall from the sky, and when she first saw it it was burning in the road.

5. [redacted] apparently was enjoying the sensation created by her daughter's story and attempted to get her to say that she had seen the object fall as had been reported previously. [redacted] would not do this.

6. [redacted] then showed this writer the hole burned in the road. The spot was about twenty-five feet from the front door of the [redacted] home. The burned area was about four inches at the widest spot. There was no visible sign of impact, such as surface cracking. The area was burned regularly to a depth of approximately 1/4 inch in the tar covered road. The burned area was photographed by this writer with a G3 camera, F 11, speed 100, small flash at a distance of 5 3/4 feet. Print is attached hereto as Inclosure #1.

7. This writer noted during the interview that many heavy trucks passed the [redacted] home. Both Mrs. [redacted] and [redacted] stated that they had never seen any of the trucks use a flare there, and [redacted] did not recall any vehicles being on scene while flare was burning.

8. Sample of residue was obtained which is attached hereto as Inclosure #2.

9. Jackson Citizen Patriot, 27 July 1949, p. 5, Col. 4, carried an article which stated that the Clark Equipment Co. Laboratory had made tests of the material, concluding that it was probably residue from an emergency flare. This article is attached hereto as Inclosure #3.

INCLOSURES

FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, AIR MATERIEL COMMAND:

1. Photo of burned area.
2. Residue from unknown burning material.
3. Article from Jackson Citizen Patriot, 27 July 1949.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

27 July 49
Case Filed in
27 July

DETAILS:

AT LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN

1. [redacted], Ludington, Michigan, age 13, and [redacted], Ludington, Michigan, age 16, were interviewed at the residence of [redacted] and stated the following:

On 20 April 1949 at 1400 - 1500 hours, [redacted] and [redacted] were at the City Dump, Ludington, Michigan, located approximately 7 blocks north and 7 blocks east of the [redacted] residence. They stated they saw a trail of either smoke or clouds going straight west, at about the same rate of speed as a jet fighter. They looked ahead of this smoke streamer and saw an object approximately 10" in diameter which seemed to be the cause of this smoke. This object was round and appeared to give off a reflection in the sun. The streamer of smoke was described as being a long tail approximately two blocks long, white and fluffy like a cloud. The object was in sight approximately 10 minutes during which time [redacted] and [redacted] hopped on their bicycles and headed for the Ludington City Newspaper to notify them of the instance. After traveling about 7 - 8 blocks, toward the downtown area of Ludington, [redacted] stated he looked around and the object was gone out of sight, and that he just saw a flash of the white fleecy tail disappear in a cloud bank. [redacted] and [redacted] stated that the day was clear, sun bright, and quite hot, clouds very high in the sky. [redacted] judged the distance and height of the object to be approximately 4 miles away and 5,000 ft. high. [redacted] stated that the fluffy tail like cloud seemed to come from the object and was quite small in diameter at first, and gradually increased in size until approximately the diameter of the [redacted] found object. No further information was given by either [redacted] or [redacted]

2. [redacted] stated that approximately one week from the date of the newspaper item concerning the instance, he received a post card from an unknown woman in Eastern Michigan, near Detroit, saying she had seen several of these objects go over her house and would like him to write her and describe what he had seen. Efforts to obtain an identification of this unknown woman were negative although [redacted] feels he can find the post card, and will forward same to this agent.

AT VANDERCOOK LAKE, MICHIGAN

This phase of the investigation was conducted by Special Agent GENE P. MORITZ:

3. A newspaper item in the Detroit News, page 1, column 4, dated 27 July 1949, stated that an object fell in the road in front of the home of Mrs. [redacted], Vandercook Lake, Michigan, burning a hole in the pavement.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNCLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. [illegible]-6

DATE 9 September 1949

REPORT MADE BY JACK L. RECKELHOF

REPORT MADE AT SO #29, Box 326, RFA, Detroit 32, Mich.

PERIOD 27, 28 July 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN SO #5, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, O.

STATUS [illegible]

TITLE

PROJECT "SAUCER"

CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE Report of S/A JACK L. RECKELHOF, SO #5, dtd 7 Jun 49, File 21-2

SYNOPSIS

[redacted], Ludington, Michigan, age 15, and [redacted], Ludington, Michigan, age 16, interviewed and stated they saw trail of smoke or clouds going west on 27 April 1949 which came apart as jet fighter. Object about 10" in diameter at end of smoke, was in sight approximately 10 minutes. They headed for Ludington City. However, object disappeared in clouds back.

27 July (Newspaper article stated flaming object fell in street at Vanderhook Lake, near Jackson, Mich., 27 July 1949. Lab tests indicate object was milkweed fluff. No one saw object fall from sky. [redacted], in front of whose house object allegedly fell, enjoying publicity.

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

DISTRIBUTION

SO, AAD (2 Incls)	2
SO #5	2
Hq OSI	2
FBI, Detroit (Info)	1
G-2, 5th Army, Detroit (Info)	1
File	2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

APPROVED

R. B. RITZ
Major, USAF
District Commander

FILE STAMP

21-2 | 21-2II

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
13 SEP 1949
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
5TH DISTRICT

ROUTED | FILE

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNCLASSIFIED

16—87743-1 U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

CONTROL NO.	SUBJECT:	DECIMAL FILE NO.	FOLLOW UP ON
C- 774	Ltr Project GRUDGE CONF..		DATE

FROM: 5D-OSI C-1121 DATED 9/14/49
TO: IAXS NO. INCLS. 1

RECORDING DESK: AXT-1 DATE RECORDED: 9/14/49 HOUR: 1130

	ROUTED TO	SUSPENSE DATE	ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS)	DATE
1	IAXS	9/16	amc	9/15/49
2				
3				

DATE OF REPLY | OTHER DISPOSITION:

TRANSMITTAL
AMC FORM NO. 10-2
(20 NOV. 47)
SEE OTHER SIDE FOR REMARKS

CONFIDENTIAL

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

5D-OSI/JEM/vz

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, USAF
5TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, DAYTON, OHIO

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

14 September 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE - INCIDENT, LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN AND HOMER, MICHIGAN
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXS

1. Reference is made to letter, this office, subject and file as above, dated 15 June 1949.

2. Enclosed for your information and necessary action is report of investigation of Special Agent JACK L. HECKELMAN, District Office #25, dated 9 September 1949.

3. With the submission of this report all logical leads have been developed and the files of this office are being closed in instant investigation.

1 Incl
R/I dtd 9 Sep 49 (in dup)
w/incls

JEROME M. BRAUN
Acting District Commander

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

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL