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**Case Files of Individual Sightings**

**File Nos. 600-848**

**November 27, 1949-December 6, 1950**



**THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES  
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE  
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION**

**WASHINGTON: 1976**

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF  
17TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

DR/web

File No: (28-4) - 4

29 December 1949

SUBJECT: Green fireball sighted by Mr. ~~REED~~, near McIntosh,  
New Mexico, on 27 November 1949  
SPECIAL INQUIRY - Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: MC LAKE-3

1AXA

27 Nov 49  
N.M.  
New Mexico

1. Reference is made to previous reports concerning the sighting of unidentified aerial objects in the West Texas - New Mexico - Arizona area.

2. Attached are two (2) copies of Report of Investigation by Special Agent RUSSELL O. WOMACK, Jr., of this office, dated 29 November 1949, concerning a sighting of this nature.

3. This district will continue to forward all reports of this type to your headquarters.

*Doyle Rees*

DOYLE REES  
Lt Col, USAF  
District Commander

1 Incl  
Rpt of Inv (dup)

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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N. M.  
green  
fireball

1-33-1

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

FILE NO.

(24-8) - 4

DATE

29 November 1949

REPORT MADE BY

S/A RUSSELL O. WOMACK, JR

REPORT MADE AT

DO # 17, Kirtland AFB

PERIOD

28 November 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

DO # 17, Kirtland AFB

STATUS

CLOSED

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT: Green Fireball  
Sighted by Mr [REDACTED] near  
McIntosh, New Mexico, on 27 Nov 1949

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY - Unconventional Aircraft

REFERENCE

AFCSI Letter No. 85; Headquarters OSI file 24-185

SYNOPSIS

At about 1800 hours MST 27 November 1949 Mr [REDACTED] observed a green fireball Near McIntosh, New Mexico. At the time of the sighting Mr [REDACTED] was in an aircraft at approximately 2000 feet altitude. The object, which appeared to resemble a signal flare and was visible for about one second, descended to the earth in a vertical path and apparently burned out.

## DISTRIBUTION

CG AMC ATTN: MCIAKO-3  
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Hq OSI

2

CO, Holloman AFB

1

FBI, El Paso, Texas

1

File

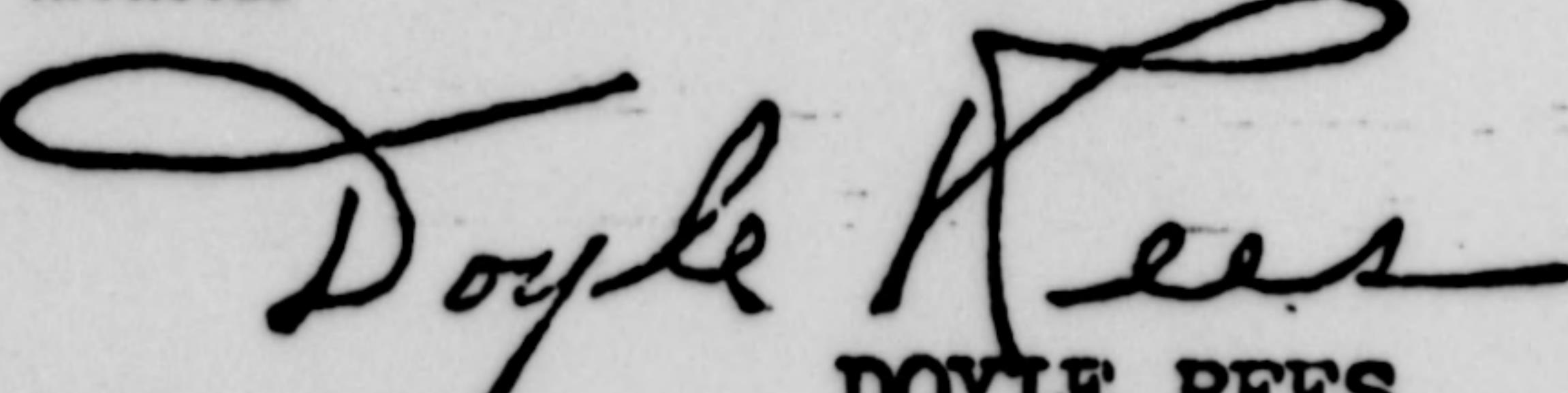
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Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson AF Base  
Dayton Ohio  
ATTN: MCIAKO-3

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DOYLE REES  
Lt. Col., USAF  
[Signature] Commander.

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DETAILS:

AT HOLLOWAN AFB, NEW MEXICO

1. Interviewed Mr. ██████████, Parachute Engineer, Headquarters, AMC, regarding an observation by him of a Green Light in the sky. ██████████ furnished the following information.

- a. Date of sighting: 27 November 1949.
- b. Time of sighting: Approximately 1800 hours MST
- c. Place of observer: In aircraft at  $105^{\circ} 47'$  longitude and  $35^{\circ} 10'$  latitude.
- d. Number of objects: One
- e. Observable Celestial Phenomena: Nothing unusual.
- f. Distance of object from observer:
  - (1) Horizontally: 10 to 20 miles;  $190^{\circ}$  Azimuth
  - (2) Angle above Horizon: Unable to determine; observer was above object.
  - (3) Altitude: Less than 2000 ft (altitude of plane at time of sighting - 2000 ft).
- g. Time in Sight: Approximately 1 second.
- h. Appearance of Object:
  - (1) Color: Green like a one-star signal flare.
  - (2) Shape: Same as flare above.
  - (3) Apparent construction: None
  - (4) Size: Same as signal flare.
- i. Direction of Flight: Vertical
- j. Tactics or maneuvers: Vertical Descent.
- k. Evidence of Exhaust: None
- l. Effect on Clouds: No clouds.
- m. Lights: None, except it appeared to be the same intensity as a one-star signal flare.
- n. Supports: None
- o. Propulsion: Falling
- p. Control and Stability: Not applicable.
- q. Air ducts: Not applicable.
- r. Speed: Same as falling signal flare.
- s. Sound: None
- t. Manner of disappearance: Same as signal flare.

2. The following are this agent's observations concerning the observer:

- a. Name: ██████████
- b. Address: 4██████████ New Carlisle, Ohio.
- c. Occupation: ██████████ ██████████; formerly ██████████ ██████████ Hq, A.M.C. and as such has had great amount of experience with signal flares.

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- d. Place of business: Headquarters, AMC
- e. Hobbies: Boating
- f. Ability to determine: Excellent
- g. Reliability of observer: Apparently excellent.
- h. Former sightings: None
- i. How attention was drawn to object: Falling light
- j. Degree of fatigue: None

3. [REDACTED] stated that there were no other witnesses.

4. A check with the Base Weather Detachment, Holloman AFB, New Mexico, revealed that weather conditions in the vicinity of McIntosh, New Mexico, were normal at 1800 hours on 27 November 1949.

5. A check with the Operations & Projects Division, Holloman AFB, New Mexico, revealed that there had been no unusual radar sighting nor had there been any testing devices released which could account for the phenomenon, on 27 November 1949. Captain [REDACTED], Pilot of the aircraft from which the object was observed, stated that they received no radar inductions or unusual noises on the radio circuits.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF  
17TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

DR/web

File No: (24-8) - 7

13 January 1950

SUBJECT: "FIREBALL", 27 November 1949, at 1749 hours, observed by  
Lt Col CHARLES E. LANCASTER, Jr, W. W. JONES and Lt JOHN W. RAPP  
SPECIAL INQUIRY - Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: MCIAKO-3

27 Nov 49  
17th Dist, AFIB, p.m.  
1/13/50

1. Reference is made to previous reports from this district concerning sightings of unidentified aerial objects.
2. Attached are two (2) copies of a Report of Investigation by Special Agent Melvin E. Neef of this office, dated 5 January 1949, subject as above.
3. This district will continue to forward reports of sightings of this nature to your headquarters.

1 Incl  
Rpt of Inv (dup)

*Doyle Rees*

DOYLE REES  
Lt Col, USAF  
District Commander

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DOD DIR 5200.1Q

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1/16/66-1  
3  
green fireball

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

## TITLE

"FIREBALL", 27 November 1949, at 1749  
Hours, Observed By: (See Page No. 2).

## FILE NO.

(24-8) - 7

## DATE

5 January 1950

## REPORT MADE BY

S/A MELVIN E. NEEF

## REPORT MADE AT

17th DO, Kirtland AFB

## PERIOD

5 December 1949

## OFFICE OF ORIGIN

17th DO, Kirtland AFB

## STATUS

CLOSED

## CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

## REFERENCE

AFCSI Letter No. 85, Hq Office of Special Investigations, File No. 24-185.

## SYNOPSIS

This investigation is based upon information received from Lt Col CHARLES E. LANCASTER, Jr., Deputy Base Commander, Kirtland Air Force Base. Persons sighting subject interviewed and information set out in Details herein.

## DISTRIBUTION

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Wright-Patterson AFB  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: MCIA XO-3

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(Info copy)

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CO, KIRTLAND AFB

1

FILE

2

## APPROVED

  
DOYLE REES  
Lt Col, USAF  
District Commander.

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TITLE (Continued)

Lt Col CHARLES E. LANCASTER, Jr.  
Deputy Base Commander, Kirtland Air Force Base, N. M.  
Observed from Socorro, New Mexico.

W. W. JONES  
Chief Controller  
Air Traffic Control  
Civil Aeronautics Administration  
Observed from Control Tower, Kirtland Air Force Base, N. M.

1st Lt JOHN W. RAPP  
230½ N. Solano Street  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
Observed from Winslow, Arizona.

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DETAILS:

1. This investigation predicated upon information received from Lt Col CHARLES E. LANCASTER, Jr., Deputy Base Commander, Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico. LANCASTER advised that while enroute to Albuquerque from El Paso, Texas, in the vicinity of Socorro, New Mexico, on 27 November 1949, at 1749, he observed a green "Fireball" that appeared to fall near Albuquerque.

AT KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE

2. This is a joint investigation conducted by Special Agent JAMES N. KERRICK and the writer.

3. On 5 December 1949, Lt Col CHARLES E. LANCASTER, Jr., Deputy Base Commander, Kirtland Air Force Base, was interviewed and the following information obtained.

- a. Sighted at 1749 hours, 27 November 1949.
- b. Sighted from Socorro, New Mexico.
- c. One object observed.
- d. Driving in general direction of observation.
- e. Direction from observer -

Appeared	-	10° True	(EST)
Disappeared	-	5° True	"

- f. Angle of elevation -

Appeared	-	40°	"
Disappeared	-	10°	"

- g. Approximately 75 miles from observer.
- h. Time in sight - 5 seconds, possibly longer.
- i. Color - pale green to pale blue.
- j. Size of object - compared to shooting star the size of a match head.  
It was as large as a washtub.

- k. Shape - round.
- l. Construction - unknown.
- m. Direction of flight - arced, East to West.
- n. Maneuver - none.

- o. Trail - 10 - 15 miles in length.

- p. No clouds.

- q. Luminosity - Bright.

- r. No apparent projections or depressions.

- s. No visible means of propulsion.

- t. Speed - Slower than meteor.

- u. No sound or odor.

- v. Faded out gradually.

- w. Colonel LANCASTER studied astronomy while in college and is considered very reliable. He stated this object was definitely not a meteorite.

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4. On 30 November 1949, 1st Lt JOHN W. RAPP, 230 $\frac{1}{2}$  N. Solano Street, Albuquerque, New Mexico, was interviewed and the following information obtained:

- a. Object sighted at 1749 hours, on 27 November 1949.
- b. Object observed from 35° 05' N, 110° 50' E.
- c. One object observed.
- d. Attracted by bright flash.
- e. Direction from observer - 3 o'clock.
- f. Angle of elevation - 30°
- g. Distance from observer - unknown.
- h. Time in sight - 3 - 4 seconds.
- i. Color - bright blue white.
- j. Size - egg at arms length.
- k. Shape - egg shape, large end foremost.
- m. Construction of object - unknown.
- n. Direction of flight - East to West.
- o. No tactics or maneuvers.
- p. Long orange trail of sparks.
- q. No clouds.
- r. Luminosity - like a phosphorus flare.
- s. No projections or depressions observed.
- t. No visible means of propulsion.
- u. Speed - 3 - 4 seconds to cover 15° - 20°.
- v. No sound or odor.
- w. Manner of disappearance - dwindled out.
- x. Lt RAPP is considered to be reliable and appears self-assured.

5. On 12 December 1949, Mr. W. W. JONES, Chief Controller, Air Traffic Control, Civil Aeronautics Administration, Kirtland Air Force Base, was interviewed and the following information was obtained:

- a. Object was observed at 1749 hours on 27 November 1949.
- b. Object was observed from 106° 35' E, 35° 4' N. control tower at Kirtland Air Force Base.
- c. Only one object was observed.
- d. Attention attracted by flash of light.
- e. Direction from observer -

Appeared	-	165°
Disappeared	-	170°
- f. Angle of elevation -

Appeared	-	5°
Disappeared	-	3°
- g. Distance from observer - unknown.
- h. Time in sight - 1 - 2 seconds.
- i. Color of object - blue white, magnesium flare.
- j. Size of object - lead pencil eraser at arms length.
- k. Apparent construction - unknown.
- l. Direction of flight - 165° to 170° from North.

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- m. Tactics or maneuvers - Sloping descent.
- n. Evidence of trail or exhaust - none observed.
- o. Effect on clouds - no clouds.
- p. Luminosity - bright as magnesium flare.
- q. Projections and depressions - none observed.
- r. Means of propulsion - none observed.
- s. Speed of object - 5 to 7 degrees per second.
- t. Sound or odor - none.
- u. Manner of disappearance - went out, then came on in smaller size, same brilliance, then sputtered out.
- v. Mr. W. W. JONES has in the past proven to be a very reliable observer.

- CLOSED -

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