

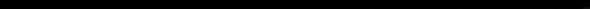
PROCESSED

408

ATTC NO. _____ DATE OF INFO 23 July 1949
AF NO. _____ LOCATION DELPHI, Indiana
REPORT NO. _____ SOURCE Male Civilians
DATE OF REPORT _____ DATE IN TO ATTC _____
TIME OF SIGHTING 2300 CST COLOR Silver
SHAPE Disc like and flat SPEED Over 1 hr to go West
SIZE 50' Diameter ALTITUDE 1500' - 2000' M added
COURSE 1 o'clock - 11 o'clock - 12 o'clock LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 1 hrs approx
NO. IN GROUP 2 TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground
MOULD _____ MANEUVERS Objects revolved at tremendous
PHOTO _____ SKETCHES _____ speed in their own axis. Did loops, dives
and definite gyrations.

Temporary ATTC Form 309 (7 Jan 52) REMARKS: Observers stated that objects were in close proximity and probably connected. Were highly maneuverable.

Astro(stars/planet)



7-3712-22

DETAILS:

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Investigation was requested by Headquarters, United States Air Force, The Inspector General, Office of Special Investigations, Washington 25, D.C., pursuant to a letter from the 12th OSI District (IG), dated 28 July 1949, concerning the sighting of flying objects by Mr. [REDACTED] of Lafayette, Indiana, on 23 July 1949.

2. This investigation was conducted by Special Agent DENZIL F. WILDMAN.

AT LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

3. On 20 September 1949 Mr. [REDACTED], age 50, Clerk in the Accounting Department of Manon Route Railroad, [REDACTED], and [REDACTED], age 23, clerk, Manon Route Railroad, [REDACTED], were interviewed by Special Agent DENZIL F. WILDMAN and furnished him with the following information concerning air phenomena at Delphi, Indiana, at approximately 2300 hours (CST) on Saturday, 23 July 1949: [REDACTED] were fishing in an old stone quarry at the northeast edge of Delphi, Indiana, when [REDACTED] happened to look in the sky and saw two dimly illuminated objects and called [REDACTED] attention to them. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] described the objects as being approximately fifty feet in diameter, disk shaped and silver in color. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised that the objects were highly maneuverable. One disk was spinning in a clock wise direction in its own axis and the second disk was spinning counter clock wise in its own axis and did various loops, turns and dives. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised that the disks stayed within a close proximity and in their opinion were connected together, and appeared to be between 1500 and 2000 feet in altitude. The objects appeared to be at a 45° angle with the horizon and at 1:00 o'clock direction when first observed. The objects made no sound nor produced no odor. The objects were observed for approximately four hours. They changed their positions from 1:00 o'clock to 11:00 o'clock then to 12:00 o'clock and gradually grew dimmer and disappeared. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated that there were no clouds, no moon and that the night was very dark.

4. In accordance with AFCSI Letter 85, dated 12 August 1949, the following information was supplied by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]:

- A. Date of sighting - Saturday, 23 July 1949.
- B. Time of sighting - 2300 hours, CST.
- C. Where sighted - At the Delphi, Indiana, Stone Quarry, approximately five blocks northeast of Delphi, Indiana. The observer was on the ground and the objects were sighted in the sky.
- D. Number of objects - Two.
- E. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting - None.
- F. Distance of objects from observer - In the opinion of the observers, objects appeared to be at an approximate altitude of 1500 to 2000 feet and at 45° angle of elevation from horizon.
- G. Time in sight - approximately four hours.

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- H. Appearance of objects:
 - (a) Color - Silver
 - (b) Shape - Disk like and flat
 - (c) Apparent construction - unknown
 - (d) Size - Approximately 50 feet in diameter.
- I. Tactics or maneuvers - Objects were revolving in a tremendous speed in their own axis; however, traversing speed was slow. Objects did loops, dives and definite gyrations.
- J. Direction of Flight - Objects were first sighted in a one o'clock position. From the one o'clock position, objects moved to a 11 o'clock position, then to a 12 o'clock position, from where they disappeared.
- K. Evidence of exhaust or odor - None.
- L. Effect on clouds - There were no clouds visible.
- M. Lights - Object appeared luminous entirely.
- N. Support - No evidence of support could be noted.
- O. Propulsion - Objects appeared to be spinning with a tremendous speed.
- P. Control or Stability - None visible.
- Q. Air ducts, etc. - None visible.
- R. Speed MPH - The speed of objects could not be determined insofar as traversing speed was very slow. It took objects over an hour to move from one o'clock position to 11:00 o'clock position.
- S. Sound - None.
- T. Manner of Disappearance - Faded from view.
- U. Direction of Rotation - One object rotated in a clockwise direction and the other in a counter clockwise direction.

5. Informants stated that objects did not vary in distance from each other and were always in same position relative to each other. Objects disappeared from sight when in a flat position in relation to observers eyes.

6. A check of nearby weather stations by Special Agent [REDACTED] revealed no information pertinent to this investigation.

7. A neighborhood check at Delphi, Indiana, conducted 20 September 1949 resulted in no additional information regarding these objects.

8. A check at the Delphi, Indiana, Police Station on 20 September 1949 was negative. No flying objects had been reported on date in question.

9. RICHARD RAINBOLT, Editor, Delphi Journal, Delphi, Indiana, when interviewed on 20 September 1949, stated that no reports were made to the paper concerning flying objects.

10. [REDACTED] further indicated that he saw what appeared to be a spot light of a car trying to pick up the objects; however, the beam did not reach the objects. Also, search lights were observed at a distance of about five miles in a North-eastern and Northwestern direction of the observers. (NOTE: The search lights were seen in the same direction as the objects; however, search lights were observed only part of the time.)

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

11. It is also to be noted that the Wabash River is located to the immediate Northwest of Delphi, Indiana. It is also possible that haze and mist may have formed over the river on the night in question.

12. Neither of the informants have since been able to contact persons who also observed the objects on the night in question.

13. It is the opinion of Special Agent DENZIL F. WILDMAN that neither of the informants sought publicity.

14. In the opinion of Special Agent DENZIL F. WILDMAN, [REDACTED] is above average in intelligence and appears to be a man of honest convictions and common sense. He was, up to 1944, a reported in the State House of Indiana. He does some writing at the present time. He was not drinking on the night in question nor was he wearing glasses.

15. In the opinion of Special Agent DENZIL F. WILDMAN, [REDACTED] is quiet mannered, of average intelligence. He served three years in the Navy.

P E N D I N G

UNCLASSIFIED

DETAILS:

UNCLASSIFIED

AT DELPHI, INDIANA

1. Investigation in the vicinity of Delphi, Indiana, and immediate locale by Special Agent DONALD E. GREENWOOD and Special Agent DENZIL F. WILDMAN during the months of September and October 1949 failed to reveal any other persons who on the night of 23 July 1949 observed aerial phenomena in the vicinity of Delphi, Indiana.

AT LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

2. Checks with the Weather Bureaus in the vicinity of Lafayette, Indiana, on 20 September 1949 by Special Agent DENZIL F. WILDMAN, and at Delphi, Indiana, during the month of October 1949 by Special Agent DONALD E. GREENWOOD, met with negative results.

CLOSED

DO #12

UNCLASSIFIED

**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON**

UNCLASSIFIED

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
12TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS

24-56

31 October 1949

SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA
SPECIAL INQUIRY

1A X A

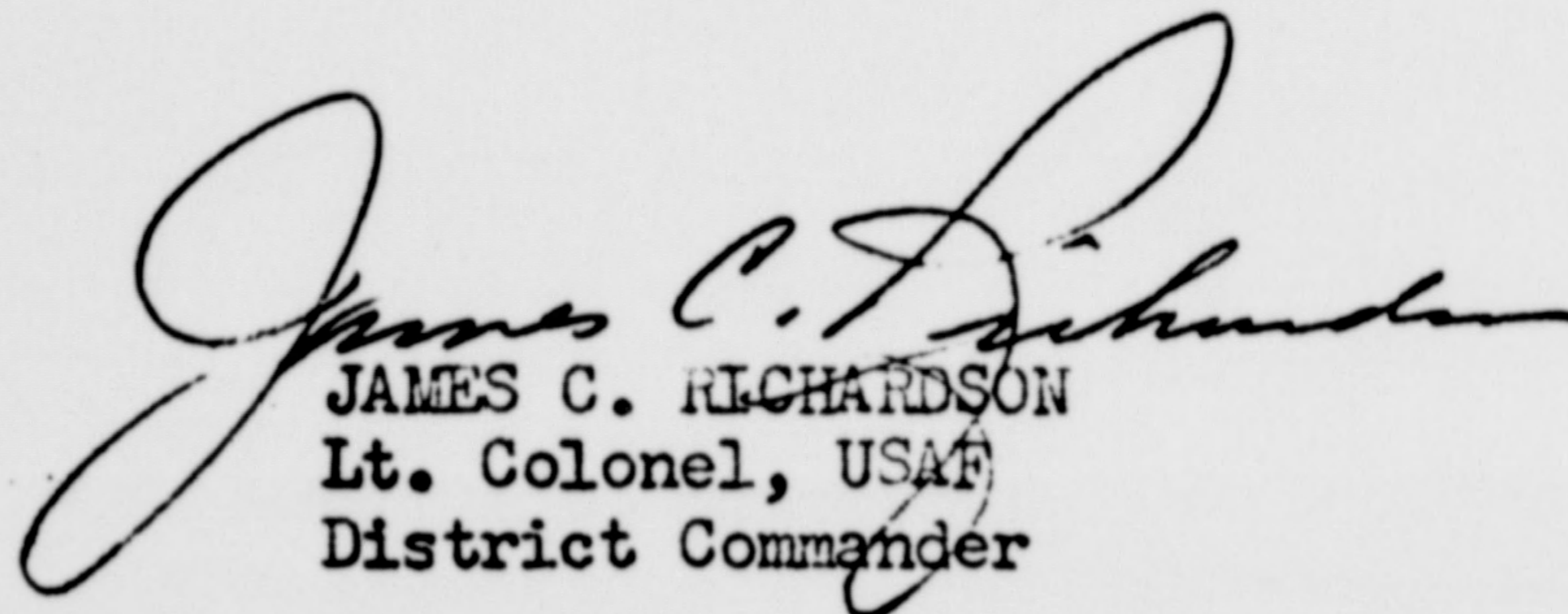
TO: Director of Technical Intelligence
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

1. Reference is made to subject above, and the fact that this office received letter from Office of Special Investigations, The Inspector General, Washington 25, D. C., dated 10 August 1949, subject as above, file number 24-185, directing inquiry be conducted.

2. Attached for your information are two copies of the report of investigation of Special Agent FERDINAND L. GOETZ, of this office, dated 28 October 1949.

3. Your attention is invited to the fact that this case carries a "pending" status. Investigation is currently being conducted at Delphi, Indiana. A further report or reports will be submitted upon completion of investigative activity.

1 Incl
Rpt of S/A F.L.GOETZ
dtd 28 Oct 49 (in dup)


JAMES C. RICHARDSON
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

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

UNCLASSIFIED

file
408

INCIDENT NO. 402

1. Date of Observation 23 July 1949 Date of Interview _____
2. Exact Time (local) 2300 DST
3. Place of Observation Delphi, Indiana
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object
6. Number of objects 2
7. Apparent size of 5 room house
8. Color of object Shining aluminum or magnesium
9. Shape
10. Altitude 1500
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer North
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed Terrific
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail Would emit phosphorent glare as they approached near portion of orbit
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers erratic
Soaring in circles one clockwise, one counter-clockwise
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather Conditions

(over)

Name and address of observer: ~~REDACTED~~
LaFayette, Indiana

Occupation and hobbies:

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

Letter, 7/24/49 -- The undersigned and ~~REDACTED~~, both of LaFayette, were fishing at the Merrill Stone quarry just back of the Monon Railroad station at Delphi, on the evening of Saturday, July 23rd.

At approximately 11 P.M. Daylight Saving Time, Robertson called to me, saying: "What are those lights flying around in the sky?"

I came over and looked where he pointed. There were two luminous objects in the sky to the north of Delphi, at an approximate elevation of 1,500 feet. These two objects were soaring in circles. The one on the right was flying horizontally in an orbit, clockwise. The object on the left was flying in an orbit, counter-clockwise.

~~REDACTED~~ said: "Those must be the flying disks of which I have heard." We watched the objects. As they approached the near portion of the orbit they would emit a phosphorescent glare. They were flying at a terrific speed, and as they flashed around they would appear face toward us, then as they disappeared on the far swing of the orbit, would appear to show the flat portion which appeared as a glowing straight line until they faded from view.

The course which these objects took, while flying in circles, was somewhat erratic. They would dip and dive just as would a plane taking evasive action.

We had two flashlights, and we focussed the two spots together and led the objects as they came past, just as a hunter leads a flying pheasant. Then it was that we could make out that they were tangible objects. They appeared to be made of some shining metal, aluminum or magnesium, and appeared to be, as well as we could judge from their estimated height, about the size of a five room house in the area they covered.

I then went across the road to a house and found a man sitting on the porch. I got him to come out and look at the objects. He said that he was going to call the editor of the Delphi paper, and the police department.

Shortly after this several powerful searchlights swept the sky, following the disks; those of the police or fire department, I presume.

Shortly after this the objects gradually kept getting farther away until they disappeared from view over the horizon. Approximately 30 minutes later they re-appeared, this time to the left of the place in the sky where they had first been seen.

They flew in orbits in that area until, I would say, about 1 A.M. Daylight

Name and address of observer: ~~_____~~

Lafayette, Indiana

Occupation and hobbies:

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

Saving Time; then disappeared for a few minutes and took up their paths in the original place in the heavens, where we first noticed them.

We watched them as we cast for bass in the stone quarry until 3 A. M. Daylight Saving Time, at which time they faded from sight and we saw them no more. Through the entire time we viewed the objects they were continually flying.

I might state that neither I nor my companion are in the least imaginative or neurotic. We had not partaken of any stimulants or narcotics whatsoever and so were able to view these objects in the full possession of our faculties.

This we will attest. They were real, tangible objects, presumably of metal, aluminum or magnesium, as I have stated before, as we could plainly see in the combined spots of our flashlights, and the searchlights which were trained on the objects confirmed this.

We had at first advanced the theory that they might be northern lights. We discarded this theory since northern lights do not move in regular orbits in a regular direction.

Then we speculated as to their being searchlights tried out. I walked out in an open field and looked, but could see no ray of light which will shine up from the ground as a luminous band when a search-light or beacon is trained heavenward.

They could not be landing field beacons. The nearest landing field is at Logansport, a considerable distance from Delphi.

The thought that they might be large bats or birds, whose wings reflected rays of the city lights of Delphi as they flew, entered our minds. I went to the edge of the road, and placed myself between the nearest street light and the objects and they still showed the same glow as they spun around in their orbits.

We took those precautions as there has been a lot of joking talk and news stories ~~xxx~~ appearing about the "flying saucers" being ~~various~~ various planets which shine brilliantly, due to favorable atmospheric conditions, or their proximity to the earth. Planets, while they move, their movement is only noticeable on the direction finder of a large telescope, and can not be detected by the naked eye alone.

We make the statement that the objects we saw flying through the sky are of solid construction. There have ~~x~~ been so many reports of seeing them that there is bound to be foundation of fact concerning them, just as the rockets which not so long ago appeared over Sweden.

This statement is given to you for such evaluation as you see fit to make.

/s/ ~~_____~~

[REDACTED]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
12th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
DETACHMENT "B"
CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS

26 July 1949

SUBJECT: Flying Objects

TO: District Commander
12th OSI District (IG)
Scott Air Force Base
Belleville, Illinois

1. On 25 July 1949 Captain E. [REDACTED] Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, called at the Office of Special Investigations, Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois, bearing a statement executed by Mr. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Lafayette, Indiana, a friend of Bennett's. [REDACTED] had been approached by [REDACTED] on 24 July 1949 with the information that on 23 July 1949 [REDACTED] and a friend had seen objects in the sky. Mosser believed it his duty to report the incident to proper authorities and, therefore, executed a statement. Captain Bennett agreed to turn the statement over to the Office of Special Investigations, Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois.

2. [REDACTED] has faith in [REDACTED] competency and states he is certain that Mosser was sincere in his convictions.

3. The information was brought to the attention of General Aubry Moore, Commanding General, Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois. No investigation was requested by him.

1 Incl.

1. Stmt executed by
[REDACTED]

Ferdinand L. Goetz
FERDINAND L. GOETZ
Detachment Commander
OSI Detachment "B"

24	0	
AIR FORCE		
GENERAL		
JUL 27 1949		

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]
Lafayette, Indiana,
July 24, 1949.

The undersigned and [REDACTED], both of Lafayette, were fishing at the Merrill stone quarry just back of the Monon Railroad station at Delphi, on the evening of Saturday, July 23rd.

At approximately 11 P. M. Daylight Saving Time, [REDACTED] called to me, saying: "What are those lights flying around in the sky?"

I came over and looked where he pointed. There were two luminous objects in the sky to the north of Delphi, at an approximate elevation of 1,500 feet. These two objects were soaring in circles. The one on the right was flying horizontally in an orbit, clockwise. The object on the left was flying in an orbit, counter-clockwise.

[REDACTED] said: "Those must be the flying disks of which I have heard." We watched the objects. As they approached the near portion of the orbit they would emit a phosphorent glare. They were flying at a terrific speed, and as they flashed around they would appear face toward us, then as they disappeared on the far swing of the orbit, would appear to show the flat portion which appeared as a glowing straight line until they faded from view.

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I then went across the road to a house and found a man sitting on the porch. I got him to come out and look at the objects. He said that he was going to call the editor of the Delphi paper, and the police department.

Shortly after this several powerful searchlights swept the sky, following the disks; those of the police or fire department, I presume.

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[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Shortly after this the objects gradually kept getting farther away until they disappeared from view over the horizon. Approximately 30 minutes later they re-appeared, this time to the left of the place in the sky where they had first been seen.

They flew in orbits in that area until, I would say, about 1 A. M. Daylight Saving Time; then disappeared for a few minutes and took up their paths in the original place in the heavens, where we first noticed them.

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We took these precautions as there has been a lot of joking talk and news stories appearing about the "flying saucers" being various planets which shine brilliantly, due to favorable atmospheric conditions, or their proximity to the earth. Planets, while they move, their movement is only noticeable on the direction finder of a large telescope, and can not be detected by the naked eye alone.

UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

We make the statement that the objects we saw flying through the sky are of solid construction. There have been so many reports of seeing them that there is bound to be foundation of fact concerning them, just as the rockets which not so long ago appeared over Sweden.

This statement is given to you for such evaluation as you see fit to make.

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

5D 24-0
(28 Jul 49)
Subj: FLYING OBJECTS

1st Ind

5D-OSI/JEM/fmm

5th OSI District (IG), Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, 2 August 1949

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

1 Incl
n/c

JEM
JEM

Ref.

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AUG 4

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

JAC/tmw

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
12TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS

28 July 1949

24-0

SUBJECT: Flying Objects

THRU: District Commander
5th OSI District (IG)
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio

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

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INDEX	/
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1. Attached correspondence forwarded in accordance with Paragraph 3c, Air Intelligence Requirements Memorandum Number 4, 15 February 1949.

2. No action has been taken by this office pending instructions from your Headquarters.

1 Incl:
Ltr, Det. B, 12th OSI Dist,
26 July 1949, w/1 Incl

James C. Richardson
JAMES C. RICHARDSON
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

c.c. Dir. Intelligence, Hq. USAF

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL 1 AUG 1949 OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS 5TH DISTRICT	
ROUTE TO	FILE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
12TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS

24-56

25 January 1950

SUBJECT: AERIAL PHENOMENA
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Director of Technical Intelligence
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio

1. Transmitted herewith for your information are four copies of the report of investigation of Special Agent FERDINAND L. GOETZ, of this office, dated 25 January 1950, two copies of which are for appropriate transmittal by your Command to Director of Intelligence, USAF.

2. This case has been given a "closed" status inasmuch as all logical leads have been developed by this office.

1 Incl
Rpt of S/A GOETZ
dtd 25 Jan 50 (4 cys)

James C. Richardson
JAMES C. RICHARDSON
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

*File correctly
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not under*

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