PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE	2. LOCATION	12. CONCLUSIONS
30 Sep 51	Orange, Va	☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1500 GMT 30/2000Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Civilians	☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not given	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	9. COURSE Not given
		☐ Other_____ ☒ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Shape was circular. Color was brownish-black hale surroundings.. Speed was high. ~~Violent~~ Violent motion, starting and stopping.

11. COMMENTS

Duration not reported. Insufficient data to evaluate.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
U.S.A.	IR-14-51E	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT: UNIDENTUFIED OBJECT NEAR ORANGE, VIRGINIA

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)
EADF	D/I EADF

DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
30 OCTOBER 1951	30 SEPTEMBER 1951	F-6

PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE
2nd Lt. CLIFFORD C. NORSE	LETTER FROM OBSERVERS

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)
ADC LTR 200-1

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 113—Part II.)

On 30 September 1951 at 2000Z (3 P.M. EST) three (3) high school boys of Woodberry Forest, Virginia, observed from the top of a fifty (50) foot silo one unidentified object about eight (8) to ten (10) miles away over a small mountain / or about three (3) miles southwest of Orange, Virginia.

APPROVED:

BRUCE K. BAUMGARDNER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Director of Intelligence

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

5 Nov 51

INCLS.

UNCLASSIFIED

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR
2 cys - CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio (Attn: MCIS)
1 cy - CG, ADC, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo.- Attn: Deputy for Intelligence

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C.— 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

(CLASSIFICATION)

16—83460-3 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950 O—918331

AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

RFC

(CLASSIFICATION) UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
D/I EADF	IR-14-51E	

The following is a copy of the statement made by the three boys.

"Woodberry Forest School
Oct. 1, 1951

I. When seen clearly, object was circular, whether like a plate or like a ball couldn't be told. We think it was probably flat because at times only a thin line, sometimes horizontal, sometimes vertical could be seen. It was at all times surrounded by a haze of brownish-black smoke. When it moved the haze trailed behind.

II. When it moved, its movements were violent and it traveled at a high speed, stopped suddenly when it did stop, at times became very hard to see. Although no sound was heard a person would have heard even a piston-engined plane at the distance it seemed to be from us. No plane could have done the maneuvers it did at the speed at which it seemed to be traveling.

III. From the top of the 50 ft. silo on which we were standing it seemed to be about 8 to 10 miles away, (about 3 miles southwest of Orange, Va.) over a small mountain. It stayed in an area of about ½ square miles. Seen Sept. 30 about 3 P.M.

The three who saw it were Robt. W. Daniel, Jr., 15; Frank Walker, Jr., 15 and Peter Simmons, 17. We are telling only what we are sure we saw, and what we have written above is exactly what saw.

s/t/ Peter H. Simmons
Robert W. Daniel, Jr.
Frank Walker, Jr."

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

Clifford C. Norse
CLIFFORD C. NORSE
2nd Lt., USAF
Intelligence Duty Officer

UNCLASSIFIED

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RFC

[illegible] CLASSIFICATION

16—55570-1 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1950—O-912332

APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948 (CLASSIFICATION) UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
U.S.A.	IR-14-51E	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT NEAR ORANGE, VIRGINIA

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)
EADF	D/I EADF

DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
30 OCTOBER 1951	30 SEPTEMBER 1951	F-6

PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE
2nd Lt. CLIFFORD C. NORSE	LETTER FROM OBSERVERS

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)
ADC LTR 200-1

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 118--Part II.)

On 30 September 1951 at 2000Z (3 P.M. EST) three (3) High school boys of Woodberry Forest, Virginia, observed from the top of a fifty (50) foot silo one unidentified object about eight (8) to ten (10) miles away over a small mountain / or about three (3) miles southwest of Orange, Virginia.

APPROVED:

BRUCE K. BAUMGARDNER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Director of Intelligence

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

15 Nov 51

_____ INCLS.

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DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR
2 cys - CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio (Attn: MCIS)
1 cy - CG, ADC, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo.- Attn: Deputy for Intelligence

ATIC 28232

ATTRIBUTED 1 JUNE 1948

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
D/I EADF	IR-14-51E	

The following is a copy of the statement made by the three boys.

Woodberry Forest School
Oct. 1, 1951

I. When seen clearly, object was circular, whether like a plate or like a ball couldn't be told. We think it was probably flat because at times only a thin line, sometimes horizontal, sometimes vertical could be seen. It was at all times surrounded by a haze of brownish-black smoke. When it moved the haze trailed behind.

II. When it moved, its movements were violent and it traveled at a high speed, stopped suddenly when it did stop, at times became very hard to see. Although no sound was heard a person would have heard even a piston-engined plane at the distance it seemed to be from us. No plane could have done the maneuvers it did at the speed at which it seemed to be traveling.

III. From the top of the 50 ft. silo on which we were standing it seemed to be about 8 to 10 miles away, (about 3 miles southwest of Orange, Va.) over a small mountain. It stayed in an area of about 4 square miles. Seen Sept. 30 about 3 P.M.

The three who saw it were [redacted], 15; [redacted], 15 and [redacted] 17. We are telling only what we are sure we saw, and what we have written above is exactly what saw.

s/t/ [redacted]

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVA
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS:
DOD DIR 5200.10

Clifford C. Norse

CLIFFORD C. NORSE
2nd Lt., USAF
Intelligence Duty Officer

UNCLASSIFIED

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT

EXTRACT FROM STATUS REPORT # 1

DATE: 30 Sept 51

TIME (Local): 1500

LOCATION: Orange, Va.

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: Unknown

SOUND: None

SPEED: Low

ALTITUDE: Unknown

HEADING: Varied

SOURCE: Letter from four teenage boys.

ACTION OR COMMENTS: No investigation

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: Circular object which was sometimes encircled by a brownish haze.

K 243.6012-1
25 Aug 1951

RETURN TO
USAF Historical Archives
ASI(ASHAF-A)
Maxwell AFB, Ala 36112

T-3712-3

1003329

LUBBOCK, TX

Appendix I

LUBBOCK, TEXAS - 25 August 1951

The first of a series of sightings related to this incident occurred the evening of 25 August 1951 at approximately 2110 CST. Four Texas Technical College professors were sitting in the backyard of one of the professor's homes observing meteorites in conjunction with a study of micrometeorites being carried out by the college. At 2110 they observed a group of lights pass overhead from N to S. The lights had about the same intensity as a bright star but were larger in area. The altitude was not determined but they traveled at a high rate of speed. The pattern of the lights was almost a perfect semicircle containing from 20 to 30 individual lights. Later in the evening a similar incident was observed and during a period of about three weeks a total of approximately twelve (12) such flights were observed by these men.

The group of men included:

a. The Head of the Petroleum Engineering Department
b. Professor of Geology, has Ph.D.
c. Professor of Physics, has Ph.D.
d. Professor of Chemical Engineering, has Ph.D.

Besides the above four men the following have observed the incidents:

a. Professor of Mathematics, has Ph.D.
b. Graduate student working on Ph.D.

In addition, a Professor of Astronomy was consulted on the incident, but he did not observe any of these flights.

The above mentioned men took a personal interest in the phenomena and undertook a study of the objects. Attempts were made to obtain an altitude measurement by laying out a measured base line perpendicular to the usual flight path of the object and placing angle measuring devices at the end of the base line, however, all their attempts failed because the objects did not appear on the nights the observers were waiting for them.

From the series of observations, the following facts were obtained:

a. The angular velocity of the object was very nearly 30° of arc per second.

b. There was no sound that could be attributed to the object.

c. The flight path of the object was from N to S in the majority of the flights.

d. There were two or three flights per evening.

e. The period between flights was about one hour and 10 minutes.

f. The color of the lights was blue-white.

g. There were from 20 to 30 separate lights in each formation.

h. The first two flights observed were a semi-circle of lights but in subsequent flights there was no orderly arrangement.

i. The object always appeared at an angle of about 50° from horizontal in the north and disappeared at about 60° in the south. The object did not gradually come into view as would an aircraft approaching from a distance, neither did it gradually disappear.

j. There was no apparent change in size as the object passed overhead.

Attempts were made to obtain the relative height of the object in respect to clouds. However, these attempts were also unsuccessful due to the fact that the objects passed between widely scattered clouds.

Efforts to determine whether or not there was any form between the lights by trying to see stars between the lights were made. This also was unsuccessful due to the short time the object was in view.

This phenomena was observed by at least one hundred people in and around Lubbock, Texas. Some of these people were of the opinion that the objects were birds.

On the evening of 31 August 1951, at about 2330 CST, a college freshman from Texas Tech observed three flights of the object and allegedly obtained five photographs. He obtained two photos of one flight and three of another. These photos show single rows of light in V-formation on two photos and a double row on the others. His description of the object is much the same as that of the college professors, except that the college professors never observed a perfect V-formation.

(See Appendix II and V for possibly related incidents.)

Status of the Investigation

Project Grudge personnel made a trip to Lubbock, Texas, on 6-9 November 1951 to obtain more details on the incident. Many sources who had seen the object or who were involved in the sighting were interrogated. A conference was held with the college professors and they offered to write a detailed account of their observations and forward it to ATIC. This report should be forthcoming.

The photographer who claims to have photographed the object was interrogated. Every effort was made to find a flaw in the photographer's account of the incident but the results were negative. The college professors did not believe the photographs were authentic as they had never observed a V-shaped group of lights. They were not sure, however, whether or not they had observed the same objects that were photographed. Since the interrogation, two

discrepencies in the photos have been found and the photographer is being reinterrogated by the O.S.I.

One school of thought of the people in the Lubbock area is that the objects were some type of migratory birds reflecting light from the city. Several people reported that they definitely knew the objects were ducks because they could see wings flapping. It is very possible that some of the people who were looking for the object did see ducks as there were duck flights passing over during the period. It is significant that those people who saw ducks were definitely able to identify the objects as ducks, or some type of bird, because they could see the wings or heard them make a noise, however, other people were just as determined that they were not birds. The possible conclusion is that some people did see birds, but others saw some other objects.

The college professors do not believe the theory that the objects were birds, but they are giving the possibility more thought. If they were birds, they would have to be relatively low to give the illusion of high speed. An occasional flight of birds might pass low over a city on a clear night but it is highly doubtful if they would continue to do this for several nights. Migratory birds usually try to keep away from cities.

The Federal Wild Life Game Warden was visited and although he was not familiar with the incident he doubted if the objects were birds. He stated that they could have been, however. The most likely suspect, if it is a bird, is a member of the Plover family which has a pure white breast, but unless there was a sudden influx of the birds into the Lubbock area, the game warden doubted if there would be enough of these birds to make up as many flights as were observed.

If the photos are authentic, the objects very probably are not ducks because an experienced photographer from the Lubbock Avalanche Newspaper attempted to get photos of ducks using both natural light and flash, but failed.

The investigation of this incident is continuing. It is probably the most unique incident in the history of Project Grudge in that it was observed so many times by a scientifically trained group of observers. These people are continuing to attempt to arrive at a solution for the phenomena. They had previously lost interest after several weeks of observations because they believed that the object was some new Air Force aircraft or missile.

The photographs are now at the Photographic Reconnaissance Laboratory at Wright Air Development Center for analysis.

THE FINAL WORD ON

Flying Saucers?

At the U. of Colorado a new all-out attack on UFOs has been launched

— BY L. JEROME STANTON
Author of "Flying Saucers: Hoax or Reality"

Are we being spied upon and studied by intelligent beings from outer space, as we study the primitive aborigines of central Australia and New Guinea? Is the U.S. Air Force deliberately withholding information about flying saucers, for fear that releasing the truth would trigger a panic? Why do we still know so little about the true nature of unidentified flying objects? In this time when science says other intelligent life almost surely exists elsewhere in our galaxy, these questions are being asked by a great many people who formerly would have laughed off such thoughts as pure fantasy.

Almost 20 years ago a news story about "flying saucers" flashed over the press wires, startling our nation and much of the civilized world. From that moment, a world-wide interest in unidentified flying objects has stubbornly stayed alive, despite efforts of authorities and others to refute and debunk them.

Fortunately one new factor has entered the picture that bids fair to resolve some of our doubts and puzzlement. On October 7, 1966, a contract was awarded to the University of Colorado to conduct a scientific investigation of UFO sightings and report findings to the U.S. Air Force, with recommendations for future operation of the Air Force's own Project Blue Book UFO inquiry. The Colorado report will then be reviewed by the National Academy of Sciences. Funded at somewhat more than $300,000, the study will analyze UFO reports, and actually assign scientists to the field to study UFOs extremely limited. Indeed, with a staff limited most of the time to one commissioned officer, one noncom and two clerks, it's amazing that Project Blue Book could do any job effectively.

The first modern sighting of a UFO occurred June 24th, 1947, near Mt. Rainier in Washington. A veteran private pilot named Kenneth Arnold, while flying his own light aircraft, saw nine large, silvery objects shaped like inverted plates or saucers, flying in a reversed-echelon formation. Arnold had described the objects as moving "like a saucer skipped across a pond," and from this a reporter devised the name "flying saucer."

Flying saucers have been seen around the world

In the two decades since that episode, literally thousands of UFO sightings have been reported from all parts of the world.

In January, 1950, Major Donald E. Keyhoe, a retired Marine Corps officer, authored an article for "True" magazine, in which he insisted that flying saucers were real, physical objects, and that they came from some place not on our own planet Earth. The article touched off a sensation. But solid evidence such as good, close-up photographs or motion pictures (or debris of a crashed saucer!) proved impossible to get, and conclusions had to be based solely on the accounts of eye-witnesses.

The Air Force began the first official investigation that stood until 1965, when a book "Anatomy of a Phenomenon," by Jacques Vallee, a French scientist living in the U.S., was published.

Soberly scientific in tone, it gave an unusually complete and authoritative summary of the entire history of the flying saucer-UFO phenomenon. It also opened the eyes of many people to the fact that sightings were world-wide.

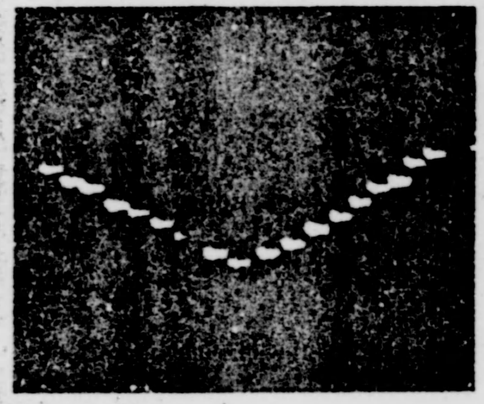
Then in the early hours of August 2, 1965, authorities in adjacent parts of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Kansas were flooded with calls reporting UFOs, many of the reports coming from police officers in highway patrol cars. One group of objects was seen for about 30 minutes flying in a diamond formation over the area around Shawnee, Okla. They were lights of indefinite shape, that changed color randomly from orange-red to white to blue-green and back again. Radar at Tinker and Carswell Air Force Bases in the area tracked four objects that coincided with objects seen by eye-witnesses, according to a statement issued by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. The radar tracking was later denied by the Air Force, but the denial was contradicted by a nine-page report from the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety. The confusion was only increased when the Project Blue Book officer later reported solemnly that the stars Rigel, Capella and Aldebaran, and the planet Jupiter, seen under peculiar local weather conditions, had been the cause.

New Guinea? Is the U.S. Air Force deliberately withholding information about flying saucers, for fear that releasing the truth would trigger a panic? Why do we still know so little about the true nature of unidentified flying objects? In this time when science says other intelligent life almost surely exists elsewhere in our galaxy, these questions are being asked by a great many people who formerly would have laughed off such thoughts as pure fantasy.

Almost 20 years ago a news story about "flying saucers" flashed over the press wires, startling our nation and much of the civilized world. From that moment, a world-wide interest in unidentified flying objects has stubbornly stayed alive, despite efforts of authorities and others to refute and debunk them.

Fortunately one new factor has entered the picture that bids fair to resolve some of our doubts and puzzlement. On October 7, 1966, a contract was awarded to the University of Colorado to conduct a scientific investigation of UFO sightings and report findings to the U.S. Air Force, with recommendations for future operation of the Air Force's own Project Blue Book UFO inquiry. The Colorado report will then be reviewed by the National Academy of Sciences. Funded at somewhat more than $300,000, the study will analyze UFO reports, and actually assign scientists to the field to study UFOs at first hand, if that proves feasible. Guaranteed a completely free hand by the Air Force, the inquiry should do much to quiet the louder critics of Project Blue Book, and also to allay any public doubts and fears. It is, in fact, the first really scientific attack on the UFO enigma yet set in motion in the United States.

The critical problem of national security makes an all-out scientific attack on the UFO puzzle seem long overdue. But since the first reports of modern times, the subject has been beset by unstable notoriety-seekers, hoaxers and plain crack-pots, so that most serious scientists have shied away from the problem. The nearest approach to a scientific investigation, the 20-year USAF study called Project Blue Book, has been



A 1951 phenomenon that is still unexplained is the one known as the "Lubbock lights," which was sighted at Lubbock, Texas. It is one of the photographs the U. of Colorado may examine

could do any job effectively.

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The Air Force began the first official investigation of the more impressive reports a few weeks after the Arnold sighting, but the effort was reduced to practically nothing early in 1950. Then in 1951 a renewed surge of nation-wide interest and publicity compelled a widening of the inquiry.

By 1952, reports reached a dizzying peak. But time passed and public interest dwindled. In the following eight years UFOs continued to be reported over the U.S. and many other parts of the world. Press and radio now gave more attention to "contactee" accounts than to soberly factual episodes. Project Blue Book plodded on, although proposals to put a team of scientists in the field with instruments for direct observation of a UFO were never actually put into effect. So matters

Soberly scientific in tone, it gave an unusually complete and authoritative summary of the entire history of the flying saucer-UFO phenomenon. It also opened the eyes of many people to the fact that sightings were world-wide.

Then in the early hours of August 2, 1965, authorities in adjacent parts of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Kansas were flooded with calls reporting UFOs, many of the reports coming from police officers in highway patrol cars. One group of objects was seen for about 30 minutes flying in a diamond formation over the area around Shawnee, Okla. They were lights of indefinite shape, that changed color randomly from orange-red to white to blue-green and back again. Radar at Tinker and Carswell Air Force Bases in the area tracked four objects that coincided with objects seen by eye-witnesses, according to a statement issued by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. The radar tracking was later denied by the Air Force, but the denial was contradicted by a nine-page report from the Oklahoma Department of Public Safety. The confusion was only increased when the Project Blue Book officer later reported solemnly that the stars Rigel, Capella and Aldebaran, and the planet Jupiter, seen under peculiar local weather conditions, had been the cause.

One sighting brings reports of others

The celebrated incident at Exeter, N. H., occurred during the early morning hours of September 3, 1965. Norman Muscarello, an 18-year-old Exeter resident, was badly frightened by a large object that swooped silently over the highway. He informed the local police and was driven back to the spot by Officer Bertrand. The object returned and was seen at close range and low level by both Muscarello and Bertrand, and by Officer David Hunt, in another patrol car. The object was circular, about 100 feet in diameter, and in addition to the over-all orange-red glow, showed a pattern of smaller, brighter lights that waxed and waned in regular rhythm.

The Exeter incident brought to light the case of the Halls. While undergoing treatment for a period of amnesia, Mr. and Mrs. Hall told their psychoanalyst a strange story of having been captured and interrogated by beings in a weird flying vehicle some two years before.

During 1966, in addition to many other reports from more remote parts of the world, a persistent

The photograph above, taken by Dan (left) and Grant Jaroslaw in the backyard of their home northeast of Detroit, is undergoing scientific analysis

series of peculiar lights was seen over Wanaque reservoir in Northern New Jersey. Similar lights were reported near Hillsdale, Mich., by many residents of the area, who loudly contradicted semi-official statements that marsh gas was responsible. Still more odd-shaped glowing lights were seen and photographed over Long Island. This time the official explanation put the blame on the star Sirius.

In January, 1967, two youngsters, Daniel and Grant Jaroslaw, in Harrison Township, northeast of Detroit, snapped photos of something that looked like a big hamburger and was the size of a helicopter. The photos were sent to Dr. J. Allen Hynek, chairman of the Astronomy Department at Northwestern University, who has investigated reported sightings for the Air Force. His comment at the time was that the photos did not "indicate an obvious hoax," but that they required analysis. Undoubtedly, the photos will also be shown to the University of Colorado group.

As matters now stand, there is anything but agreement, either within the body of the general public, or among various groups of UFO buffs. At one extreme of the organized UFO groups are the clubs and individuals who swear they have had actual contact with intelligent beings who come in flying saucers.

At the other end of the gamut of UFO groups is NICAP, the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, of Washington, D.C., with Major Keyhoe as Director, and Richard Hall as Assistant Director. With a membership of about 11,000 claimed, NICAP is the largest organization and has a hefty percentage of scientific, technical, military and law-enforcement personnel.



"Swamp gas" was the Air Force explanation for the Hillsdale, Mich., sightings. This photo was released by the town's civil defense director to refute the swamp gas theory

Somewhere in the middle is the Saucer and Unexplained Celestial Events Research Society, of Ft. Lee, N. J., and New York City. SAUCERS was founded in 1954, claims about 7,000 members and holds a broader view of UFO phenomena than does NICAP.

At present, NICAP scorns the contactees and their claims and believes that UFOs are real physical objects and that they are under the control of intelligent beings. NICAP has had a long-term disagreement with the Air Force Project Blue Book method of investigation, but is now cooperating with the University of Colorado inquiry.

The SAUCERS organization believes that there is overwhelming evidence that so-called flying saucers are probably of extraterrestrial origin and most likely come from the planet Mars.

All believers agree the UFOs are very real

Beliefs of the farther-out saucer fans are more diffuse, but all agree that they are real. Many consider that UFOs come from planets of other suns than ours, and are operated by beings more advanced than we. Many insist that the Visitors mean only Infinite Good, have visited earth many times in the past, and are the cause of many of our religious beliefs in gods, miracles and legends.

Is it possible to choose between these differing views? For many the answer apparently is "No!", and it will probably remain so until a saucer crashes in Central Park, or the University of Colorado presents its report. Unfortunately, UFOs seem to be far more reliable than earthly aircraft, for no authenticated debris of a crashed saucer has come to light.

Nevertheless, if you answer the door some night and find yourself confronted by a small, greenish individual who politely asks for the loan of a cup of uranium, don't slam the door; it may be the Martian ambassador — victim of the interplanetary equivalent of an empty gas tank. (THE END)



EXTRACT STATUS REPORT #2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ R7C

UNCLASSIFIED

Appendix I

LUBBOCK, TEXAS - 25 August 1951

I. DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT

The first of a series of sightings related to this incident occurred the evening of 25 August 1951 at approximately 2110 CST. Four Texas Technical College professors were sitting in the backyard of one of the professor's homes observing meteorites in conjunction with a study of micrometeorites being carried out by the college. At 2130 they observed a group of lights pass overhead from N to S. The lights had about the same intensity as high cirus clouds on a moonlight night. The altitude was not determined but they traveled at a high rate of speed. The pattern of the lights was almost a perfect semi-circle containing from 20 to 30 individual lights. Later in the evening a similar incident was observed and during a period of about three weeks a total of approximately twelve (12) such flights were observed by these men.

The group of men included:

a. The Head of the [redacted] Department
b. Professor of [redacted], has Phd.
c. Professor of [redacted], has Phd.
d. Professor of [redacted], has Phd.

Besides the above four men, the following have observed the incidents:

a. Professor of [redacted], has Phd.
b. Graduate student working on Phd.

In addition, a Professor of Astronomy was consulted on the incident, but he did not observe any of these flights.

The above mentioned men took a personal interest in the phenomena and undertook a study of the objects. Attempts were made to obtain an altitude measurement by laying out a measured base line perpendicular to the usual flight path of the object and placing angle measuring devices at the end of the base line, however, all their attempts failed because the objects did not appear on the nights the observers were waiting for them.

From the series of observations, the following facts were obtained:

a. The angular velocity of the object was very nearly 30° of arc per second.

b. There was no sound that could be attributed to the object.

c. The flight path of the object was from N to S in the majority of the flights although some were NE to SW.

d. On several nights there were two or three flights.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ R2C

UNCLASSIFIED

e. The color of the lights was blue-green.

f. There were from 15 to 30 separate lights in each formation.

g. The first two flights observed were a semi-circle of lights but in subsequent flights there was no orderly arrangement.

h. The object always appeared at an angle of about 45° from horizontal in the north and disappeared at about 45° in the south. The object did not gradually come into view as would an aircraft approaching from a distance, neither did it gradually disappear.

i. There was no apparent change in size as the object passed overhead.

j. The "angular span" was estimated to be 10°.

Attempts were made to obtain the relative height of the object in respect to clouds. However, these attempts were also unsuccessful due to the fact that the objects passed between widely scattered clouds.

Attempts were made to determine whether or not there was any form between the lights by trying to see stars between the lights. These also was unsuccessful due to the short time the object was in view.

This phenomena was observed by at least one hundred people in and around Lubbock, Texas. Some of these people were of the opinion that the objects were birds reflecting lights from the city.

On the evening of 31 August 1951 at about 2330 CST, a college freshman from Texas Tech observed a flight of the unidentified objects pass over his home. The flight was observed through an open window. Upon observing the first flight of the objects, the observer obtained his camera and went into the backyard of his home in an attempt to get photographs of additional flights of the object. (Comment: This would be logical as by 31 August 1951 these flights of the objects, and the fact that several flights might occur in an evening, was well known.) Two more flights of the object allegedly did occur and were photographed. Two photos of one flight and three of another were obtained. AMIC has four of the negatives but the other one was lost or misplaced by the photographer. The photographs show a V-shaped formation of lights. In one photo a single-V of lights appear, while on three photos there is a double-V. The separate lights, which appear to be pinpoint light sources, vary in intensity.

(See Appendix II for possibly related incidents.)

II. STATUS OF THE INVESTIGATION

A. Trip to Lubbock, Texas

A trip was made to Lubbock, Texas, on 6-9 November 1951 to obtain more details on the incident. Many people who had seen the object or who were involved in the incident were interrogated. A conference was held with the college professors and they prepared a signed statement describing the objects they they observed.

The photographer was interrogated, in conjunction with OSI, in regard to the photographs of the objects. His account of the incident seemed logical, and there were no obvious indications of a hoax. The photographer had previously been interrogated by the Lubbock newspaper and the photos inspected by Associated Press and Life Magazine representatives. It was their opinion that the photos were not obviously a hoax. The college professors were doubtful as to whether or not the photographs were of the same objects that they had observed because:

1. They had never observed a V-shaped formation of lights. This is not too significant, however, as the arrangement of the lights that they observed varied and since there were several flights the college professors possibly did not see the flights that were photographed. In addition, the photographer states that the object appeared to be U-shaped but when he developed the negatives, the object was V-shaped.

2. The objects that the professors observed were, in their opinion, not bright enough to be photographed. This is, however, an estimate and could be in error.

It was found that one school of thought of the people in the Lubbock area was that the objects were some type of migratory birds reflecting light from the city. Several people reported that they definitely knew the objects were birds because they could see wings 'flapping'. It is very possible that some of the people who were looking for the object did see ducks as there were duck flights passing over during the period.

The college professors do not believe the theory that the objects were birds, but they are giving the possibility more thought. If they were birds, they would have to be relatively low to give the illusion of high speed. An occasional flight of birds might pass low over a city on a clear night but it is highly doubtful if they would continue to do this for several nights. Migratory birds usually try to keep away from cities.

The Federal Wild Life Game Warden was visited and although he was not familiar with the incident he doubted if the objects were birds. He stated that they could have been, however. The most likely suspect, if it is a bird, is a member of the Plover family which has a pure white breast, but unless there was a sudden influx of the birds into the Lubbock area, the game warden doubted if there would be enough of these birds to make up as many flights as were observed.

If the photos are authentic, the objects very probably are not ducks because an experienced photographer from the Lubbock Avalanche Newspaper attempted to get photos of ducks using both natural light and flash, but failed.

B. Analysis of Photos by Wright Air Development Center

The Photographic Reconnaissance Laboratory of WADC made a preliminary analysis of the photographs. The analysis was made by inspecting the negatives in a comparator microscope. Their conclusions were:

1. The images on the negatives were caused by light striking unexposed film, (i.e., the negatives were not retouched).

2. The individual lights in the "formation" varied in intensity.

3. The intensity was greater than any surrounding stars as the stars did not register. (The photos were taken under CAVU conditions.)

4. The individual lights changed position in the "formation".

C. Reinterrogation of the Photographer

The OSI was requested to reinterrogate the photographer in another attempt to determine the authenticity of the photographs. The details of this reinterrogation have not been received but a preliminary report stated that there were no indications that the photographs were not authentic.

D. Future Investigations

A trip to Lubbock, Texas, will be made during January. Arrangements are being made to have a Project Grudge consultant and a physicist accompany Project Grudge personnel. If the photographs are authentic, they are important in that:

1. They will give an accurate measurement of the "angular span".

2. The light source, although it appeared to be of low intensity to the eye, was highly actinic.

3. The movement of the individual lights in the formation can be studied further.

4. Density comparison tests can be made.

LUBBOCK, TEXAS
25 August 1951

On the evenings of 25 August 1951, 31 August 1951, and 1 September 1951, flights of unidentified objects were observed over Lubbock, Texas; in some instances there were several flights per evening. The description of the objects varied to some extent, but it is generally agreed that it was a "V" or "U" shaped set of light-like objects. Mr [redacted], an amateur photographer, turned over photographs to the Air Force which he claims are of two of the flights. Disagreement among the witnesses is on the number of lights in the arrangement and whether it was "V" or "U" shaped. The flight path was from NE to SW or N-S. The object appeared brighter than stars and had a yellow or blue tint. In most cases no noise was reported, but a few witnesses stated they heard a "whoosh."

Many witnesses reported the incident, but the most technically competent observers were probably Professor [redacted], Head of [redacted] Dr [redacted] Professor of [redacted], and Dr [redacted] Professor of [redacted], all of Texas Tech. In addition to being the most competent, these witnesses were among the first to see the object and viewed it on subsequent occasions under controlled circumstances. For their initial sighting the professors were gathered together discussing astronomy on the evening of 25 August 1951. At 2110 they happened to observe the first flight of the object, which they described as a rough semi-circle of lights. A second object passed over three minutes later. The witnesses estimated the angular velocity to be 30° per second. During subsequent observations the professors confirmed their estimate of the velocity by using protractors and stop watches. Attempts were also made to get an estimate of the elevation by viewing the object from several locations at the same time and using trigonometric methods, and also by using clouds of known height. These attempts were not considered successful.

In 1959 Dr J Allen Hynek contacted one of the professors at Texas Tech regarding this case. This professor informed Dr Hynek that he had conducted an extensive study of the Lubbock sighting and determined that they were definitely birds.

The Air Force conclusion is that birds, with street lights reflecting from them, were the probable cause of this sighting. The angular velocity of 30° per second seems rather high for birds during migratory flights (approximately 60 MPH at 168 feet altitude). It is probable that the angular velocity was less. In all instances the witnesses were located in an area where their eyes were probably dark adapted, therefore making the objects appear brighter.

Mr [redacted], when taking his pictures, had to do so by "panning" his camera (swinging with the object's motion). Panning is quite difficult and the relatively high degree of success of this photographer is further indication that the angular velocity of the object was not as high as estimated.

The kind of birds responsible for this sighting is not known, but it is highly probable that they were ducks or plovers. Since plovers do not usually fly in formations of more than six or seven, ducks become the more probable. The fact that this was late summer, and that the objects consistently flew to the south tends to substantiate the conclusion that the objects of this sighting were migratory birds.

LUBBOCK, TEXAS
25 August 1951

TAB (Left)	SUBJECT	DATE
A	Case Summaries	
B	Status Report	
C	Miscellaneous Correspondence	
D	Matador Texas Sighting	31 Aug 51

TAB (Right)		
A	Spot Intelligence Report	7 Sep 51
B	Initial Investigation	8 Oct 51
C	Ruppelt Trip Report	6-9 Nov 51
D	Statement of College Professors	21 Nov 51
E	Reinterrogation of Carl Hart	5 Dec 51
F	Photo Analysis Report	3 Dec 51
G	Photographs	

CASE #

25 Aug 51 Lubbock, Texas

The bulk of the following information is taken from photostatic copies of article from the Lubbock, Texas, Avalanche Journal, dates 26 August 1951, 28 August 1951, 1 September 1951, 2 September 1951 and 5 September 1951. The contents of these articles have been investigated and verified by the O.S.I. and Reece AFB officials.

On the evening of 25 August 1951, 31 August 1951 and 1 September 1951, flights of an unidentified object were observed over Lubbock, Texas, in some instances there were several flights.per evening. The description of the objects varies to some extent but it is generally agreed that it is a V or U shaped set of lights. Photos were obtained of 2 such flights. The photographer has been investigated and appears reliable. Disagreement on the description of the object isl in the number of lights, which varies from 50 to 18, and whether it was a V or U shape. The flight path was NE to SW or N to S. They were brighter than stars and yellowish or blue. In most cases there was an absence of noise, a few people heard a slight "whoosh".

The incident has aroused the populace of Lubbock and two theories have arisen. One is [redacted] that it is an aircraft; the other is that it is light reflecting off some type of migratory fowl.

Three college professors were gathered together discussing astronomy on the evening of 25 August 1951. They happened to be looking at a certain constellation when they observed the first flight at 2110. They described it as a rough semi-circle of lights. A second object passed over 3 minutes later. The men observed that there was no shock wave felt and they surmised that the object or objects must be above 50,000'. (Comment: NO shock or compression wave is felt due to high horizontal flights except at very low altitudes.) They could not judge the exact altitude or speed but agreed the [redacted] speed was very high.

ATIC Comment:

Lubbock, Texas

ATIC Comment:

The photographs were examined with negative results. All possibilities of airborne objects were examined with negative results.

Conclusion:

[redacted]

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LUBBOCK, TEXAS, INCIDENT

The bulk of the following information is taken from photostatic copies of article from the Lubbock, Texas, Avalanche Journal, dates 26 August 1951, 28 August 1951, 1 September 1951, 2 September 1951, and 5 September 1951. The contents of these articles have been investigated and verified by the O.S.I. and Reece AFB officials.

On the evening of 25 August 1951, 31 August 1951, and 1 September 1951, flights of an unidentified object were observed over Lubbock, Texas, in some instances there were several flights per evening. The description of the objects varies to some extent but it is generally agreed that it is a V or U-shaped set of lights. Photos were obtained of two such flights. (See inclosure #1.) The photographer, Mr. [redacted] has been investigated and appears reliable. Disagreement on the description of the object is in the number of lights, which varies from 50 to 18, and whether it was a V or U-shape. The flight path was NE to SW or N to S. They were brighter than stars and yellowish or blue. In most cases there was an absence of noise, a few people heard a slight "whoosh".

The incident has aroused the populace of Lubbock and two theories have arisen. One is that it is an aircraft; the other is that it is light reflecting off some type of migratory fowl.

A large number of people have witnessed the incident. The ones who have been named in reports are listed in inclosure #2, but many other unnamed people observed the incident on various nights. Probably the most technically competant observers were:

a. [redacted], Professor and Head of Petroleum Engineering Department at Texas Tech.

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b. Dr. [redacted] Professor of Chemical Engineering at Texas Tech.

c. Dr. [redacted] Professor of Geology at Texas Tech.

The above named observers have witnessed flights on several nights. They do not believe the bird theory, and stated that they have witnessed enough of the phenomena, or whatever it is, to make this decision. It is apparent from the information received by ATIC that this group attempted to approach the situation in a scientific manner.

The three college professors were gathered together discussing astronomy on the evening of 25 August 1951. They happened to be looking at a certain constellation when they observed the first flight at 2110. They described it as a rough semi-circle of lights. A second object passed over 3 minutes later. The men observed that there was no shock wave felt and they surmised that the object or objects must be above 50,000'. (Comment: No shock or compression wave is felt due to high horizontal flights except at very low altitudes.) They could not judge the exact altitude or speed but agreed the speed was very high.

The 5 September 1951 sighting was observed by a group of people with scientific backgrounds from the Texas Tech faculty. The group was unnamed but included six men with PhD degrees. They observed three flights and supposedly made measurements. Their counter to the migratory fowl theory is that:

a. There would not be enough light from reflections to obtain photographs of a bird in flight at night.. (Comment: Substantiated by the Photo Section of WADC.)

b. The speed is too great, a 120° arc in 3 seconds (See inclosure #3).

c. The object was sighted by Big Spring Texas Airport Officials from the airport, which was not lighted, so there could be no light to reflect.

d. In regard to the 120° arc, one flight was observed over a cloud that

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was at 2000'. The professors calculated that if the object were at 2000', the speed would be greater than 600/mph. (Comment: About 1000 mph)

Incidents that are possibly related to the Lubbock sightings were observed on 25 August 1951 and 31 August 1951.

On 25 August at 2158 MST, Mr. and Mrs. [redacted] of Albuquerque, New Mexico, sighted a "flying wing" type aircraft about 1 1/2 times the size of a B-36 over Albuquerque. The wings were swept back approximately 15 degrees and they noticed "soft glowing lights" on the trailing edge of the wing. There was no sound. It appeared to be going generally N to S. Mr. [redacted] is considered by O.S.I. to be completely reliable. The possibility of aircraft in area was checked and is negative.

At 1245 CST, Mrs. [redacted] and her daughter, Mrs. [redacted], were driving their automobile a few miles north of Matador, Texas. Mrs. [redacted] and then Mrs. [redacted] observed an object drifting slowly in an easterly direction. (Comment: Wind was ENE at 3 knots making the object go into the wing.) The object was about 150' altitude and 200' in front of the automobile. It was pear-shaped and judged to be 150' high, 40' wide and 18' long. The ladies stopped the car and got out. The object was pear-shaped, aluminum or silver in color, with a window or part. It ascended rapidly, small end up, with a circular motion. There was no smoke or sound. Mrs. Tilson has been checked by O.S.I. and appears to be reliable.

On 26 August 1951 another incident occurred which although not being in the Texas - New Mexico area may have a bearing on the incident. At 0836 PST (0636 CST) a ground radar type AN/CPS-1 and an AN/CPS-4 picked up a fast moving target. The target was observed twice for a few seconds. The object

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was plotted at 13,000' making a ground speed of 948 mph. The signals, however, were weak and their true identity was doubtful. The operator, an AF Captain, has had a great deal of experience and is completely reliable. The F-86's were scrambled by radar last contact before the fighters were airborne. They made a visual search with no success. The weather did not favor anomalous propagation.

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WEATHER

Lubbock, Texas - 2300 CST - 30 August 1951
Thin scattered clouds at 28,000' visibility
15 miles plus, wind SSE at 5 knots.

Reese AFB - 1230 CST - 31 August 1951
Broken clouds at 6000'. Thin broken
clouds at 25,000'. Visibility 15 miles
ENE 3 knots.

Childress, Texas - 1230 CST - 31 August 1951
Overcast at 25,000'. Visibility 15 miles.
Wind NNE 7 knots.

Lubbock, Texas - 2330 CST - 1 September 1951
Clear.
Visibility 15 miles plus.
Wind SE at 4 knots.

- -

Sunset during period 25 August to 5 September about
1825 CST; duration of twilight is about 25 minutes.

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1. Report states "objects were seen in Amarillo, Big Spring, Lamesa, Brown Field and other Panhandle - South Plains cities."

   Check these to see if description, course, and speed are about the same. Newspapers are probably a good source. Try to plot a track, Check Big Spring Airport people.

2. Report states that six PhDs observed the flights. What was their opinion and did they make any measurements?

3. Article stated that the object transversed a 120° arc in two seconds. Confirm this. How was arc measured? What chance of error?

4. Was ground around spot where Mrs. [redacted] and Mrs. [redacted] saw object examined?

5. Get weather for all nights?

6. Were ducks seen in daytime?

7. Did Mrs. [redacted] and Mrs. [redacted] hear about Lubbock incident before their sighting?

8. Do whirl winds go with the wind, into it, or any special direction in relation to wind? "Was drifting slowly cast"? "Began rapid ascent to cast"? (Wind was NE 3-5 knots.)

9. What is possibility of hoax started by college professors? Assume they wanted to start a Mass Hysteric experiment. Since they are supposedly qualified, their statements would go over big. Maybe they planted the photos with [redacted].

10. Attempt to get angle at which [redacted] shot the picture. How about clouds, above or below?

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

Appendix I

LUBBOCK, TEXAS - 25 August 1951 Status Report #1

The first of a series of sightings related to this incident occurred the evening of 25 August 1951 at approximately 2110 CST. Four Texas Technical College professors were sitting in the backyard of one of the professor's homes observing meteorites in conjunction with a study of micrometeorites being carried out by the college. At 2110 they observed a group of lights pass overhead from N to S. The lights had about the same intensity as a bright star but were larger in area. The altitude was not determined but they traveled at a high rate of speed. The pattern of the lights was almost a perfect semicircle containing from 20 to 30 individual lights. Later in the evening a similar incident was observed and during a period of about three weeks a total of approximately twelve (12) such flights were observed by these men.

The group of men included:

a. The Head of the [redacted] Department
b. Professor of [redacted], has Ph.D.
c. Professor of [redacted], has Ph.D.
d. Professor of [redacted], has Ph.D.

Besides the above four men the following have observed the incidents:

a. Professor of [redacted], has Ph.D.
b. Graduate student working on Ph.D.

In addition, a Professor of Astronomy was consulted on the incident, but he did not observe any of these flights.

The above mentioned men took a personal interest in the phenomena and undertook a study of the objects. Attempts were made to obtain an altitude measurement by laying out a measured base line perpendicular to the usual flight path of the object and placing angle measuring devices at the end of the base line, however, all their attempts failed because the objects did not appear on the nights the observers were waiting for them.

From the series of observations, the following facts were obtained:

a. The angular velocity of the object was very nearly 30° of arc per second.

b. There was no sound that could be attributed to the object.

c. The flight path of the object was from N to S in the majority of the flights.

d. There were two or three flights per evening.

e. The period between flights was about one hour and 10 minutes.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

f. The color of the lights was blue-white.

g. There were from 20 to 30 separate lights in each formation.

h. The first two flights observed were a semi-circle of lights but in subsequent flights there was no orderly arrangement.

i. The object always appeared at an angle of about 50° from horizontal in the north and disappeared at about 60° in the south. The object did not gradually come into view as would an aircraft approaching from a distance, neither did it gradually disappear.

j. There was no apparent change in size as the object passed overhead.

Attempts were made to obtain the relative height of the object in respect to clouds. However, these attempts were also unsuccessful due to the fact that the objects passed between widely scattered clouds.

Efforts to determine whether or not there was any form between the lights by trying to see stars between the lights were made. This also was unsuccessful due to the short time the object was in view.

This phenomena was observed by at least one hundred people in and around Lubbock, Texas. Some of these people were of the opinion that the objects were birds.

On the evening of 31 August 1951, at about 2330 CST, a college freshman from Texas Tech observed three flights of the object and allegedly obtained five photographs. He obtained two photos of one flight and three of another. These photos show single rows of light in V-formation on two photos and a double row on the others. His description of the object is much the same as that of the college professors, except that the college professors never observed a perfect V-formation.

(See Appendix II and V for possibly related incidents.)

Status of the Investigation

Project Grudge personnel made a trip to Lubbock, Texas, on 6-9 November 1951 to obtain more details on the incident. Many sources who had seen the object or who were involved in the sighting were interrogated. A conference was held with the college professors and they offered to write a detailed account of their observations and forward it to ATIC. This report should be forthcoming.

The photographer who claims to have photographed the object was interrogated. Every effort was made to find a flaw in the photographer's account of the incident but the results were negative. The college professors did not believe the photographs were authentic as they had never observed a V-shaped group of lights. They were not sure, however, whether or not they had observed the same objects that were photographed. Since the interrogation, two

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discrepencies in the photos have been found and the photographer is being reinterrogated by the O.S.I.

One school of thought of the people in the Lubbock area is that the objects were some type of migratory birds reflecting light from the city. Several people reported that they definitely knew the objects were ducks because they could see wings flapping. It is very possible that some of the people who were looking for the object did see ducks as there were duck flights passing over during the period. It is significant that those people who saw ducks were definitely able to identify the objects as ducks, or some type of bird, because they could see the wings or heard them make a noise, however, other people were just as determined that they were not birds. The possible conclusion is that some people did see birds, but others saw some other objects.

The college professors do not believe the theory that the objects were birds, but they are giving the possibility more thought. If they were birds, they would have to be relatively low to give the illusion of high speed. An occasional flight of birds might pass low over a city on a clear night but it is highly doubtful if they would continue to do this for several nights. Migratory birds usually try to keep away from cities.

The Federal Wild Life Game Warden was visited and although he was not familiar with the incident he doubted if the objects were birds. He stated that they could have been, however. The most likely suspect, if it is a bird, is a member of the Plover family which has a pure white breast, but unless there was a sudden influx of the birds into the Lubbock area, the game warden doubted if there would be enough of these birds to make up as many flights as were observed.

If the photos are authentic, the objects very probably are not ducks because an experienced photographer from the Lubbock Avalanche Newspaper attempted to get photos of ducks using both natural light and flash, but failed.

The investigation of this incident is continuing. It is probably the most unique incident in the history of Project Grudge in that it was observed so many times by a scientifically trained group of observers. These people are continuing to attempt to arrive at a solution for the phenomena. They had previously lost interest after several weeks of observations because they believed that the object was some new Air Force aircraft or missile.

The photographs are now at the Photographic Reconnaissance Laboratory at Wright Air Development Center for analysis.

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Status Report #2

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DOD DIR 5200.10

Appendix I

LUBBOCK, TEXAS - 25 August 1951

I. DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT

The first of a series of sightings related to this incident occurred the evening of 25 August 1951 at approximately 2110 CST. Four Texas Technical College professors were sitting in the backyard of one of the professor's homes observing meteorites in conjunction with a study of micrometeorites being carried out by the college. At 2120 they observed a group of lights pass overhead from N to S. The lights had about the same intensity as high cirus clouds on a moonlight night. The altitude was not determined but they traveled at a high rate of speed. The pattern of the lights was almost a perfect semi-circle containing from 20 to 30 individual lights. Later in the evening a similar incident was observed and during a period of about three weeks a total of approximately twelve (12) such flights were observed by these men.

The group of men included:

a. The Head of the [redacted] Department
b. Professor of [redacted], has PhD.
c. Professor of [redacted] has PhD.
d. Professor of [redacted] has PhD.

Besides the above four men, the following have observed the incidents:

a. Professor of [redacted], has PhD.
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In addition, a Professor of Astronomy was consulted on the incident, but he did not observe any of these flights.

The above mentioned men took a personal interest in the phenomena and undertook a study of the objects. Attempts were made to obtain an altitude measurement by laying out a measured base line perpendicular to the usual flight path of the object and placing angle measuring devices at the end of the base line, however, all their attempts failed because the objects did not appear on the nights the observers were waiting for them.

From the series of observations, the following facts were obtained:

a. The angular velocity of the object was very nearly 30° of arc per second.

b. There was no sound that could be attributed to the object.

c. The flight path of the object was from N to S in the majority of the flights although some were NE to SW.

d. On several nights there were two or three flights.

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e. The color of the lights was blue-green.

f. There were from 15 to 30 separate lights in each formation.

g. The first two flights observed were a semi-circle of lights but in subsequent flights there was no orderly arrangement.

h. The object always appeared at an angle of about 45° from horizontal in the north and disappeared at about 45° in the south. The object did not gradually come into view as would an aircraft approaching from a distance, neither did it gradually disappear.

i. There was no apparent change in size as the object passed overhead.

j. The "angular span" was estimated to be 10°.

Attempts were made to obtain the relative height of the object in respect to clouds. However, these attempts were also unsuccessful due to the fact that the objects passed between widely scattered clouds.

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This phenomena was observed by at least one hundred people in and around Lubbock, Texas. Some of these people were of the opinion that the objects were birds reflecting lights from the city.

On the evening of 31 August 1951 at about 2330 CST, a college freshman from Texas Tech observed a flight of the unidentified objects pass over his home. The flight was observed through an open window. Upon observing the first flight of the objects, the observer obtained his camera and went into the backyard of his home in an attempt to get photographs of additional flights of the object. (Comment: This would be logical as by 31 August 1951 these flights of the objects, and the fact that several flights might occur in an evening, was well known.) Two more flights of the object allegedly did occur and were photographed. Two photos of one flight and three of another were obtained. ATIC has four of the negatives but the other one was lost or misplaced by the photographer. The photographs show a V-shaped formation of lights. In one photo a single-V of lights appear, while on three photos there is a double-V. The separate lights, which appear to be pinpoint light sources, vary in intensity.

(See Appendix II for possibly related incidents.)

II. STATUS OF THE INVESTIGATION

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A. Trip to Lubbock, Texas

A trip was made to Lubbock, Texas, on 6-9 November 1951 to obtain more details on the incident. Many people who had seen the object or who were involved in the incident were interrogated. A conference was held with the college professors and they prepared a signed statement describing the objects they they observed.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

The photographer was interrogated, in conjunction with OSI, in regard to the photographs of the objects. His account of the incident seemed logical, and there were no obvious indications of a hoax. The photographer had previously been interrogated by the Lubbock newspaper and the photos inspected by Associated Press and Life Magazine representatives. It was their opinion that the photos were not obviously a hoax. The college professors were doubtful as to whether or not the photographs were of the same objects that they had observed because:

1. They had never observed a V-shaped formation of lights. This is not too significant, however, as the arrangement of the lights that they observed varied and since there were several flights the college professors possibly did not see the flights that were photographed. In addition, the photographer states that the object appeared to be U-shaped but when he developed the negatives, the object was V-shaped.

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It was found that one school of thought of the people in the Lubbock area was that the objects were some type of migratory birds reflecting light from the city. Several people reported that they definitely knew the objects were birds because they could see wings 'flapping'. It is very possible that some of the people who were looking for the object did see ducks as there were duck flights passing over during the period.

The college professors do not believe the theory that the objects were birds, but they are giving the possibility more thought. If they were birds, they would have to be relatively low to give the illusion of high speed. An occasional flight of birds might pass low over a city on a clear night but it is highly doubtful if they would continue to do this for several nights. Migratory birds usually try to keep away from cities.

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B. Analysis of Photos by Wright Air Development Center

The Photographic Reconnaissance Laboratory of WADC made a preliminary analysis of the photographs. The analysis was made by inspecting the negatives in a comparator microscope. Their conclusions were:

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1. The images on the negatives were caused by light striking unexposed film, (i.e., the negatives were not retouched).

2. The individual lights in the "formation" varied in intensity.

3. The intensity was greater than any surrounding stars as the stars did not register. (The photos were taken under CAVU conditions.)

4. The individual lights changed position in the "formation".

C. Reinterrogation of the Photographer

The OSI was requested to reinterrogate the photographer in another attempt to determine the authenticity of the photographs. The details of this reinterrogation have not been received but a preliminary report stated that there were no indications that the photographs were not authentic.

D. Future Investigations

A trip to Lubbock, Texas, will be made during January. Arrangements are being made to have a Project Grudge consultant and a physicist accompany Project Grudge personnel. If the photographs are authentic, they are important in that:

1. They will give an accurate measurement of the "angular span".

2. The light source, although it appeared to be of low intensity to the eye, was highly actinic.

3. The movement of the individual lights in the formation can be studied further.

4. Density comparison tests can be made.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

UP - Flash thru P10

LUBBOCK, TEXAS, AUG 27 ——TWO STRANGE FORMATIONS LIKE "STRINGS OF BEADS IN CRESCENT SHAPE" HURTLED THROUGH THE SKY OVER LUBBOCK AT A SPEED WHICH CARRIED THEM FROM HORIZON TO HORIZON IN THREE SECONDS, THREE TEXAS TECH COLLEGE PROFESSORS SAID TODAY. THE WEIRD FORMATIONS WERE REPORTED BY W. L. DUCKER, HEAD OF THE TECH PETROLEUM ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, WHO SAID "IF I HADN'T HAD CONFIRMING WITNESSES PRESENT, I FEEL SURE I WOULD HAVE SAID NOTHING ABOUT WHAT I SAW."

DUCKER SAID HE AND DR. A. G. BERT, PROFESSOR OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERING, WERE RELAXING AT THE HOME OF DR. W. I. ROBINSON, GEOLOGY PROFESSOR, SATURDAY NIGHT, WHEN THE "STRING OF BEADS" WHIPPED ACROSS THE HEAVENS.

"WE FELT NO SHOCK WAVES, SUCH AS AN OBJECT MOVING AT SUCH HIGH SPEEDS IN THE LOWER ATMOSPHERE WOULD GIVE OFF," DUCKER SAID, " AND THE ABSENCE OF SUCH WAVES WOULD INDICATE THE FORMATION WAS FLYING IN THE STRATOSPHERE, 50,000 FEET ABOVE THE EARTH OR HIGHER."

THE THREE PROFESSORS AGREED THAT PASSAGE OF THE OBJECTS ACROSS THE ARC OF THE SKY REQUIRED ABOUT THREE SECONDS. WITH THAT TIME BASIS, DUCKER SAID, "WE FIGURED THE SPEED MUST HAVE BEEN 1,800 MILES PER HOUR IF THE OBJECTS WERE A MILE HIGH."

IF THEY WERE AT 50,000 FEET, DUCKER SAID, THE SPEED MUST HAVE BEEN ABOUT 18,000 MILES PER HOUR.

THE PROFESSORS SAID THEY COULD NOT DETERMINE SHAPE OF THE OBJECTS BECAUSE OF THE SPEED, BUT THAT EACH GAVE OFF A GLOW OF REFLECTED LIGHT.

AUTHORITIES AT REESE AIR FORCE BASE NEAR HERE SAID NO JET PLANES WERE IN THE AREA AT TIME OF THE SIGHTING. THERE APPEARED TO BE NO ADDITIONAL WITNESSES TO THE PHENOMENOM.

END

5:18:6

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET
AUTH: CO, ATIC
BY: Lt Col N.R.Rosengarten
DATE: 11 Sep 1951

CO, ATIC

121230Z Sep 51

PRIORITY

Commanding Officer
Carswell Air Force Base
Fort Worth, Texas

TELETYPE

x

OSI Ltr 24-0 9-7-51

Reference OSI Letter 24-0 dated 7 September 1951 to DSI, Hq USAF, concerning unidentified aircraft at Lubbock, Texas. Request A-2 forward by air mail as expeditiously as possible form 112 on subjects [redacted], Mrs. [redacted], Mrs. [redacted]; if possible forward by air mail original negatives of photographs [redacted], is stated to have taken. In reply Cite ATIAA-2A, Grudge.

518.6

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DOD DIR 5200.10

51S-128603 -4

1 1

Lt J.W.Cummings

MURRAH S. STURGIS, Capt, USAF

ATIAA-2A

52270

Air Adjutant General

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24-0 7 September 1951
SUBJECT: Unidentified Objects in Flight over Lubbock, Texas

stated that they gave off a glow which could have been created from the lights of the city below. The formation of objects allegedly crossed the sky from horizon to horizon in three seconds. Calculations made by these professors were to the effect that had the formation of objects been flying at an altitude of one mile from earth, their speed would have been 1800 miles an hour, or at 50,000 feet of altitude, their speed would have been nearer 18,000 miles per hour. No shock waves were felt, according to Mr. [redacted], who stated that the absence of shock waves would indicate that the formation was flying in the stratosphere, above 50,000 feet. Dr. [redacted] estimated that there were 50 of the strange objects. A second group of such objects allegedly passed over the sky approximately three minutes later. One [redacted] head of the Journalism Department at Texas Technological College, also reported that several nights prior to the observations of Professors [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] he had observed a similar flight of objects over Lubbock, Texas, and described them in a similar manner as did the three professors. On Monday, 27 August 1951, according to news sources, four additional witnesses verified the reports of the three professors from the college at Lubbock. These persons were: Mrs. [redacted], Mrs. [redacted], Mrs. [redacted] and Professor [redacted] associate professor of German at Texas Technological College. These four witnesses allegedly verified the time of the reported incident as being 2110 hours CST.

On 30 August 1951, one [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, snapped photographs of what was purported to be the unidentified objects in flight over Lubbock, Texas. These photographs showed the unidentified objects as a double row of dots in a rough V-formation. A second photograph made by Mr. [redacted] shows the objects having shifted into a single line formation, maintaining however the original V-shape. [redacted] advised that he had shot the two photographs with a 35 mm. camera. No other information was available as to exposure, type of film, or other technical data. Between 2040 and 2237 hours CST, 31 August 1951, similar objects were reportedly seen over Lubbock on three separate occasions. Numerous calls were received by the editorial office of the Lubbock Morning Avalanche, in which various persons alleged sightings of the strange objects. All reports, according to the news source, describe the objects as flying in V-shaped or U-shaped formation passing directly overhead through the sky within three to seven seconds. The number of such objects ranged from eight or nine to "20 or 30". The course of flight of the objects on 30 and 31 August 1951, was allegedly a general direction from north to south. The objects were variously described as being the color of stars, or shades of blue or yellow.

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24-0 7 September 1951
SUBJECT: Unidentified Objects in Flight over Lubbock, Texas

At Matador, Texas, two women, Mrs. [redacted] and her daughter, Mrs. [redacted], were alleged to have observed a "wingless" type aircraft traveling at a low altitude and at a low speed. This craft allegedly passed within 150 feet of Mrs. [redacted] automobile, then rose rapidly and was out of sight within a few minutes. Mrs. [redacted] and Mrs. [redacted] were alleged to have reported being near enough to the unidentified object to observe one door or porthole in the metal side of the aircraft. Since the initial sighting of the alleged objects, many reports similar in nature have been received by the editorial offices of the Lubbock Avalanche Journal, and according to this news source, speculation as to the nature of the phenomenon apparently is causing numerous other reported sightings.

3. ACTION: Attached for information of your Headquarters are newspaper clippings concerning this phenomenon, and no further action is being taken at this time. In accordance with provisions of AFCSI Letter No. 85, dated 23 October 1950, copies of this report are being forwarded directly to Headquarters Air Materiel Command.

JAMES C. SCHOFIELD
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

4 Incls
1-4 News clippings fr
Lubbock Avalanche Journal
& Morning Avalanche, Lubbock

cc: Hq AMC

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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

IN REPLY REFER TO: 5D 24-21

26 October 1951

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unidentified Objects in Flight
Over Lubock, Texas
SPECIAL INQUIRY

[redacted]
Auth CG USAF
Ltr RAS
Date 26 OCT 1951

TO: Commanding Officer
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: ATIAA

1. Attached hereto for your information are two copies of the report of investigation by Special Agent HOWARD N. BOSSERT, 23d OSI District, file 24-84, dated 8 October 1951, subject as above.

2. This investigation is continuing, and subsequent reports will be furnished your headquarters upon receipt of same in this office.

3. Attention is invited to paragraph 7, AFR 205-1, dated 14 March 1949, which prohibits the disclosure of classified information to unauthorized personnel.

Reagan A. Scurlock
REAGAN A. SCURLOCK
Lt Colonel, USAF
Acting District Commander

1 Incl (in dup)
R/I, DO #23, dtd 8 Oct 51

Copy to:
Hq OSI

When Inclosure No. 1 is withdrawn or not attached, the classification of [redacted] on this correspondence will be downgraded to [redacted] in accordance with par 25e, AFR 205-1.

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51S-156260

[redacted]

AIR FORCE-WPAFB-L-9 APR 51 15M

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-84

DATE 8 October 1951

REPORT MADE BY S/A HOWARD H. DOSSERT VS

REPORT MADE AT DO #23, Carswell AFB

PERIOD 17, 18, 20, 21 September 1951

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #23, Carswell AFB

STATUS PENDING

SECRET, AUTH CS USAF [signature], 3 Oct 51.

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT, Unidentified Objects in Flight Over Lubbock, Texas

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Spot Intelligence Report, DO #23, File 24-0, dated 7 September 1951.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation predicated upon verbal request of Air Provost Marshal and Base Intelligence Officer, Reese Air Force Base, Texas, 17 September 1951, based upon classified TWX from Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, passed to the Commanding Officer, Reese AFB, Texas, through 23rd OSI District Office, Carswell AFB, Texas. TWX requested A-2 accomplish investigation concerning reported unidentified objects sighted over Lubbock, Texas during latter part of August 1951, and reported to Headquarters OSI by 23rd OSI District via Spot Intelligence Report, file 24-0, dated 7 September 1951, copies of which were furnished to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command. Mrs. [redacted], Matador, Texas reported a pear shaped object flying at approximately 200 feet in front of her automobile, five miles north of Matador, Texas, at 1245 hours, 31 August 1951. This object rapidly ascended following her observation and moved away to the east in a circular pattern. Mrs. [redacted] advised the unidentified object moved with the smaller end forward. No sign of exhaust or noise heard according to [redacted]. Weather report, Reese AFB for 1230 hours, 31 August 1951, showed ceiling 6000 feet, with broken clouds, visibility 15 miles, temperature 87 degrees, and wind from the east northeast at three knots per hour. This object also observed by Mrs. [redacted] daughter, Mrs. [redacted] Lawton, Oklahoma. Mrs. [redacted] not available for interview. Local inquiry at Matador revealed Mrs. [redacted] to be reputable citizen in community. [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, interviewed at 1945 hours, 20 September 1951, and advised that on 30 August 1951, at 2330 hours, he observed a formation of lighted objects passing overhead at great speed. Two more formations passed over [redacted] residence and photographs were obtained by [redacted]. Formations appeared in a loose V or U shape, and the objects gave forth a glow rather than a direct light. Negatives of

DISTRIBUTION

Hq OSI	4
CG, Air Materiel Comd (thru Hq OSI)	2
CO, Reese AFB (Info)	1
DO #11	2
File	2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Unauthorized disclosure of information contained in this report is prohibited and will be considered a violation of AFR 205-1 and AFR 205-6.

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APPROVED

[signature]
JAMES C. SCHOFIELD
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

FILE STAMP

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This is copy #2 of 11 copies

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

ARRTC

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Synopsis (Continued)

photographs taken by [redacted] obtained by Reese AFB Intelligence Officer and forwarded in his report to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command. [redacted] averred he heard no noise and saw no exhaust from the objects. Weather observation, Lubbock, Texas, reflected that at 2330 hours, 30 August 1951, a high line of clouds at 28,000 feet, visibility 15 miles, temperature 73 degrees, and wind south southeast at eight MPH. [redacted] stated he observed two more formations pass over Lubbock at approximately 2330 hours, 1 September 1951. Technical data pertaining to [redacted] photographs obtained and set forth in details.

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AA

1-A

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24-54

DETAILS:

1. Investigation predicated upon verbal request from Air Provost Marshal and Base Intelligence Officer, Reese Air Force Base, Texas, 17 September 1951, based upon receipt of classified TWX from Commanding General, Air Material Command, Wright- Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, relayed to Commanding Officer, Reese AFB, by District Commander, 23rd OSI District, Carswell AFB, Texas, requesting that the A-2 Section, Reese AFB, Texas accomplish investigation and submit report direct to the Commanding General, Air Material Command as prescribed in AF Regulation 200-15, pertaining to the sighting of Unidentified Objects in Flight over Lubbock, Texas. These incidents were previously reported to Headquarters OSI by District Office No. 23, Carswell AFB, Texas, in Spot Intelligence Report, dated 7 September 1951, Subject: Unidentified Objects in Flight over Lubbock, Texas.

AT REESE AFB, TEXAS

2. 1st Lt JOHN A. FARLEY, Assistant Wing Intelligence Officer, Reese AFB, was designated to accomplish the report desired by the Commanding General, Air Material Command and requested any possible assistance from the Office of Special Investigations in the furtherance of the mission.

AT LUBBOCK, TEXAS

3. On 27 September 1951, the writer accompanied by FARLEY met with the editor of the Avalanche Journal newspaper of Lubbock, Texas, Mr. CHARLES GUY, who, without any questions, assisted in obtaining available copies of the paper containing the necessary information to thoroughly acquaint FARLEY with the scope of the required investigation. Those copies of the newspaper not available were photographed in privacy.

AT REESE AFB, TEXAS

4. Due to the classification of SECRET imposed by the Commanding General, Air Material Command, on mentioned TWX and the same classification held by AF Regulation 200-15, for the preparation of the A-2 report all of the newspaper items were photographed, developed and printed in five (5) copies only, using one (1) negative for each reproduction. These reproductions are marked in dated order of publishing, as Inclosures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and are attached as part of this report.

AT MATADOR, TEXAS

5. The sighting of an unknown aerial object over U. S. Highway 70, approximately two and one-half miles north of the town of Matador, Texas was reported to the local Matador newspaper on 31 August 1951.

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by a Mrs. [redacted] who resides on a small ranch five miles north of Matador, Texas on U. S. Highway 70. This incident was reprinted in the Lubbock Morning Avalanche, 1 September 1951, under the Matador heading of 31 August 1951. (See Inclosure No. 4)

6. At 1245 hours, 18 September 1951, accompanied by Lt FARLEY, the writer interviewed Mr. [redacted], who stated that at approximately 1245 hours (CST) 31 August 1951, as she and her daughter, Mrs. [redacted] of Lawton, Oklahoma, who was visiting at home, were driving to the [redacted] ranch, located about five miles north of Matador, Texas, on U. S. Highway 70, their attention was attracted by a strange aerial object drifting across U. S. Highway 70. Mrs. [redacted] who was driving, first noticed the object and it was apparently a few seconds before she drew Mrs. [redacted] attention to it. [redacted] stated that when she saw the object, it was drifting slowly in an easterly direction about 150 feet above the terrain and approximately 200 feet in front of their car. About the time [redacted] saw the object, it began a rapid ascent and moved away in a few seconds to the east in a circular ascent.

The object was described by [redacted] as being pear shaped in appearance, (to quote "like a yellow pear shaped tomato") aluminum or silver in color, and that the object readily reflected the sunlight. The object had a port, window, door or a similar aperture, located at a point where the object began to taper toward the smaller end. One object only was seen, and it moved through the air with the small end forward. She stated the sun was shining brightly with little or no wind.

Mrs. [redacted] stopped the car and got out and both then realized there was no noise, no sign of exhaust, no smoke, no wings were visible, nor was any visible means of propulsion observed. [redacted] stated she could not estimate the speed of the object except that it went up rapidly in a curving angle east and in a few seconds was out of her sight. [redacted] did not get out of the car and lost sight of the object as it ascended due to her limited vision inside the car. [redacted] was certain the object was not a balloon. She compared the size of the object, to the best of her knowledge, as comparable to the Matador railway freight shed or perhaps larger. The Matador freight shed was examined and measure approximately 48 feet by 18 feet.

Mrs. [redacted] then stated she had judged the height of the object above ground to have been approximately 150 feet by comparison with "Bob's Oil Well", a well known landmark, which is an oil derrick combined with a gasoline filling station located in the city limits of Matador, on U. S. Highway 70. To her knowledge, no other persons observed the object.

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2h-5h

Mrs. [redacted] stated her daughter has since returned to Lawton, Oklahoma and furnished the full name and address as follows:

Mrs. [redacted]
[redacted]
Lawton, Oklahoma

Mrs. [redacted] furnished the following information concerning herself:

Name: [redacted]
Born: 1895 at Old Fort Sill, Oklahoma
Age: 56 years
Residence: [redacted] - (5 miles north of Matador, Texas on U. S. Highway 70) Has lived for 34 years at Matador, Texas
Marital Status: Married
Husband: [redacted], rancher.

7. An examination of the location described by [redacted] was made, and it was observed that the terrain to the west of U. S. Highway 70 is rolling land for about 10 to 12 miles (est) to a line of foothills. The land is sparsely to moderately heavily wooded by mesquite with the first 300 yards open flat terrain. The land to the east is fairly flat for approximately 20 to 30 miles, sparsely wooded and the first 1000 to 1200 yards is open terrain. Inquiry was made at "Bob's Oil Well" gas station and disclosed that the derrick is 98 feet in height with an advertising sign on top of approximately 22 feet, or a total overall height of 120 feet.

8. Discreet inquiry of Mr. RICHARDS, Vice-President and Cashier for a number of years of the Matador State Bank, disclosed that both [redacted] and [redacted] are reputable citizens and have an excellent character and credit reputation in the community.

9. Observation of Mrs. [redacted] shows a mature white female in her middle fifties, educated and courteous. She is in full possession of all her mental faculties and was straight forward in all her answers and explanations.

10. Reese AFB, Texas weather observation for 1230 hours, 31 August 1951, was as follows:

> Estimated ceiling 6000 feet, broken clouds, thin broken clouds at 25,000 feet, visibility 15 miles, temperature 87 degrees, dew point 60 degrees, wind from the east northeast at 3 knots per hour.

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24-24

The 1230 hours observation at Childress, Texas shows:

Estimated ceiling 25,000 feet, overcase, visibility 15 miles plus, temperature 90 degrees, dew point 66 degrees, wind from the north northeast at 7 knots per hour, towering cumulus in the southeast quadrant.

AT LUBBOCK, TEXAS

11. The sighting of unidentified objects and the subsequent pictures taken of these objects in formation at Lubbock, Texas by [redacted], [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, a college freshman, appeared in the Morning Avalanche newspaper of 1 September 1951. (See Inclosure No. 3)

12. At 1945 hours, 20 September 1951, [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, was interviewed at his residence by the writer and Lt. FARLEY. [redacted] stated that on the night of 30 August 1951, about 2330 hours (CST) he was lying in bed watching the stars and noticed a formation of unidentified aerial objects pass over the house. Being a camera "bug", he secured his camera, a 35 MM Kodak equipped with a range finder and went into the back yard. At about 2332 hours he saw a second formation of the same type objects passing overhead and took two (2) pictures, inclosed as Inclosures No. 7 and 8. Almost at once, at about 2334 hours, the third formation passed over and [redacted] obtained three (3) more pictures, two (2) are inclosed as Inclosures No. 9 and 10. [redacted] was unable to locate the other negative but stated it was almost identical to Inclosure No. 9. [redacted] stated that the aerial objects looked to be at a great height and passed from sight within a space of from three (3) to four (4) seconds.

AGENT'S NOTE: The view in the back yard is restricted, a line of trees obscuring vision to the north and the house preventing vision to the south.

13. [redacted] could not estimate the altitude but stated that all formations looked as if they were approximately the same high altitude. The objects had a brilliance like reflected light but did not glitter. Each object looked like a white stick or a rapidly moving light, white in color, did not twinkle like a star but rather had a glow comparable to the moon. [redacted] estimated that each formation contained 18 or 20 objects and traveled in a U or rough V formation. [redacted] stated that the first group looked like a single line formation, the second and third groups same as the first.

AGENT'S NOTE: Development of the negatives obtained from [redacted] shows (Negative #4, see Inclosure No. 7) a double line formation as do Inclosures No. 8 and No. 9 (Negatives #5 and #7); however, Inclosure No. 10

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(Negative #8) shows a single line. The 35 MM negatives furnished by [redacted] were badly scratched and extreme care was taken in the enlarging process. The negatives were turned over to the Reese AFB Assistant Intelligence Officer, 1st Lt JOHN FARLEY for inclusion in his report as requested by the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command.

14. According to [redacted] the objects in the formations kept shifting position but he was not too certain of that fact. [redacted] was emphatic in his assertion that there was no noise, no exhaust reflections, or any visual means of propulsion within his scope of sight or hearing. He could make no approximation of the size of the objects due to the great altitude.

15. [redacted] stated that the weather was clear with very little wind. The Lubbock, Texas weather observation at 2330 hours for 30 August 1951, was listed as: Thin scattered clouds at 28,000 feet, visibility 15 miles plus, temperature 78 degrees, dew point 56 degrees, with wind from the south southeast at eight MPH.

16. [redacted] stated that on 1 September 1951, he saw two more formations pass over Lubbock, approximate time 2320 hours, with about a two minute interval between the formations. [redacted] did not get any photographs of these formations, but said the passage was identical, except that the objects seemed to be at a much greater altitude and although the formations passed over Lubbock in about the same position as before, the course seemed to be from the northwest to the southeast. Each group looked to be a single line formation.

17. The Lubbock, Texas weather observation at 2330 hours, 1 September 1951 was: Clear, visibility 15 miles plus, temperature 77 degrees, dew point 61 degrees, wind from the southeast at six MPH.

18. [redacted] photographic equipment was checked by the writer, and information was obtained relative to the photographs taken on 30 August 1951.

Date: Thursday, 30 August 1951
Time: 11:30 PM (CST) 2330 and 2332 hours
Camera: Kodak, 35 MM with range finder (Model number not shown)
Film: Type PLUS X
Lens: Kodak Anastor F3.5 50 MM ES 553196L
Exposure: F3.5 at 1/10 of a second
Developing Solution: Panthermic 777
Tank: Roll Film, Hard Rubber, Clean
Developing Time: 15 minutes
Washing Solution: Speed S
Dryer: Electric Flat Plate
Printer: Federal Enlarger #269 35 MM to 4 X 5
Paper: Bromide F-1 Single Edge

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24-84

19. Description of [redacted]

Full Name: [redacted]
Address: [redacted] Lubbock, Texas
Nationality: United States
Race: White
Sex: Male
Age: 18 years
Birth: 24 March 1933, at Lubbock, Texas
Father: [redacted]
Mother: [redacted] nee [redacted]
Marital Status: Single
Occupation: Student - Freshman at Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas
Height: 5' 11"
Weight: 155 lbs.
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Blond - Cut short - Crew cut style
Complexion: Fair
Build: Medium slender
Marks or Scars: None visible

20. Two photographs were taken of [redacted] at his residence using an Argoflex 75, fixed focus, with flash, lens Argus Lumar, 75 MM, inclosed as Inclosures No. 11 and No. 12.

21. [redacted] was observed by the writer to be a very intelligent young man, very interested in photography, which is a hobby. He seemed sincere in his efforts to relate all incidents to the best of his ability.

22. Information obtained in this investigation was reported direct to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, based upon concurrent investigation conducted by 1st Lt JOHN A. FARLEY, Assistant Wing Intelligence Officer, Reese Air Force Base, Lubbock, Texas, in accordance with Air Force Regulation 200-15. This case is continuing in pending status for development of lead by 11th OSI District at Lawton, Oklahoma.

Inclosures:

FOR HEADQUARTERS OSI, WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Avalanche Journal, 26 August 1951 (trip)

2. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Avalanche Journal, 28 August 1951 (trip)

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3. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Morning Avalanche, 1 September 1951 (trip)

4. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Morning Avalanche, 1 September 1951 (trip)

5. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Avalanche Journal, Sunday, 2 September 1951 (trip)

6. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Morning Avalanche, 6 September 1951 (trip)

7. Print of photograph taken by [redacted]. (trip)

8. Print of photograph taken by [redacted]. (trip)

9. Print of photograph taken by [redacted]. (trip)

10. Print of photograph taken by [redacted] (trip)

11. Photograph of [redacted] (trip)

12. Photograph of [redacted] (trip)

FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, AIR MATERIEL COMMAND, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

12 inclosures as listed above, one copy each.

FOR DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 23, CARSWELL AFB

Inclosures 1 through 10 as listed above.

11. Negative of photograph of [redacted]

12. Negative of photograph of [redacted]

13. Seven negatives of newspaper items. (Reference inclosures 1 through 6 as listed above).

PENDING

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Case No. 24-04

BY TECH GROUP

Strange Objects Seen Over City

MYSTERIOUS objects—two groups of them appearing "as a string of beads" and moving "at an incredible speed"— were sighted in the night sky over Lubbock again Saturday.

But this time instead of being watched by a casual observer, the objects were watched by three cool, calculating persons trained in scientific fields—three Texas Tech faculty members.

The first group of objects flying in a rough semi-circle, or crescent formation was sighted at 9:10 p. m. by W. L. Ducker, Tech professor and head of the Petroleum Engineering department, Dr. A. G. Oberg, professor of chemical engineering at Tech, and Dr. W. I. Robinson, professor of geology at Tech, while the group was holding an informal backyard meeting at Dr. Robinson's home, 2612 Twenty-fourth.

Move At High Speed

Ducker, speaking for the group, said the objects appeared as a 'string of beads" racing in the crescent formation from the northeast to the southwest at in "incredible speed."

The individual objects which made up the formation were indistinct, Ducker said, but gave off a glow, apparently reflected light, possibly from the city below.

The three Tech professors were unable to give the size or exact shape of the objects, but Ducker said, each calculated that the formation covered the arc across the sky in three seconds.

Other calculation showed that if the formation was traveling at a mile altitude its speed was approximately 1,600 miles an hour, or if at

See STRANGE OBJECTS Page 10

Strange Objects

(Continued From Page One)

50,000 feet altitude, the speed would be nearer 18,000 miles an hour.

Felt No Shock Waves

They also estimated from the apparent size of the objects, that if they were flying a mile high, each object was approximately 1,000 feet in diameter.

"We felt no shock waves such as an object traveling at such a high speed in the lower atmosphere would give off," Ducker said, "and the absence of such shock waves would indicate that the formation was flying in the stratosphere, 50,000 feet or higher.

Dr. Oberg pointed out that the group was seated in chairs scanning the skies for meteors following a discussion of stars and planets, when Ducker happened to spot the approaching objects.

Dr. Oberg estimated there were 50 objects in each formation, but because of the speed of flight it was "extremely difficult to get an accurate estimate."

Spot Second Group

Ducker said the second group, containing about the same number of individual objects, and moving in the same semi-circular formation, with the bulge toward the line of flight, sped overhead about three minutes later giving the three men an opportunity to check their first observations.

"Frankly, we were astonished. And if I had not had confirming witnesses at the time I feel sure I should have said nothing about what I saw," Ducker said, "for it is incredible to believe they are of terrestrial origin and even more incredible to believe they are from beyond the earth."

Ducker pointed out that while the three professors met frequently for discussions at "no time was anything stronger than ice tea" served, and on this particular occasion "Dr. Robinson forgot to provide iced tea."

The Civil Aeronautics administration office at Municipal airport said that no jet planes, or other flights were passing over Lubbock at the time Ducker and his companions sighter the two formations. RAFB also said no flights were in the area.

J. Russell Heitman, head of the Tech journalism department, several nights ago also reported seeing a flight of objects flying over Lubbock, and described them in a manner similar to those seen Saturday night.

Lubbock, Texas
Avalanche Journal
26 August 1951

DO 23 Case No. 24-84

Lubbock, Texas
Avalanche
28 August 1951

Four Others Here See Sky Objects

"Operations Beads" was confirmed Monday by four additional persons who say they saw the same mysterious flight racing through Lubbock skies Saturday night that was witnessed and previously reported by three members of the Texas Tech faculty.

The Techsans said they saw what appeared to be a group of objects in a semi-circular formation "like a string of beads" flying overhead at "incredible speed."

Monday, four new witnesses said they saw the same thing at the same time—9:10 p. m. Saturday. They were Mrs. Earl Mediock of 1912 Ave. N. Mrs. R. A. Rogers of 1910 Ave. N and Mrs. F. A. Rogers of the same address, and Prof. Carl Henninger, 2311 Eighth, associate professor of German

DO 23 Case
No. 24-84





MYSTERIOUS OBJECTS IN LUBBOCK SKY—It's anybody's guess what they are, but the mysterious objects in the photos above are believed to be the "things" which Lubbockites have been seeing in the sky during recent nights. The highly unusual photos, snapped by Carl Hart, jr., of 2332 Nineteenth street, Thursday night, show what Hart said was the unidentified glowing objects as they passed over the city from north to south. In the photo at left, the dots are in a two-row V-formation, while the photo at right shows them shifted into a single-file formation. Several Lubbock residents reported seeing the objects over the city last night. Hart said he shot the two photos above with a 35mm camera.

FOWL OR SAUCERS -- STRANGE OBJECTS REPORTED IN AREA

Flying 'Whatsits' Seen Again

31 Sept 51

By KENNETH MAY
Avalanche Staff Writer

THE "flying whatsits" continued to zoom through Lubbock skies Friday night as numerous residents reported seeing flashes of light flying at "unbelievable speeds"—and at least one person showed up with photographs of what he said he saw in the sky.

Identity of the strange objects continued to baffle all who claimed to have seen them and three Texas Tech professors who examined photographs taken by Carl Hart, jr., 18-year-old amateur photographer of 2332 Nineteenth street, could offer no explanation.

The objects—whatever they are—were reportedly seen over Lubbock at at least three distinct times, from 8:40 p. m. to 10:37 p. m. Friday. Morning Avalanche editorial offices received numerous calls from persons who said they had seen the light formations.

All those reporting the objects described them as flying in V-shaped or U-shaped formations and passing through the sky almost directly overhead within from 3 to 7 seconds. The number of "dots" reported in the formations ranged from eight or nine to "20 or 30."

Dr. J. C. Cross, head of Tech's department of biology, examined photographs taken by Hart and said he could offer no explanation as to their identity. In answer to the theory of some that the dots may have been birds leaving a phosphorescent glow, he asserted, "It definitely wasn't caused by birds."

A Lubbock county farmer, T. E. Snider, jr., of Lubbock, Route 3, reported later in the night that "I saw something like people have been seeing and it definitely was ducks." Although not accounting for the unbelievable speed reported by others, Snider said that a reflection form the Westerner drive-in theater where he was about 9 p. m. caught some ducks in flight and caused them to be illuminated.

Another observer offered the suggestion the objects were sea gulls.

Claimed Faster Than Jet

Everyone else seeing the objects agreed "they" were flying too fast a speed to have been birds, however Hart, who took the pictures at 11:30 p.m. Thursday, said "they were flying faster than any jet plane I ever saw."

Officials located at Reese Air Force base west of Lubbock reported late last night that "to our knowledge" there were no jet planes flying in the area last night.

Persons seeing the objects — and there were dozens who claimed to have glimpsed them — said they crossed the Lubbock sky from north to south and were visible for only a matter of seconds. Some said the color of the lights was "about like the stars, only brighter", while others said they had either a blue or a slight yellow tinge to them.

Possible Noise Reported

Roger Dods, a Texas Tech student living in the 3200-block First place, was the only one to say he "might have" heard a noise accompanying the objects. He said he may have detected a slight russling or whooshing sound as the objects passed overhead. He reported seeing them at 10:37 p.m. Friday after deliberately watching for them.

(In Matador, meanwhile, two women reported seeing a "noiseless aircraft flying at a low altitude without aid of propellors or wings" about noon Friday. They said the machine was slow-moving and was different from any aircraft they had ever seen.)

Another person reporting the objects over Lubbock was Mrs. Dean

See STRANGE OBJECTS Page 10

Strange Objects

(Continued From Page One)

Son of 2411-B Eighth street, who said the lights were a little to the west of her flying southward about 10:20 p. m. S. E. West of Lubbock, Route 7, said he and his wife were at the Circle drive-in theater when he saw two U-shaped formations pass above the screen in a southerly direction about 9 p. m. A call from the J. F. Woolsey residence in northeast Lubbock reported the objects at about 8:40 p. m. Other calls also were received.

Northern Lights Suggested

Dods said he could offer no explanation of the phenomenon, although "I wouldn't rule out the possibility it was a brief reflection from the northern lights." He said he had seen the northern lights on numerous occasions in Massachusetts and that Friday night's objects here "had a suggestion of them, except they didn't fade away like the northern lights do."

The photographs taken by Hart were snapped before last night, however—at 11:30 p. m. Thursday. The youth said he was lying in bed "looking at the stars" when the first of three V-shaped formations passed overhead. Forgetting about a knee operation which had put him on crutches, Hart grabbed his 35 mm. Kodak camera and rushed outside in time to snap pictures of the second group.

Saw Two Different Groups

Hart said he took about five exposures with the automatic type camera as the second group and a third which followed it by about a minute and a half passed overhead slightly to the eastward and flying south. The pictures showed 18 separate dots, first in a two-row V-formation and then a single-file V-shape. Hart said he was conscious of the moment the "things" shifted the formation.

W. L. Ducker, head of Tech's petroleum engineering department, and Dr. A. G. Oberg, professor of chemical engineering at the college, both of whom saw the objects themselves last Saturday night, examined Hart's photos and agreed the formations they saw were in more of a U-shape—as other Lubbock residents said last night. All who have seen the objects have said they were in one or the other of those shapes.

The two men said they have been swamped with letters and telephone calls from throughout the nation since they reported seeing the objects last week. Ducker said he received a long distance telephone call from Laredo. All of the persons either had seen "flying saucers" objects or doubted the authenticity of the Lubbock reports.

Reports of the "objects" had many Lubbockites in their yards last night attempting to catch a glimpse of the mysterious phenomenon, but no one has yet come up with a plausible explanation of the unusual occurrence.

Whatever "it" is, it has people guessing.

Lubbock, Texas
Morning Avalanche
1 Sept 1951

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Sept 51

Indian now lists 20 universities as compared with five in undivided India in 1916-17.

DO 23 Case No. 24-84

Lubbock, Texas
Morning Avalanche
1 September 1951

'Strange Aircraft' Seen At Matador

MATADOR, Aug. 31. (Special)—A "noiseless aircraft, flying at a low altitude without aid of propellors or wings," was reported seen early this afternoon by two Matador district women and a 5-year-old child.

Mrs. Tom Tilsom, her daughter Mrs. M. G. Bethard and little Noilene Bethard said they were driving on State Highway 70, one and one-half miles north of here about 12:45 p. m. when the wingless craft passed 150 feet in front of the car.

The slow-moving machine, "shaped somewhat like a helicopter," began circling as Mrs. Bethard stopped the car. As the craft rose it "gained speed and was out of sight within a few minutes."

The women were near enough to spot one door, or porthole, in the side of the gleaming metal, they said. When first seen, it was moving at the rate of a commercial airliner taking off, they said. It had no exhaust showing.

Mrs. Bethard, whose husband sailed for Korea recently, has lived near several Air Force bases, and reported the machine she saw today was different from any she had seen before.

DO.23, Case No. 24-84

Lubbock, Texas
Avalanche, Journal
Sunday 2 Sept. 1951

SOME IDENTIFIED AS BIRDS

Opinion Divided Over Reports Of Objects Seen In Lubbock Skies

By KENNETH MAY
Avalanche-Journal Staff Writer

FOWL OR flying saucers—they're certainly causing a lot of comment.

Folks around Lubbock just keep seeing those ducks or planes or "strings of pearls" or "whatsits" or flying saucers or whatever-they-are, but the people who haven't seen anything of the kind apparently have just as good an idea as anyone what they really are.

Skeptics made Lubbock look like a huge picnic ground Saturday night as hundreds of persons sat outside to look skyward for the strange illuminated objects which have puzzled all who have seen them during the past week or so. The funny thing, many of the skeptics saw the objects, too.

Some Flights Were Birds

A lot of folks who have seen the V-formation flying objects are convinced they saw birds of some sort—and actually they did—but there are just as many who are certain what they saw was not birds.

Darkness had barely settled over the city Saturday before Avalanche-Journal telephones began to ring as calls came in from

See OPINION Page 14



"FLYING WHATSITS" ZOOM OVER LUBBOCK—In speeds that take them across the horizon in a matter of seconds, the objects in the photo above have reportedly been seen by numerous Lubbock residents during the last few nights. This photo, enlarged at least 30 magnitudes from 35mm. film, was snapped late Thursday night and shows the "dots" with an apparent V-shape flying in a a V-formation. Other photos, snapped by Carl Hart, jr., of 2332 Nineteenth, had from 18 to 20 of the "dots" and in each one one object was flying off to one side (note upper right corner of picture above. Consensus last night seemed to be that most of the flights were of migratory fowl. However, Tech observers who first sighted the objects a week ago maintained that what they sighted "definitely was not birds."

Opinion Divided

(Continued From Page One)

persons who claimed to have seen the mysterious lights in the sky.

Quite possibly, some of the persons who think they have seen the strange objects have seen something different from what others have seen. Some persons may have seen birds; others may have seen a light reflection—and others may have seen an altogether strange phenomenon that may never be explained.

"Too Fast For Aircraft"

Take Mack Forrester of 3220 Thirty-fifth. He saw two flights of the objects about 11:45 p. m. Saturday and said, "They weren't birds. They were too fast for aircraft. It looked like a light reflection, only there were distinctive little dots, not one single flash."

On the other hand, W. S. Bledsoe, KFYO chief engineer, said he saw "a group of things going over at 9:30 p.m. They were southbound birds of some sort. I could see the wings flapping."

Mrs. Stephen Matyi of the Plainview highway said she and several others saw "some kind of strange objects" about 10:35 p.m. Saturday—and even those in that group couldn't agree. One said it was birds, another said it wasn't and another frankly admitted she didn't have the slightest idea what it was. Mrs. Matyi said they heard a slight whooshing sound as the objects passed overhead, making her only the second or third to report hearing any noise whatsoever.

W. L. Ducker, head of the petroleum engineering department at Texas Tech, who saw the objects a week ago, remained convinced, however, that what he saw "definitely was not birds." He and other Tech professors trained in scientific observation watched the flights at that time.

"Anyone trained in scientific observation won't go off half cocked on anything like that," Ducker said. "We discussed whether what we saw might be birds, but we ruled that out because it is improbable so much as to be outside the realm of consideration that two flights of birds would be in precisely the same formation—a formation peculiar to birds in the first place."

The objects observed by Ducker, he said, were in a semi-circular formation, not in the V-shape in which migratory fowl are seen.

"I don't doubt that some folks have seen some sort of bird formation and thought it to be the same thing we saw," he added, however.

The unidentified objects—which at least have taken folks' minds partly off the explosive world situation—have been reported by literally hundreds of Lubbock and area residents during the last few nights. All flights have been reported as flying from north to south or northeast to southwest in either U-shaped or V-shaped formations. Only from two to seven seconds are required for the bright objects to pass out of view.

James Son of 2512 Amherst called in to say he's convinced the "things" are flying completely around the world about every hour and 20 minutes. He said he watched them Friday night and that's how often he saw them. He couldn't say what they might be.

Reports of the phenomenon have caused interest over the nation, but no reports of similar objects have been received from other parts of the country other than in the Panhandle, near Amarillo. Dr. J. C. Cross, head of Tech's biology department, examined photographs of what was said to be the strange objects, and said the dots in the picture "definitely were not caused by birds."

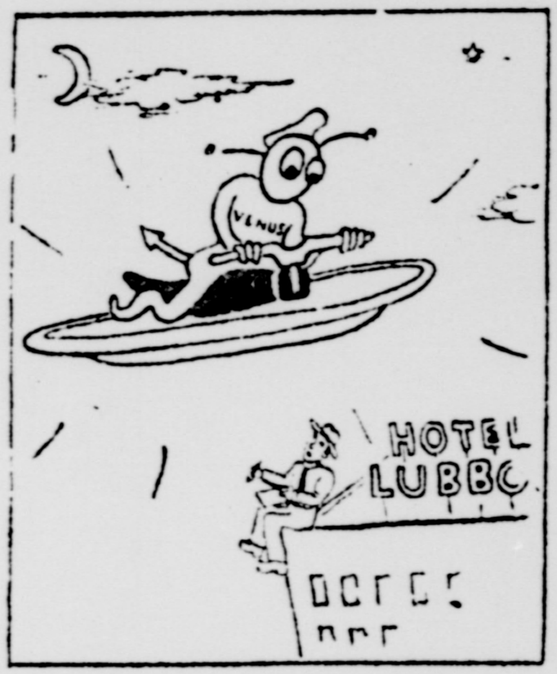
So, that's how things stood shortly after midnight today. Birds or beasts or ballyhoo, it's better than a comic book.

DC 13 Case No. 24-64

SECRET CRAFT OR DUCKS -- THEY KEEP OBSERVERS GUESSING

'Flying Whatsits' Stir Dispute In Area

★ ★ ★



"Uh . . . Interested In A Pretty Good Yarn, Mister? . . ."

THE "flying whatsits" continue merrily on their way—but the argument goes on. And if a duck wearing a lighted miner's cap ever meets up with a man in a flying saucer, there's going to be quite a battle over who caused the most commotion over Lubbock and other South Plains towns.

Again last night, as has been the case almost every night recently, residents called in to report the mysterious objects.

Lubbock doesn't have a monopoly on the illuminated "things" which jumped into prominence when three Tech faculty members sighted a string of lights travelling from northeast to southwest over the horizon at an "incredible speed" twelve days ago. A lot of people, in Amarillo, Big Spring, Lamesa, Brownfield and other Panhandle-South Plains points have sighted the objects since.

The only thing is that those who "see" birds stick to that theory while many others—including the Tech instructors and others highly reliable—admit they too have sighted birds but say other objects definitely are not birds.

Last night, one of a group of scientific observers from the Texas Tech faculty announced that group had further substantiated its belief that the objects are not birds.

"There have been three flights tonight, and at last we observed one group passing above a cloud which gave us a more concrete idea of the altitude. Assuming that such a cloud crossed Lubbock at 2,000 feet, the objects would have

See MYSTERY, Page 10

★ ★ ★



(Staff Drawings By Dalton Wood.)

"Say, Bub . . . About Those Flying Saucer Stories . . ."

Mystery Objects

(Continued From Page One)

been maintaining a speed in excess of 600 miles an hour if they were barely above the cloud they passed over.

"The objects moved across a 120 degree arc in two seconds, and if you reduced the altitude to a point where ducks would cross such an arc at their top or average speed of 60 miles an hour, one duck would appear as large as the entire formations we have been observing" the professor added.

Probably At Higher Altitude

The professor also indicated the objects were probably flying at much higher altitudes. The CAA usually warns local aircraft when outside flights will be operating in the air lanes. Since no warning has been made in this area, the professor suggested the flights were at altitudes in excess of 30,000 feet, or outside the air lanes.

The professor said it would be impossible to train a telescope on the objects in the time elapsed during their passing through the arc of vision. "An experienced duck hunter tells me it would be impossible to aim a gun at them in that time, too."

"There is no doubt that some people are seeing ducks, but what we have witnessed has not been ducks, and I could though I will not divulge the names of six men, all with PhD's who have seen the flights more than once," the group spokesman continued.

Right on the heels of the current speculation as to the identity of the strange objects came President Truman's announcement Tuesday that this country has "new and fantastic" weapons that could wipe out mankind. Earlier, it had been announced that new atomic weapons tests were to be made at Los Alamos, N. M., approximately 350 miles from Lubbock and well within the range of guided missiles.

No Lights To Reflect

One point in favor of those who say the objects are some sort of secret guided missile tests is the Big Spring report in which Airport officials who sighted the "whatsits" there point out that there are no lights around the field that could reflect off objects flying overhead. Also, others have reported the objects over clouds that were 4,000 feet high at the time. This knocked a big hole in the bird theory, since it is highly improbable that birds would be flying that high or, if so, that they would be going at the "incredible speeds" mentioned.

As with everything that catches the public fancy, the "flying whatsits" have evoked a number of far-fetched comments from pranksters, crackpots and deadly serious individuals.

Point To Vapor Lights

Folks who say the flying whatsits are ducks or birds point challengingly to Lubbock's mercury vapor street lighting and say, "there's your answer." In their favor is the fact that the lights do reflect off birds flying over the city and ducks and geese are known to fly at relatively fast speeds.

"Your vision is cut down at night," say proponents of the duck theory, "and, therefore, it actually only takes two or three seconds for a formation of ducks to pass into and out of one's range of vision. If folks would quit looking for something thousands of feet high and concentrate on something only a few hundred feet in the air, they would realize what they are seeing are merely ducks."

"'Not necessarily,'" counter the guided missile or unknown object believers. They say they've seen flights of ducks pass over, too, "But the whatsits are flying much faster and much higher than the duck flights." They add that the "whatsit" flights are much brighter than the duck flights.

Some Remain Neutral

There are a few people, of course, who aren't taking sides in the discussions. They "allow as how" they'll believe the objects ducks when they see someone shoot one down or that it's flying saucers when a little guy who speaks Venusian stops by for a drink of milk or whatever flying saucer pilots are supposed to drink.

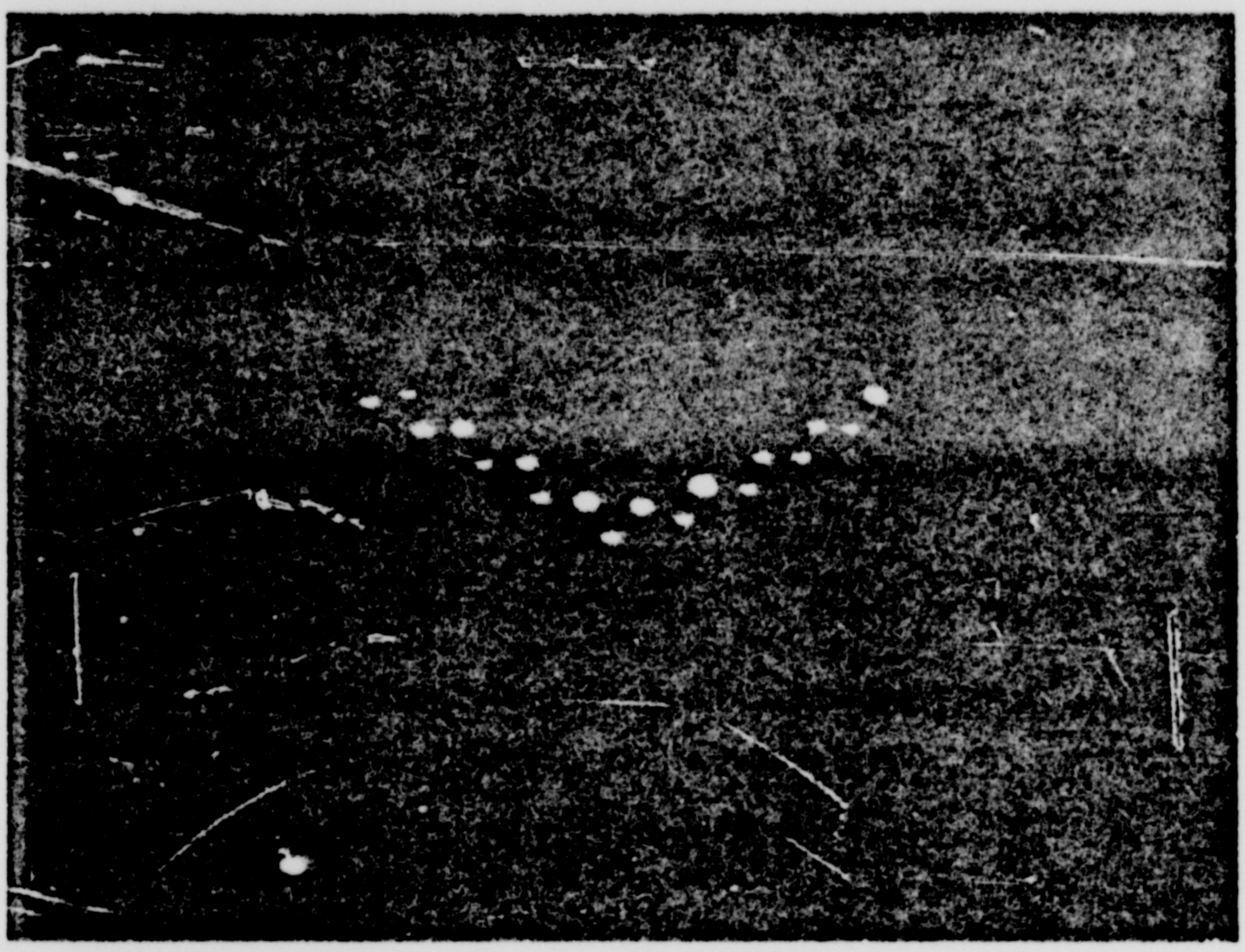
Even photographs taken of the flying objects and published in The Morning Avalanche have failed to consolidate the two ways of thinking concerning the mysterious "doodads." Some say the V-shaped objects in the pictures prove it's a flight of ducks in formation; others pooh-pooh that theory, saying ducks couldn't reflect enough light to expose a negative and, besides, "whoever saw a flight of ducks flying in a double V." (One of the pictures showed the objects in a tight two-line formation in the shape of a "V".) Others say that if the objects are flying as fast as people say they are, then it would be impossible to "stop" them with a camera.

It looks like the controvery will continue to rage until one of about three things happens. (1.) The duck migratory season ends and people simultaneously quit seeing the objects; (2.) A flying saucer pilot stops at a service station to re-fuel or, (3.) a guided missile drops smack into the middle of Lubbock.

This Case Includes

Four (4) 3½" x 4½" photos and two (2) 2½" x 2½" photos.

DO # 23 Case No. 24-84 UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
Unidentified Objects in Flight over
Lubbock, Texas



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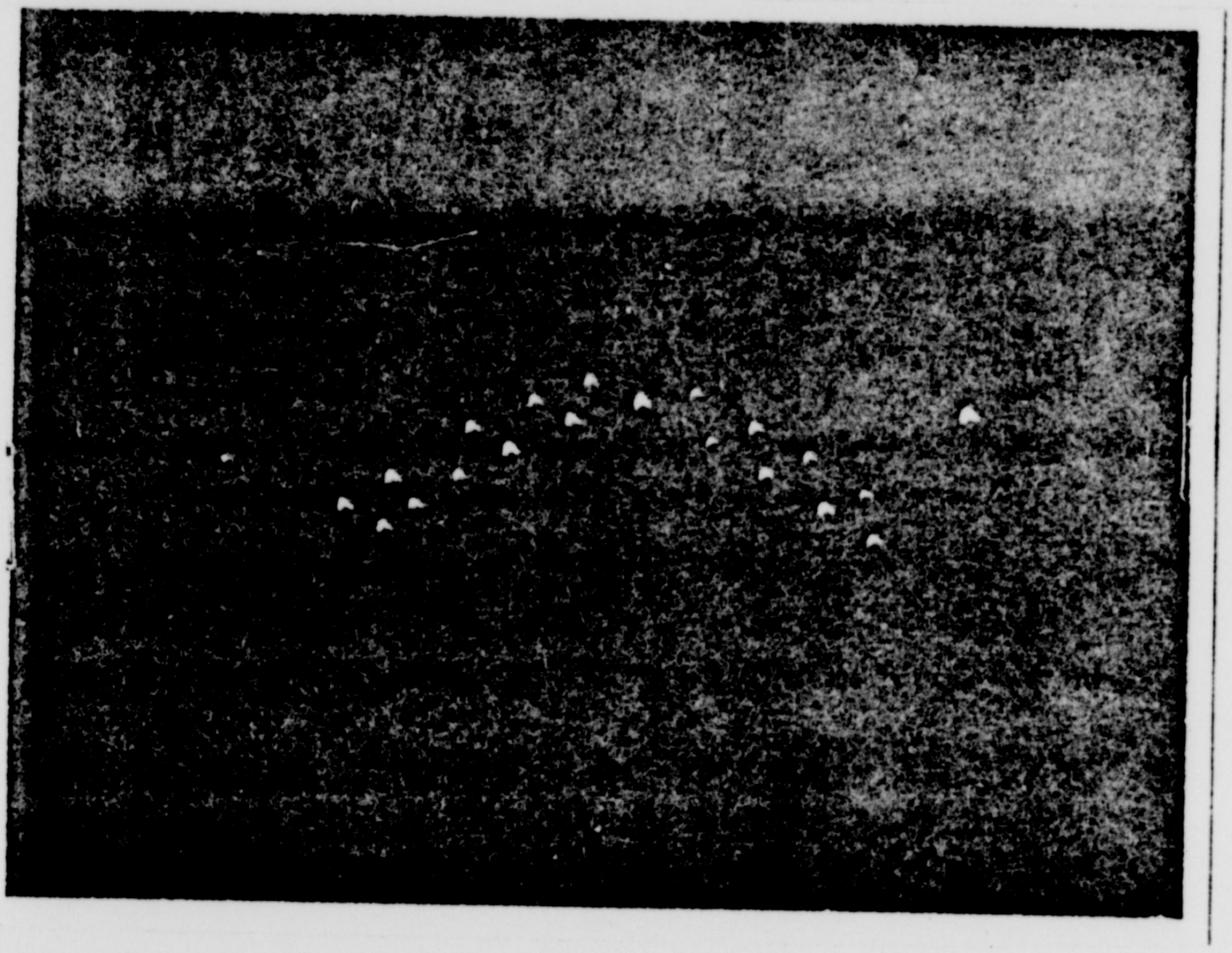
DO # 23 Case No. 24-84

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
Unidentified Objects in Flight over
Lubbock, Texas



Incl # 8

DO # 23 Case No. 24-84

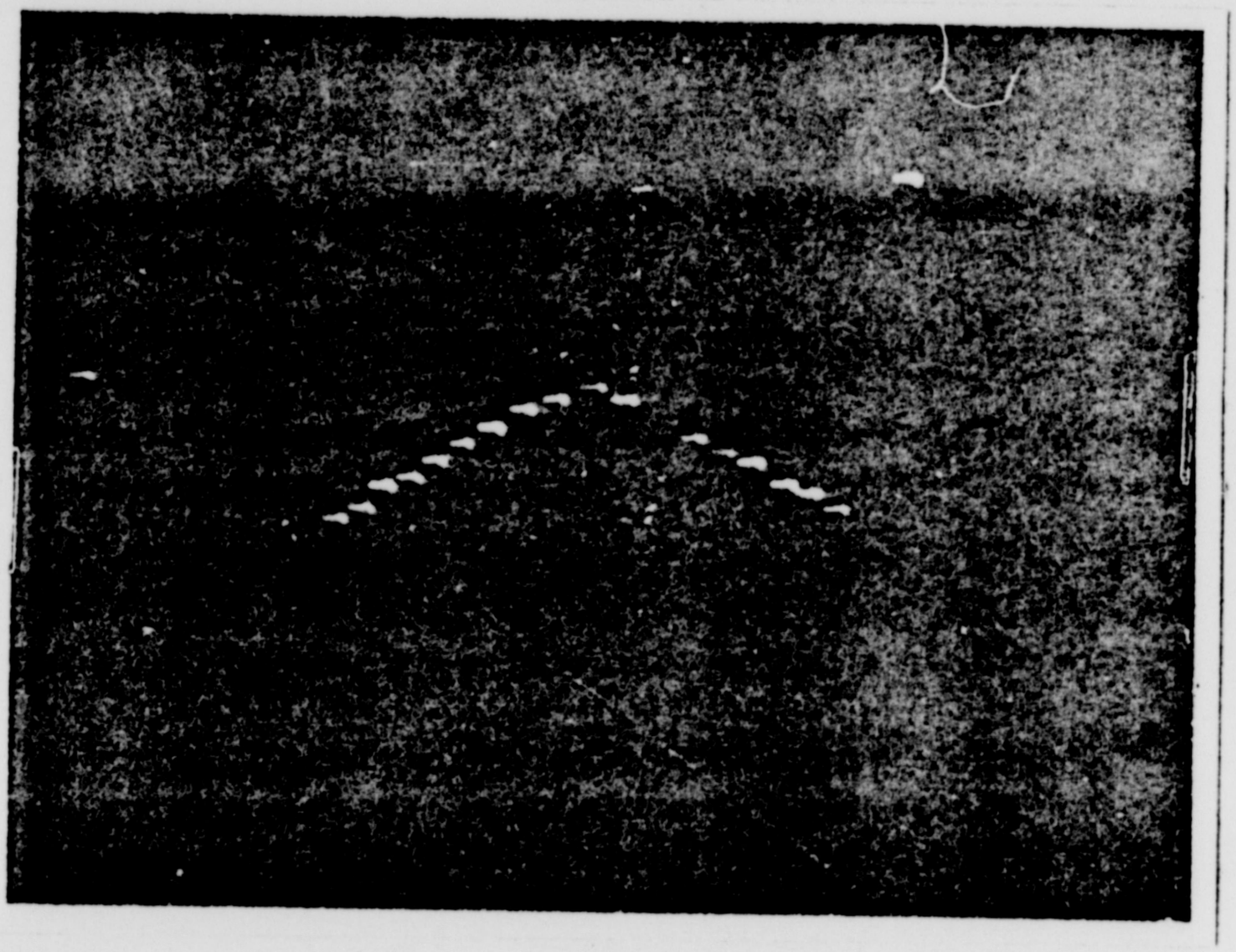
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
Unidentified Objects in Flight over
Lubbock, Texas



Incl # 9

DO # 23 Case No. 24-84

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
Unidentified Objects in Flight over
Lubbock, Texas



Incl. # 10

DO # 23 Case No. 24-84

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
Unidentified Objects in Flight over
Lubbock, Texas



Photo of [redacted]

Incl # 11

DO # 23 Case No. 24-84

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS
Unidentified Objects in Flight over
Lubbock, Texas

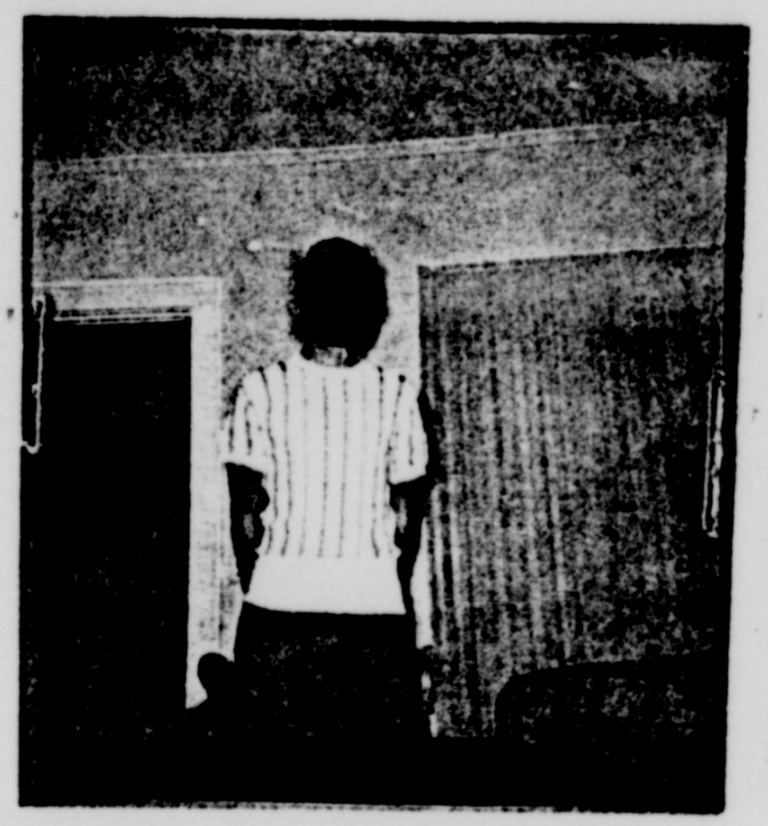


Photo of [redacted]

Incl. # 12

Lubbock, Texas Trip Report

6-9 November 1951

On 6-9 November 1951, Lt E. J. Ruppelt made a trip to Lubbock, Texas, in regard to a series of sightings of unidentified objects. The following contacts were made:

1. Mr. Charles Guy, Publisher of Lubbock Avalanche
2. [redacted] Texas Technical College
3. [redacted] Photographer
4. Mr. Jay Harris, Newspaper Editor
5. Trip to Brownfield, Texas
6. Federal Wild Life Game Warden
7. Meeting with Texas Tech Professors

A more complete covering could have been made if air transportation could have been obtained.

No effort was made to interrogate sources in regard to the Matador Tech incident because of lack of time.

Details of Interrogation

See Following Pg

1. Mr. Charles Guy, Publisher of the Lubbock Avalanche

Lt Ruppelt, accompanied by Mr. [redacted] of the Reese AFB Detachment of the OSI, met Mr. [redacted] on the morning of 7 November 1951. Mr. [redacted] was very helpful in confirming all the information given in the newspaper articles, enclosures to JSI report.

However, he was not directly connected with the stories so he suggested Mr. Jay Harris, Managing Editor of the Lubbock Morning Avalanche, be contacted. He arranged this contact for the evening of 7 November.

He also gave the following names of newspaper people in towns adjacent to Lubbock who might be able to furnish some additional information.

a. Lamesa, Texas, Reporter Bill Ray

b. Big Spring, Texas, The Herald, Editor Bill Whipkey

c. Brownfield, Texas, Brownfield News, Editor Jerry Stoltz

2. Prof. [redacted], Head of Petroleum Engineering

Department of Texas Technical College

On the afternoon of 7 November 1951, Lt Ruppelt of ATIC, Capt Parker, and Lt Farely of Wing Intelligence, Reese AFB, visited Prof. [redacted] at his office at Texas Tech.

The matter of the unidentified aerial objects were discussed for about an hour. Prof. [redacted] offered to arrange an evening meeting of several college professors who had observed the phenomena. The meeting was arranged for the evening of 8 November at 1930 at the home of Dr. [redacted].

No details of the interview with Prof. [redacted] will be given as they are all covered in the report of the meeting on the evening of 8 November at Dr. [redacted]

3. [redacted]

Mr. [redacted], was interviewed on the evening of 7 November 1951 at his home by Lt Ruppelt and Mr. H. N. Bossartt of the Reese AFB OSI detachment. (A description of Mr. [redacted] is given in OSI report.)

The purpose of the visit was to obtain further data on the photos taken by Mr. [redacted], and to attempt to determine the authenticity of the photos. Mr. [redacted] was again questioned as to the events leading up to taking the photos and how he took them. His story was identical to that given in.

In addition several other facts were obtained. Upon seeing the objects [redacted] rushed into the house and got his camera. He had experience in taking pictures at night as he had experimented with star shots. He realized that he would have to give the objects as much light as possible so he "opened it up", f 3.5 at 1/10 of a second, the "fastest" combination for a Kodak 35.

The object appeared at about 30° from the horizontal. ([redacted] stated they appeared just over a tree top, and the angle was measured to be very close to 30° The direction was NNE. The objects went a little to his right and disappeared at about 30° from the horizontal at SSE. This gives an arc of very close to 120°. During this time he "panned" his camera. (i.e. followed the object with the camera.) During this process he took two pictures during each flight. The procedure was duplicated by Mr. [redacted] and timed. It took 4 seconds, timed by the sweep second hand on a wrist watch. This comes out to be 30° per second. (Note: This is the same time obtained by Prof. [redacted])

The interrogating officer, Lt. Ruppelt, has been an amateur photographer for 14 years and all the data and procedures given by [redacted] were accurate and very logical.

No progress was made in attempting to determine whether or not the photos

were faked. [redacted] story could not be "picked apart" because it was entirely logical. He was questioned on why he did certain things and his answers were all logical, concise, and without hesitation. He was visibly nervous but this could be due to the fact that he knew Mr. Bossartt was from OSI and Lt Ruppelt from W-P AFB. This nervousness at no time caused him to falter in his story.

[redacted] stated that the object appeared to be about brighter than the brightest star in the sky. He compared it to Venus in the early evening.

Additional info on [redacted] in the interview with the newspaper people and college professors.

4. Mr. Jay Harris, Managing Editor of the Lubbock Morning Avalanche and William Homs, Photographer

Mr. Bossartt of the RAFB Detachment of the OSI and Lt Ruppelt interviewed the Managing Editor of the Lubbock Morning Avalanche, Mr. Harris, on the evening of 7 November 1951

Mr. Harris gave the following information before the interrogation began:

On the evening of 25 September 1951, he was at the news desk of the paper when a Prof. [redacted] of Texas Tech College called him on the phone. [redacted] reported he had just seen an aerial phenomena that would be worth a story. He continued to tell about the "string of beads" that he and two other college professors had seen in the sky. Harris at first was not interested. [redacted] then said he felt it was important and that by running the story they might be able to contact others who had seen the phenomena. Harris said o.k. if he could use [redacted] name. [redacted] said he wasn't sure about this and ended the conversation. A few minutes later he called again and said that it would be o.k. to use his name and the names of Profs. [redacted] and [redacted] who were with him at the time and also saw it. It would first, however, have to be o.k.'d by the college public relations people. This was done and the story was printed on 26 August 1951. No further reports came in until a few days later.

On Friday, 31 August 1951, a photographer who does work for the paper and is highly regarded by Mr. [redacted] called and said a young man (Mr. [redacted]) had just developed some negatives in his studio and he thought the paper might be interested in them. They advised [redacted] to bring them over which he did. Mr. [redacted] and his head photographer, Mr. [redacted] looked them over and were dubious

about using them because of the possibility of a hoax. They examined the negatives very carefully however, and decided to use them. Mr. Harris then called [redacted] on the phone and again asked them if it were a hoax which he denied. Harris then in his approximate words "raised hell with him" and told him all the consequences if it were a hoax. He threatened to "run him out of town" if it were. This did not phase [redacted] and his only reply was that the pictures were of something flying over Lubbock and that if they were afraid to use them o.k., he didn't care. As far as payment was concerned anything would be all right. (He finally received $7.50 - $10.00 for them.) Prior to this, [redacted] had taken a few photos for the paper and was regarded as an honest conscientious person trying to pick up a little extra money on photos. He was not obnoxious as a lot of amateurs are, always trying to sell photos, but would occasionally take a good photo and attempt to sell it.

It was then decided by Mr. Harris to put the photos "on the wire service" with a story. [redacted] was called in on this discussion and again "read the riot act" on any possible fraud. This time it was stronger because the photo was going out all over the U.S. Again he struck to his story, and the photo went out.

The negatives were sent to AP in Ft. Worth to be checked. Life Magazine also looked at the photos but rejected them because they claimed to have many photos of "flying saucers". The photos and story went out on the wire service. It is unknown which papers used it but some did.

At this point in the interview Mr. Hams, head photographer and Asst. Managing Editor, was called in and gave this information. When the story of V-shaped lights came out some people immediately branded them as ducks or some type of migratory fowl. Later when [redacted] photos were printed, the argument as to whether

or not they were migratory fowl came up. Mr. Hams decided to try to get a picture himself so he stationed himself on top of the Lubbock Avalanche Building with a 4 x 5 Speed Graphic loaded with a tungsten ASA 80 film and a GE #22 flashbulb in a concentrating reflector. He normally uses this same equipment to photograph night football games. He can get a normal negative by shooting f 16, at 1/100 of a second and developing twice the normal time in DK-60 a developer. This night he sat on the roof and had his camera set at f 4.7 at 1/10 of a second. He waited some time and a flock of some type of birds flew over. They were visible in the light of the sodium vapor street lights used in Lubbock. He shot as the flock was overhead. He also stated that he knew they were birds before he took the picture because he could see them dimly outlined. They were in a ragged V-formation and silent, which is unusual for ducks or geese, if they were ducks or geese. He developed his negatives and found the image so weak he could not print them. On the next night he attempted the same thing using a Kodak Reflex at f 3.5 at 1/10 with Super XX film, a #22 bulb and the concentrating reflector; the results were the same. Mr. Hams assumed that with his experience he should know that he was in a position in the city to get a maximum of light on any birds flying over him. From this, he is convinced that whatever [redacted] took a picture of was many times as bright as the birds he unsuccessfully attempted to photograph.

Mr. Hams added that some time back he had attempted to photograph an eclipse of the moon. He ran into difficulty getting enough exposure, further indicating that [redacted] shots were of a bright object. (This was later disproved by taking test photos of the moon. It is possible his statement was misinterpreted.)

Mr. Harris impressed the interviewers as a typical newspaper editor. He made it very plain that he was not one to have someone use his paper to perpetuate a hoax. He has thoroughly checked both the photos and reports and believes

the people have seen something and the photos are not faked (i.e. something flying over Lubbock.) Other sources confirmed this fact and stated that he has a reputation of making very sure what he prints is true. ~~He stated he has a reputation of making very sure what he prints is true.~~ He stated he purposely played down the articles because he felt that the object was possibly some Air Force project, he was more sure when the AF did not investigate. (We knew nothing about it for several weeks.)

He believes the people who saw this object were not seeing birds. Some people did see birds because there was some bird flight activity in the area. His observation on a great many reports was that the people who saw ducks knew they were ducks because they could see them. The people who saw V lights knew they couldn't be ducks. At least one experienced duck hunter who saw them threw out the duck idea. Therefore, his idea was that a lot of people were conscious of the lights, were looking, and saw ducks and knew they were ducks. Other saw the real thing and knew they weren't ducks.

Harris' statement on [redacted] was that he has seen a lot of fakes in his time and if [redacted] is a fake he is the best in the business and wasting his time in college.

In answer to a quiry about sightings in areas without a large concentration of lights such as larger cities, Mr. Harris stated that they had received calls from many people in small towns and in the country. All reports were about the same as those reported in the newspapers.

a. The objects were migratory birds.

b. The objects were a group or string of light traveling from N to S at a high speed.

Another instance mentioned by Mr. Harris occurred several nights after, 25 August 1951. An Air Force Capt from Reese AFB called to tell of the object

he had seen. He stated he had read about the objects in the newspaper and did not believe it. However, a few minutes before he had called, he had seen the same phenomena as was mentioned in the newspaper and was now convinced it was true. He stated that he had flown jets and had been around them and that this object was much faster than a jet. He said he couldn't give his name but would be glad to clear the story through the base PIO. This was never done, however, as the editor was not running any more stories on the incident and all records of the captain's name were gone.

Mr. Harris had been in the newspaper business about 20 years. Some of this time was spent as a PIO during WW II. He has a reputation of being very honest and will print nothing unless he is personally sure it is accurate. This is brought out by his very complete investigation of the authenticity of the "string of beads" stories.

Mr. Hams is considered one of the best photographers in Lubbock. He has had a studio for many years before coming to the newspaper. All the time he had a studio, he worked for the newspaper on a part-time basis.

5. Trip to Brownfield, Texas

On the morning of 8 November 1951, Lt Ruppelt and Capt Parker of Reese AFB, drove to Brownfield, Texas, to investigate reports from this area.

Upon arrival at Brownfield, Jerry Stoltz, Editor of the Brownfield News, was contacted. He made available all back issues of the newspapers. Several reports of incidents were found dated between 25 August and 31 August 1951. These were similar to the Lubbock descriptions of the incident except for one reported by a Mr. [redacted].

Mr. [redacted] was a man about 65 years of age. He had lived in West Texas all his life and is now retired. On the evening of 25 August 1951, he and his wife were sitting the backyard of their home when they noticed this group of lights go overhead from N to S. They were described as "kind of a glow, a little bigger than a star". Mr. [redacted] remarked about them to his wife. Soon another group came over. Neither flight was in a V shape, merely a group of about 15-20 lights. Some time later a third group flew over but instead of going straight over they circled the house. This group was either lower or in a different position because Mr. [redacted] stated he could see the objects and they were birds. At the same time one of birds called (i.e. chirped) and Mr. [redacted] identified the sound as the call of a plover.

He stated that the next morning (26 August 1951), he read the Lubbock Morning Avalanche's account of the incident at Lubbock and if he had not identified the objects he saw as Plover he would have though he had seen the same thing.

Lt Ruppelt and Capt Parker then went to the county Library and Brownfield High School Library to obtain information on Plover. It was found that there

was a species of Plover with a white breast but no additional information could be obtained.

By this time it was too late to go to Big Spring or Lamessa, Texas, so the officers returned to Lubbock.

6. Federal Wild Life Game Warden

On the afternoon of 8 November 1951, Lt. Ruppelt and Capt Parker contacted the Federal Wildlife Game Warden at the Post Office Building in Lubbock. The purpose was to determine the habits and description of Plover.

It was determined that there are several kinds of Plover. Several types have white breasts and are found in West Texas. The bird is about 8" long and has a wing span of about 1 '. It will fly at night and in groups but the groups are usually not larger than 5 or 6 birds. They are knownto migrate south from late August till the middle of November. Also they have been seen in the Lubbock locality recently although not in great numbers. They fly at about 1000' or lower at a maximum of 50 Mph.

The game warden had not read the articles about the "objects" in the paper so was unfamiliar with the description of the objects, but tended to doubt if they were Plover. He added that they might be ducks but not geese because geese continually "honk" as they fly over populated areas.

7. Meeting with Texas Technical College Professors

On the evening of 8 November 1951, Lt Ruppelt and Capt Parker met with four professors of the Texas Technical College to discuss the aerial Phenomena they observed over a period of time from 25 August 1951 until about 15 Oct 1951. Those present were:

a. [redacted], Ph.D. in Geology but also well versed in all fields of science. The meeting was at his home.

b. [redacted] Ph.D., Professor of Chemical Engineering

c. [redacted] Ph.D., in Physics, presently head of the Texas Tech. Siesmograph Station and has previously spent several years at The University of Alaska studying the aurora.

d. Prof. [redacted], Head of the Petroleum Engineering Department.

On the evening of 25 August 1951, [redacted], and [redacted] were sitting in Dr. [redacted] yard discussing a project on micro-meteorites that [redacted] is conducting at Texas Tech. They were counting meteors when the first object passed over the yard. They stated they were surprised at the sight and began discussing it. They agreed that if another object came over they would attempt to find out some of its characteristics and about an hour later one did come over, one man listened while the other two timed it. This object, and the first one, was a semi-circle, about 160° arc, of lights. There was no discernable noise and the angular velocity was very close to 30° per second. The direction was about N to S, and they passed 15° -20° west of the Zenith. The men could not agree on the color except that it was yellowish to white. It varied in intensity and was somewhat larger in area than a star. All men agreed it appeared to have its own light source. Since 25 August 1951, these men and several others have seen more flights, approximately twelve. They all were of

the same nature as t(first except there was no regu arrangement or formation. Others who have seen the objects well in the presence of the original three men are:

a. [redacted] Ph.D. in Geology.

b. [redacted] Mathematics Professor.

c. [redacted] Studying for Ph.D.

Dr. [redacted] Astronomer from Texas Tech, has not observed the phenomena but has been present at all the investigations.

Several characteristics of the object have been noticed by the observers. The lights always appear at about 50° in the S or SW, They never gradually come into view or gradually disappear. Its "span angle" from the ground was about 7° -8°. They follow a rough schedule beginning about 2120 and appearing every hour and 10 minutes until three flights pass overhead. The men have attempted to determine whether or not there is any form between the lights by trying to observe stars between the lights. They have been unsuccessful however, due to the great speed of the object. Once they thought they observed stars between the objects but could not be sure.

The group is confident of the angular velocity of the object of 30°/second from measurements of several flights. Stop watches and protractors were used to measure time and angles. Several attempts have been made to measure the altitude. On only one occasion has there been any clouds and these were widely scattered, The objects appeared but did not pass close enough to a cloud to obtain a relative altitude.

Several other attempts to determine the altitude were made by using triangulation from a measured base line. On the first occasion an eleven mile base line was used with home-made angle measuring devices set up at each end of the base. Radios were used for communication from one end of the base lind to the other. Another night a shorter baseline was used. On the first night, neither party observed the

flights although two of their wives saw them from the city. On the second night only one party thought they saw the object but they were not able to get a measurement. The object appeared to be very low over the city of Lubbock.

A third attempt was made by Dr. [redacted] the astronomer. He questioned three people who saw the object as to their position and the angle of observation. This technique is used in plotting the path of meteors. He arrived at an altitude of between 2,000 and 3,000 feet. However, one of the observers was doubtful as to the time she made observation so it could have been another object she saw, consequently, they are not putting any reliability on this altitude measurement.

Two other incidents took place which the group would not mention at first but finally did. They qualified the incidents with the statement that they are so absurd they have never mentioned them. The first incident happened to Mrs. [redacted], who according to several people is a very calm woman. Prof. [redacted] stated that she came running into the house one evening just at dusk very excited. Due to her usually calm manner, the excitement was very apparent. She said she had seen a very large flying wing type aircraft, making no sound, go over the house. She could offer no more description. Prof. [redacted] could not remember exactly when it took place as he had passed it off as being too fantastic. (Note: Nearly identical to 25 August 1951 sighting in Alburquerque, New Mexico.)

The next incident was observed by Prof. [redacted] and Dr. [redacted] and has been titled [redacted] Horror". The men were sitting in the yard waiting for the"9:20", a term coined for the first object of the evening to pass over the observers. (Strangely enough, there was a remarkable amount of regularity to the flights of the objects.) All of a sudden a group of yellowish lights came across the yard very low, and according to Prof. [redacted], they had a "wiggling" motion. It upset Dr. [redacted] considerably, consequently the name "[redacted] Horror". Again the instance was dropped because no one else in the neighborhood saw it and it was very low.

At this point in the conversation the unusual meteor activity in the SW United States was brought up. The group, with Dr. [redacted] the astronomer, has already attempted to associate the formation of lights with this activity, however, they could find no asscociation between the two. Dr. [redacted] mentioned the fact that the series of events terminating with the large meteor that fell in Oklahoma on the morning of 7 November 1951 was very odd. They did not follow the general pattern of meteors. An expedition from several Southwestern Colleges is now being formed to attempt to find the one that is supposed to have fallen in Oklahoma.

Several meteors were reported to have fallen in the Lubbock area during the period Lt Ruppelt was there. In two instances people reported crashed aircraft, and Lt Ruppelt was present when B-25s were sent out to search. Later the locations where these "crashes" were reported were examined by Texas Tech people. They picked up some material that allegedly came from the object. A piece of this material has been obtained and will be analyzed. It may be ash from the many cotton gins located in the Lubbock area. According to Texas Tech chemists, if it is the potassium content will be high. (Lab report in file.)

The above named men together with Dr. [redacted] an astronomer at Texas Tech, have developed a very great interest in their objects. Their genuine interest is brought out by the fact that they devoted an entire evening discussing the matter with Lt Ruppelt and Capt Parker, and they previously have had many meetings between themselves. They refuse to recognize any sightings not witnessed by at least two of the group although they admit many other reputable people have seen the objects. Thus the figure of twelve sightings is conservative. Their term is twelve "official sightings". They have made every effort to investigate all possibilities as to what the objects might be. It is apparent after listening

to them review what t...ey have done that they are deeply interested in the phenomena.

They had dropped their investigation by the time Lt. "uppelt arrived because they had come to the conclusion that the object was some kind of a new weapon belonging to the U.S. and that they would only be prying into something that was none of their business. They also reasoned that if such an aircraft was far enough along to be flight tested they would probably hear something about it soon anyway. It is very apparent that their interest is again aroused and that they will attempt more research on the incident.

They are rather firmly convinced that the object is not a flock of birds. This is due to the great speed at which they travel. If the birds did have an apparently great speed, they would have to be very low. The lights these people saw gave the appearance of being very high, except for [redacted] Horror". Another doubtful point is the nearly perfect geometric pattern of the first two formation. Birds could not do that. The men did state that now that they know that the Air Force is interested, they will thoroughly discuss the possibility of birds in hopes that it is birds or some other such thing that can be explained. It is apparent that they were concerned when they found out it wasn't an Air Force project, which they had assumed when no Air Force personnel came to investigate the incident.

The professors were asked why they and their friends were the only ones who had seen so many while most people only saw them on one or two nights just after the newspaper articles came out. They said that they had thought of that and their explanation was that the other people had lost interest. They and their friends were interested in the object and continued to look for them. They stressed the fact that they were not readily apparent unless you were looking

for them. (This can be borne up by the fact that on the morning of 7 November the very bright meteor mentioned above was visible from Reese AFB. Lt Ruppelt was in front of the Officer's Club with several other people. Only those of the group who were looking directly at the meteor saw it, and it was considered to be extremely bright.)

UNCLASSIFIED R2C

SECRET
AUTH: CG 3500 PTW
INI: Kap
DATE 21 Nov 51

HEADQUARTERS 3500TH PILOT TRAINING WING
Reese Air Force Base, Texas

GA-1

21 November 1951

SUBJECT: Report on Night Flying Objects

TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center
ATTN: "Project Grudge"
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

1. Reference verbal conversation 1st Lt E. J. Ruppelt your Headquarters and Capt K. E. Parker, this Headquarters.

2. Inclosed is a statement signed by four professors at Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas, concerning subject above.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

00746

Donat F. Dauteuil

1 Incl
"Report on Night Flying Objects" (1 cy)

DONAT F. DAUTEUIL
CAPTAIN, USAF
Adjutant

1st Ind 2/DC

Hq. Flying Training Air Force, Waco, Texas 29 NOV 1951

TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: "Project Grudge", Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio .

2744

1 Incl
n/c

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
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UNCLASSIFIED

REPORT ON NIGHT FLYING OBJECTS

The first observations of these objects were made by Messrs. [redacted] and [redacted] at about 9:20 P.M. on August 25, 1951. Two flights were observed and were about five minutes apart. - These observers have agreed that:

(1) The objects were traveling from northeast to southwest and passing slightly southeast of overhead of the City of Lubbock.

(2) Each flight consisted of a series of lights in an arcuate formation which covered about 10° in the sky.

(3) It was apparent that the arcs were not continuous. Individual objects could not be clearly distinguished, but rather they appeared as scintillating points of bluish-green color, clearly and plainly visible but not brilliant, and having approximately the same illumination as high cirrus clouds on a clear moonlight night.

(4) Immediately after the flights it was estimated that the velocities of the flights were thirty degrees per second through an arc of ninety degrees beginning forty-five degrees below the zenith to forty-five degrees beyond the zenith.

(5) Both flights were identical in size, shape, velocity, and course.

(6) No sound was associated with the flights.

During the following week the same observers witnessed five flights between the hours of 9 and 12 P.M., each passing through the sky from north to south. Additional details are:

(1) On September first (Saturday) the above three were joined by Messrs. [redacted] and [redacted]. On that night two flights were seen similar to those previously seen but not in the clean arcuate form above described, but rather more irregularly grouped, and with definite and individual objects present in the formation.

(2) The apparent number of objects in these succeeding flights has been variously estimated as being from fifteen to thirty.

(3) The most unusual flight was observed at 12:17 A.M. on September second by the five people who had met for the purpose of making observations. This flight passed directly overhead in the general direction of north to south, and was seen by each member of the group.

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Pg 1

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Mr. [redacted] observed that in the case of this flight, an irregularly shaped yellow light appeared in the rear. The formation included dark diffuse areas, and the arc itself quivered or pulsated in the direction of its travel.

Mr. [redacted] first sighted this flight, and described it as a group of individually distinct yellow flames, approximately twelve or fifteen in number, traveling at an extremely high velocity, each with an angular magnitude that would be the equivalent of twelve inches across at a distance of thirty or forty feet, and in violent agitation.

Mr. [redacted] described this flight as having the appearance of a group of from twelve to fifteen pale objects in the shape of a quadrant of a circle, producing a pale yellow blinking light, and moving noiselessly.

The two other observers, Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] agreed to the above descriptions in their essential details.

The startling characteristics of this one flight made calm observation difficult to impossible.

The members of this group have seen a total of ten or twevle flights of these objects between August 25 and about November 1, 1951.

Submitted by,

[redacted]

[redacted]
Professor and Head of
Department of Petroleum
Engineering

[redacted]
Professor of Geology
Department of Geology

[redacted]
Professor of Chem. Eng.
Department of Chemistry
and Chemical Engineering

[redacted]
Professor and Director
Seismological Observatory

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[redacted]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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

IN REPLY REFER TO: 5D 24-21-77

4 January 1952

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unidentified Objects in
Flight Over Lubbock, Texas
SPECIAL INQUIRY

[redacted]
Auth. CG, USAF
Init.
Date 4 JAN 1952

TO: Commanding Officer
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: ATI

1. Reference is made to letter, this office, dated 15 November 1951, file 24-21, subject as above.

2. Attached hereto for your additional information are two copies of the report of investigation by Special Agent H. N. BOSSERT, 23d OSI District (IG), file 24-84, dated 5 December 1951, subject as above.

3. No further investigative action is contemplated, and the files of the Office of Special Investigations are considered closed in instant case.

4. Attention is invited to paragraph 7, AFR 205-1, dated 14 March 1949, which prohibits the disclosure of classified information to unauthorized personnel.

1 Incl (in dup)
R/I, DO #23, dtd 5 Dec 51

for JAMES F. X. O'CONNELL
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

Copy to:
Hq OSI w/o abv incl

When Inclosure No. 1 is withdrawn or not attached, the classification of [redacted] on this correspondence will be downgraded to [redacted], in accordance with par 25e, AFR 205-1.

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[redacted] 52S-1172

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SECRET: Auth of CS, USAF
CJCS 10 Dec 1951
SECURITY INFORMATION

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-84

DATE 5 December 1951

REPORT MADE BY S/A H. N. BOSSERT CGK

REPORT MADE AT DO #23, Carswell AFB, Fort Worth, Texas

PERIOD 17, 24 Nov; 2 Dec 51

OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #23, Carswell AFB, Fort Worth, Texas

STATUS CLOSED

TITLE

UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unidentified Objects in Flight Over
Lubbock, Texas

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

ROI S/A H.N. BOSSERT, DO #23, Carswell AFB, Texas, 8 Oct 51, file 24-84

SYNOPSIS

[redacted], [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, re-interviewed at the telephonic request of Lt EDWARD J. RUPPELT, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio. Interview with [redacted] provided no additional pertinent information. [redacted] executed a short, hand-written statement as to taking the pictures in question on 30 August 1951, and denying the possession of the lost negative.

CLOSED

Unauthorized disclosure of information contained herein is prohibited and will be reported as violation of AFR 205-1 and AFR 205-6.

DISTRIBUTION

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CO, Air Tech Intell Center (THRU Hq OSI) 2

CO, Reese AFB (info) 1

File 2

Ltr #13

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

Commanding General
Air Technical Intelligence
Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

APPROVED

JAMES C. SCHOFIELD
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

FILE STAMP

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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

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

SECRET
UNCLASSIFIED

DO #23 24-84

DETAILS:

1. This case was reopened in compliance with the verbal request of Lieutenant EDWARD J. RUPPELT, Office of Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, In telephonic conversation on 15 November 1951 requesting reinterview of [redacted], in an effort to procure more definite technical information and the possibility of locating missing negative.

AT LUBBOCK, TEXAS

2. [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, was out of the city visiting the Boy Scouts Executive Camp at Raton, New Mexico. On 2 December 1951, [redacted] was interviewed in private. The rights of a private citizen under the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States was explained to [redacted] and he acknowledged his understanding of such rights.

3. During this interview [redacted] did not deviate from the information obtained in the first interview by the writer or on the subsequent interview by the writer when accompanied by Lieutenant EDWARD J. RUPPELT, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, with the possible exception of the tracking and exposures of the unidentified objects on 30 August 1951.

4. [redacted] had explained to the writer and RUPPELT, through enactment, how he had obtained the pictures by tracking across the sky in the backyard of his residence. [redacted] explained in detail that allowing for the loss of thirty (30) degrees of vision to the north due to a line of trees and a duplicating loss of thirty (30) degrees of vision to the south due to the contour of the residence that he had used half of the remaining arc of vision in attempting to center objects in his range finder and then as they had passed the center arc he had pivoted and taken three (3) pictures while tracking. [redacted] was very positive of this particular phase. Questioned as to the missing negative, [redacted] stated that it had never been located, was still missing and was not in his possession.

5. [redacted] was requested to make a statement in his own handwriting covering the incidents described above. He was reluctant to make any statement, stating that he had told the whole truth of the incidents and that he could not see where a statement from him would have any effect on the investigation. However, he agreed, if permissible, to talk it over with his father, Mr. [redacted], [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, upon his return later in the day. This request was granted.

6. At 1730 hours, 2 December 1951, the writer received a telephone call from [redacted], stating that his son had talked over the possibility of making a written statement with him and that [redacted], had made a short written statement which was available.

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7. At 1745 hours, 2 December 1951, the statement was obtained from [redacted], which is set forth verbatim:

"On Aug 30, 1951 at about 11:30 PM took pictures of strange objects passing overhead from North to South. I saw three separate groups of objects. Two pictures are of the second group. Three are of the third group. The last negative has not been found and is not in my possession.

/s/ [redacted]."

8. On 30 November 1951, WILLIAM "BILL" HAMS, Photographer for the Avalanche-Journal Newspaper, Lubbock, Texas, was interviewed as to his knowledge of the type of work, the authenticity of the pictures turned in by [redacted], during a period covering approximately one (1) year. Mr. HAMS stated that he believed [redacted] to be the best amateur photographer in Lubbock and vicinity and that [redacted] had never given them any occasion to doubt his work. In referring to the pictures taken by [redacted] on 30 August 1951, HAM stated that the newspaper had also been doubtful as to the authenticity of the negatives and had run exhaustive tests on the negatives before they were published in the newspaper. HAM further stated that these tests were very thorough and that they had used the technical knowledge of other photographer in the city and none could find any evidence of the negatives having been tampered with in any way. HAM did not believe that [redacted] would attempt to perpetrate a "hoax" as the young man had turned in several times very remarkable pictures which work had been authentic.

9. All investigation as requested having been completed and there being no further undeveloped leads, this case is closed.

INCLOSURE
FOR DO #23 FILES
1. Original statement made by [redacted].

CLOSED

Where in hell the 1st & 2nd. The Hindus are!

make it the seven glorified Rells of Vishnu, Krishna, and Kali Durga, for good measure.

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

AMR7e

UNCLASSIFIED

DISPOSITION FORM

~~RESTRICTED~~ UNCLASSIFIED

RTC

FILE NO.	SUBJECT
	(Restricted) Evaluation of Negatives

TO	FROM	DATE	COMMENT NO. 2
ATIAA-2c	WCEFP-2	DEC 3 1951	Mr. Chapman/sgp 31381/Bldg 17

1. The attached negatives have been evaluated as per the attached Test Report WCEFP-2-4. It is not possible at this time to confirm or deny the authenticity of these negatives as a record of unknown objects against either a starlit or overcast sky. No images which could be interpreted as stars are present.

2. In the event further photographic tests are subsequently desired, to discover the spot magnitudes involved, this Laboratory will cooperate fully in carrying them out.

John A. Hancock, Maj USAF
GEORGE W. GODDARD, Col, USAF
Chief, Photo Reconnaissance Lab
Weapons Components Division

2 Incls:
1- 35 mm Negatives(4)
2- Test Rept-WCEFP-2-4

Negatives Still at Lab.
Hank called Chapman
15'00 on 4 Dec 51

CONCURRENCE:
JM Chapman NCEFP-2
C&S Staff WCEFP-2
P Pryor WCEFP

RETURN RECEIPT

Receipt for Registered, Insured and Certified Articles

Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the original number of which appears on the face of this Card.

[redacted]
(Signature or name of addressee)

(Signature of addressee's agent (Unless addressee's name on line ONE above))

Date of delivery MAR 24 1952, 19

[redacted]

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 96 REPLACES NME FORM 9

16—54801-3 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

[redacted]) Evaluation of Negatives

ATIAA-2c WCEFP-2 2

DEC 3 1951

Mr. Chapman/sgp
31381/Bldg 17

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2 Incls
1- 35 mm Negatives
2- Test Rept-WCEFP-

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted] ARD, Col, USAF
Reconnaissance Lab
Technical Services Division

(Restricted) Evaluation of Negatives

WCEFP-2
Attn: Mr. Swift

ATIAA-2c

Written 11/5/51

1.

Lt Metscher/vs
54261/32631/2 D-11

1. Inclosed are four 35 mm negatives and prints. The negatives are not government property, consequently, it is requested that they be handled carefully.

2. It is requested that the negatives be evaluated. The circumstances under which these negatives were exposed and the evaluation needed were discussed by Mr. Swift and Lt E. J. Ruppelt of the Air Technical Intelligence Center on 25 October 1951.

3. The exposure data is as follows:

a.	Exposed at 2330 CST at	Lubbock, Texas, on 30 August 1951.
b.	Camera	-	Kodak 35 w/range finder.
c.	Film	-	Plus X
d.	Lens	-	Kodak Anastor F 3.5, 50 mm
e.	All Exposures	-	F 3.5 at 1/10 sec.
f.	Developer	-	Panthermic 777 for 15 minutes

1 Incl
35 mm Negatives (4)

S. H. KIRKLAND, JR., Col, USAF
Chief, Technical Analysis Division
Air Technical Intelligence Center

UNCLASSIFIED

(R[redacted]) Evaluation of Negatives

ATIAA-2c WCEFP-2

2

DEC 3 1951

Mr. Chapman/sgp
31381/Bldg 17

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2. In the event further photographic tests are subsequently desired, to discover the spot magnitudes involved, this Laboratory will cooperate fully in carrying them out.

2 Incls:
1- 35 mm Negatives(4)
2- Test Rept-WCEFP-2-4

GEORGE W. GODDARD, Col, USAF
Chief, Photo Reconnaissance Lab
Weapons Components Division

CONCURRENCE:

UNCLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED R7C

ROUTING AND REC[illegible] SHEET

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR [illegible]ERIEL COMMAND

Use this form for inter-office correspondence within headquarters.

Number all comments consecutively.

Use entire width of sheet, both sides.

Use authorized office symbols to designate addressor and addressee.

Note warning signal at lower left of form. Remaining space is sufficient only for proper spacing of typewritten signature.

Place initials of dictator and typist, telephone number and location to right of signature.

Separate comments by horizontal lines across page.

SUBJECT (Restricted) Evaluation of Negatives

TO WCEFP-2
Attn: Mr. Swift

FROM ATIAA-2c

DATE 5 NOV 1951

COMMENT NO. 1.

Lt Metscher/vs
~~54261~~/B263D/P D-11
65376

1. Inclosed are four 35 mm negatives and prints. The negatives are not government property, consequently, it is requested that they be handled carefully.

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b.	Camera	-	Kodak 35 w/range finder.
c.	Film	-	Plus X
d.	Lens	-	Kodak Anastor F 3.5, 50 mm
e.	All Exposures	-	F 3.5 at 1/10 sec.
f.	Developer	-	Panthermic 777 for 15 minutes

1 Incl
35 mm Negatives (4)

for S. M. KIRKLAND, JR., Col, USAF
Chief, Technical Analysis Division
Air Technical Intelligence Center

UNCLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED R7C

JMG.
9 Nov '57

140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0

20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160 180 200

Chart I Frame #5 X - Thousandths Inch

JWG
9 Nov. '51

Y Thousandths Inch.

140
120
100
80
60
40
20

0 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160 180 200

Chart II Frame #7 X Thousandths Inch.

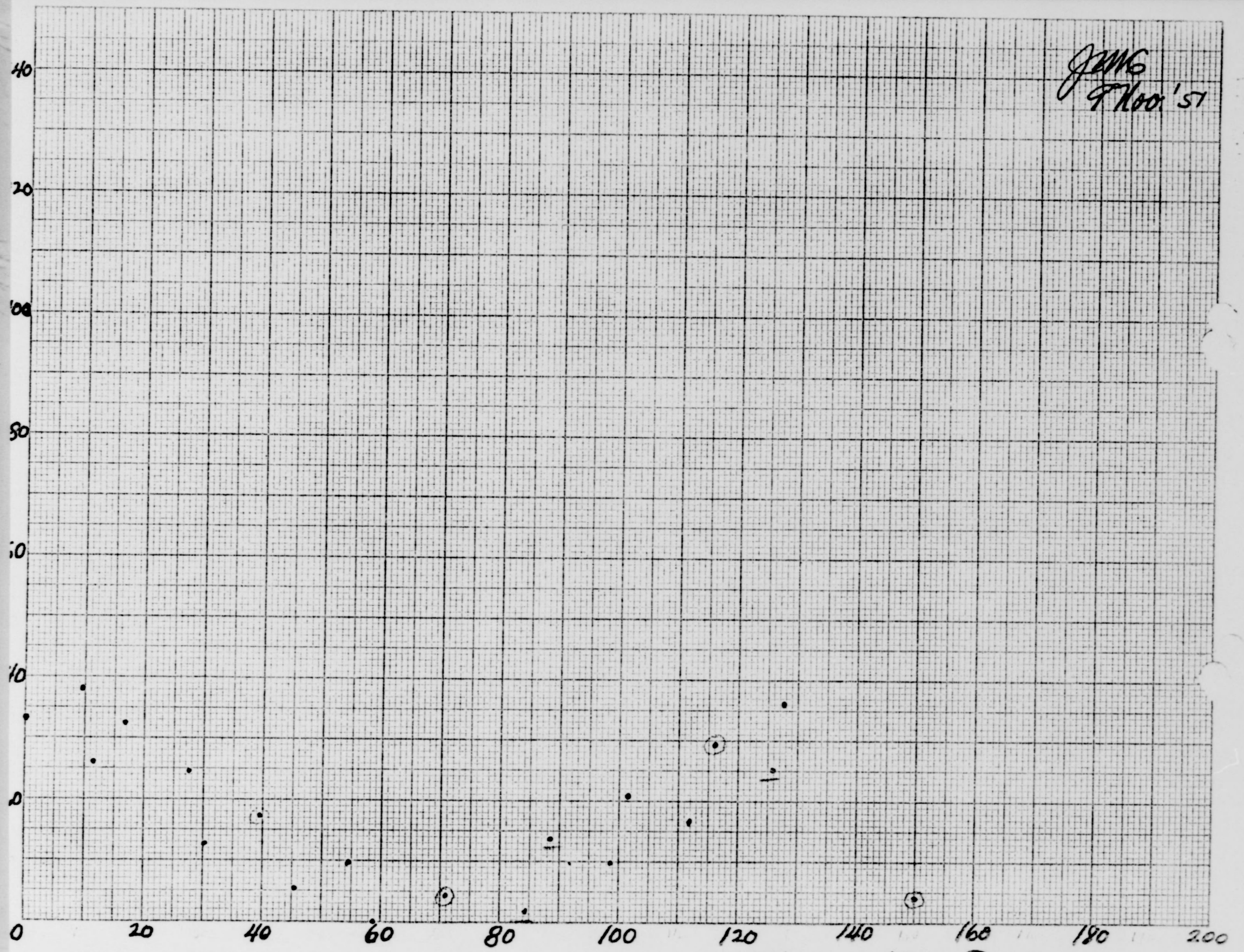

Chart III Frame #8 X

KEUFFEL & ESSER CO., N. Y. NO. 340-11
10 × 10 to the ½ inch, 5th lines accented
Engraving 7 × 10 in
MADE IN U. S. A.

Chart IV Composite of Frames 5, 7, 8.

J M Chapman
9 Nov 1951.

0.020"
Scale.

TEST REPORT No. WCEFP-2-4

PHYSICS BRANCH

SENSITOMETRY UNIT

29 NOV 1951

SUBJECT: Evaluation of 35 mm. Negatives

FACTUAL DATA

1. Four negative frames were submitted from the Air Technical Intelligence Center for photographic evaluation by the Sensitometry Unit. These negatives were exposed at approximately 2330 CST, 30 Aug 1951, at Lubbock, Texas. The camera was the familiar Kodak 35 with coupled range-finder and a 50 mm (2 inch) f/3.5 Anastor Kodak lens. The Plus X film was exposed for 1/10 sec with lens aperture wide open, presumably with the camera hand-held and the film was processed in Panthermic 777 developer for 15 min. An interpretation of the configuration of spots was requested, in addition to general sensitometric notes.

2. A preliminary microscopic examination of the negatives disclosed the presence of patterns of spots, the patterns on the four frames being generally similar. Roughly 20 spots were visible on each negative in a flat "V" formation. In 3 negatives the formation consists of

Ref 2

two rows, while the fourth shows all spots lined up in a single row. All negatives show evidence of camera motion during exposure, since the spots all are similarly blurred on the same negative, and the blur shape is different for each negative.

3. To resolve the formations and detect internal motion of the spots, each negative was examined on a large comparator microscope. The rectangular coordinates of each spot, relative to a convenient origin of coordinates, were read and then plotted on coordinate paper. It is emphasized here that the resulting plot is erect, but a mirror image, from left to right, of the actual object photographed.

4. Little significance, other than brightness variations, can be found from the negatives separately. When the charts were superimposed, however, it was readily apparent that the two rows of spots behaved differently. One row shows only slight variation from a precise "V" formation throughout, whereas the other row appears to pass from above the first row, through it to a position below. The spacings of this second row vary irregularly in the 3 frames plotted, while the first row holds a

fairly precise formation. The first frame, No.4, was not plotted because of extreme blurring, but frames 5, 7 and 8 were plotted as Charts I, II and III respectively. Chart IV is a composite of C harts I, II and III. In it the spots from the previous charts, that appear relatively fixed in the formation, are shown as heavy black ink spots. The relatively moving spots are shown in light pencil--the first position of these shifting spots is light red, as in Chart I; the second position, spaced between the heavy spots, is in black pencil, as from Chart II; and the final position is shown in light green.

5. According to the microscopic examinations, spot brightness range could be expressed as weak, average, and bright, corresponding to faint, average, or heavy spot densities. The faint spots in the moving row are underscored, while the bright spots are circled. Only those spots in the fixed row that are alike in all three negatives are indicated in the same way.

6. There is the appearance of two extra spots, outside the regular rows. One spot is to the lower right in all three charts, while the spot shows only faintly in the No.7 negative and was missed in plotting Chart II; it appears in position at the left end of the moving row in Chart III.

CONCLUSIONS

7. There is relative movement within the formation of spots, so that they are not lights on a fixed object. The relative motion is such that it appears unlikely that they are co-planar and photographed from different angles. Furthermore, it is unlikely that the moving spots are in any kind of straight line.

8. The angular size of the formation, at the camera lens, is very nearly the same in all cases. The formation is, however, slightly larger in Chart II, or Frame 7, than in the others. The angular size corresponds to an object size of 310 ± 30 ft, seen by the camera 1 mile away. The actual size of the formation may be calculated from this ratio, if the actual distance from the camera can be determined. This image size is actually 0.12", formed by a 2" focal length lens in the camera used.

9. Although the image size in Frame 8 is about 2% less than in Frame 7, suggesting that the objects are receding from the camera, the aspect of the "V" formation does not correspond to a horizontal "V", travelling parallel to the earth's surface unless at an enormous altitude. Such motion at conventional altitudes would

require the "V" to flatten, eventually becoming a straight line, but the "V" in Frame 8 is a slightly smaller angle than in Frame 7.

10. The orientation of the "V" formation is the same on all negatives. If the formation did actually pass directly over the camera station, all photographs were taken either before or after, but not both. It is obvious that the image would be inverted on two successive negatives if they were taken on an approaching and then a receding slant angle.

11. The pattern of spot brightness is such as to prove conclusively that all 3 frames--5, 7 and 8--were exposed to the same object pattern of spots. However, the relative positions of these spots varies, as described above.

RECOMMENDATIONS

12. In the event that further assistance is requested of this Laboratory, exposure tests should be made under identical conditions to determine the spot nature required to produce the observed densities, and to determine the amount of camera blur produced by an experienced photographer in "panning", to track a moving target at night.

JAMES M. CHAPMAN

Project Engineer

CONCURRENCE:

This Case Includes

One (1) 4" x 5", Four (4)
3½" x 4½" photos and
Four (4) 8" x 10" photos.

LUBBOCK, TEXAS
25 August 1951

On the evenings of 25 August 1951, 31 August 1951, and 1 September 1951, flights of unidentified objects were observed over Lubbock, Texas; in some instances there were several flights per evening. The description of the objects varied to some extent, but it is generally agreed that it was a "V" or "U" shaped set of light-like objects. Mr [redacted], an amateur photographer, turned over photographs to the Air Force which he claims are of two of the flights. Disagreement among the witnesses is on the number of lights in the arrangement and whether it was "V" or "U" shaped. The flight path was from NE to SW or N-S. The object appeared brighter than stars and had a yellow or blue tint. In most cases no noise was reported, but a few witnesses stated they heard a "whoosh."

Many witnesses reported the incident, but the most technically competent observers were probably Professor [redacted], Head of Petroleum Engineering, Dr [redacted] Professor of Chemical Engineering, and Dr [redacted] Professor of Geology, all of Texas Tech. In addition to being the most competent, these witnesses were among the first to see the object and viewed it on subsequent occasions under controlled circumstances. For their initial sighting the professors were gathered together discussing astronomy on the evening of 25 August 1951. At 2110 they happened to observe the first flight of the object, which they described as a rough semi-circle of lights. A second object passed over three minutes later. The witnesses estimated the angular velocity to be 30° per second. During subsequent observations the professors confirmed their estimate of the velocity by using protractors and stop watches. Attempts were also made to get an estimate of the elevation by viewing the object from several locations at the same time and using trigonometric methods, and also by using clouds of known height. These attempts were not considered successful.

In 1959 Dr J Allen Hynek contacted one of the professors at Texas Tech regarding this case. This professor informed Dr Hynek that he had conducted an extensive study of the Lubbock sighting and determined that they were definitely birds.

The Air Force conclusion is that birds, with street lights reflecting from them, were the probable cause of this sighting. The angular velocity of 30° per second seems rather high for birds during migratory flights (approximately 60 MPH at 168 feet altitude). It is probable that the angular velocity was less. In all instances the witnesses were located in an area where their eyes were probably dark adapted, therefore making the objects appear brighter.

Mr [redacted], when taking his pictures, had to do so by "panning" his camera (swinging with the object's motion). Panning is quite difficult and the relatively high degree of success of this photographer is further indication that the angular velocity of the object was not as high as estimated.

The kind of birds responsible for this sighting is not known, but it is highly probable that they were ducks or plovers. Since plovers do not usually fly in formations of more than six or seven, ducks become the more probable. The fact that this was late summer, and that the objects consistently flew to the south tends to substantiate the conclusion that the objects of this sighting were migratory birds.

NBR 32 14 SEPT 51 UNCLASSIFIED

1951 SEP 14 01:34

C-1

PRIORITY

PARAPHASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

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AIR 19

AFM DE AIR

RR JEDWP

AKS A004

AIR JE AFS

PP JADWP

JWFQB 003

PP JEDWP

DE JWFQB 178

1. ATI - 1 WF2
2. ATI -
3. -
4. MCAGAM 2L

INFORMATION COPY

FM DIST COMR 23RD OSI DIST(IG) USAF CARSWELL AFB FTW

TO ZEN/COMMANDING OFFICER REESE AIR FORCE BASE TEX

ZEN/DET COMDR REESE OSI DET REESE AFB TEX

INFO JEDWP/CG AMC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB DAYTON OHIO ATTN

ATIAA-2A GRUDGE cite

/S E C R E T/ OSI-23-9-103. FOLLOWING MISDIRECTED MSG FROM ATIC, WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB QUOTED IN PART FOR YOUR INFO:QUOTE REQUEST A-2 FORWARDED BY AIRMAIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FROM 112 ON SUBJECTS [redacted], MRS. [redacted], MRS [redacted]; IF POSSIBLE FORWARD BY AIRMAIL ORIGINAL NEGATIVES OF PHOTGRAPHS [redacted] IS STATED TO HAVE TAKEN IN REPLY CITE ATIAA-2A, GRUDGE END QUOTE. ATTENTION INVITED TO LTR DAF, AFOIC-CC-1, 8 SEPT 50, SUBJ: QUOTE RPTG OF INFO ON UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT END QUOTE. CONTACT SPECIAL AGENT BOSSERT FOR FURTHER INFO.

315-131807-1

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

NR 11 07 OCT 51

C-1 PRIORITY SECRET

FM CO REESE AFB LUBBOCK TEXAS 050735

TO AMC WPAFB

ATTN TIC

PRIORITY

REF UR MSG CITE AT 8072, DT GOOD 060120Z. INVESTIGATION AT IAA-2A DISP TO UR HQS REGISTERED, AIR MAIL, 21 SEP CURRENTLY UNDER REGISTRY 40035 AND 40086. RECEIPTED FOR AT UR HQS BY THELMA I WILSON, MAIL GROUP SUP., SEP CURRENT.

ACTION COPY

07/0347Z OCT

AT- 8072 - 575-131851-A - ATIAA -

CI-131851-B-

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

298393

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

UNCLASSIFIED

Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~SECRET~~

TO : ATIA, Colonel Kirkland

AUTH: CO ATIC DATE: 10 October 1951
BY: J.R. Shaw
DATE: 10-10-51

FROM : ATIAA-2, Lt Metscher

SUBJECT: Texas and Mew Mexico Sightings, Grudge - Project 10073

1. Two visual sightings, describing group of lights, can be associated with a sighting of swept wing aircraft as is described below. Present evaluation C-3.

2. Description of sightings of unidentified objects:

		(1)	(2)	(3)
(a)	Location	Lubbock	Lubbock	Albuquerque
(b)	Date of sighting	25 Aug 51 21:10	30 Aug 51 23:30	25 Aug 51 21:58
(c)	Shape of objects	string of beads	white sticks	chevron shaped
(d)	Number of objects	50	20	1
(e)	Aerodynamic features			no fuselage, sweepback 15°
(f)	Outstanding features	U form	V form	six to 8 pairs, soft lights
(g)	Sound	none	none	none
(h)	Speed estimates	incredible speed	rapid	300-400 mph
(i)	Radar detection	none	none	none
(j)	Altitude estimate	very high	high	800-1000 ft

3. The similarity is as follows:

a. Sightings 1 and 2, supported by photographic evidence attached, agree with the description of pairs of lights in sightings 3.

4. Action being taken on this includes a query to Strategic Air Command, Offutt AFB, asking whether their aircraft were in the vicinity at stated times.

HENRY METSCHER, 2d Lt, USAF
Project Monitor

3 Incls
1. Ltr, 7 Sept 51 w/photos
2. AF Form 112, GA-2-51, ATIC 19038
3. Ltr w/AF 112, #1

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51s0146325

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CO, ATIC

3015302 Oct 51

Priority

Commanding Officer, Reece AFB, Lubbock, Texas

X

X

For: Wing Intelligence Officer. Lt. Edward J. Ruppelt of the Air Technical Intelligence Center will be at your base 6 November 1951 in regard to reports on unconventional aircraft reported in Lubbock area on 25 and 31 August 1951.

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

513-153961-

1 1

Lt. E. J. Ruppelt/peg

ATIAA-2c

54261

KENNETH T. FINCH, Captain, USAF
Asst Air Adjutant General

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

CO, ATIC 3015302 Oct 51

Priority

Commanding Officer, Carswell AFB, Texas X

X

ATIAA-2c

For Chief, District Office #23, OSI. Lt. Edward J. Ruppelt of the Air Technical Intelligence Center will be at Reece AFB, Texas on 6 November 1951 in regard to 25 and 31 August reports of unconventional aircraft. It is requested that if possible Agent Howard M. Bossert who investigated the incident on 8 October 1951 meet Lt. Ruppelt at Reece AFB to discuss the incident.

51S-158963-

1 1

Lt. E. J. Ruppelt/peg

ATIAA-2c 54261

KENNETH T. FINCH, Captain, USAF
Asst Air Adjutant General

UNCLASSIFIED

SECURITY INFO ATION CONFIDENTIAL
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SECTION OPERATIONS
ATIAA

Visit to Air Defense Command Headquarters

Lt Ruppelt of ATIAA-2 visited the Office of the Deputy for Intelligence at Air Defense Command Headquarters in Colorado Springs, Colorado, on 5 November 1951. The object of the visit was to coordinate work on the investigations of sightings of unconventional aircraft. ADC has no program for investigating such sightings, however, they are very much interested in the investigations conducted by ATIC and wish to cooperate to the fullest extent. They suggested that ATIC prepare a letter outlining what steps should be taken in reporting sightings and this has been done.

In addition, ADC requested that they receive a copy of the monthly status report of Project 10073. (Confidential)

Investigation of Unconventional Aircraft

A trip was made to Lubbock, Texas, on 6 November 1951 by ATIAA-2 personnel to investigate the reports of an unidentified aerial object which has been seen over Lubbock. The object, which has been described as a series of lights, was observed over the city on at least twelve occasions. The speed could not be judged due to the inability to get an altitude measurement but the angular velocity was 30°/second. The incident is unique in that it was observed on about twelve occasions by a group of six Texas Technical College faculty members, all of whom have Ph.D. degrees. Their fields of specialty covered physics, chemistry, geology, and mathematics.

Photos of the object were taken by a college student and these are being analyzed by the Photo Lab at WADC. These photos appear to be authentic but are being double-checked.

The possibility of known aircraft has proved negative. There is a possibility that the objects were some type of night flying migratory birds, although no conclusions have yet been reached. (Confidential)

ATIAA-2

LUBBOCK LIGHTS

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

CONFIDENTIAL
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

CO, ATIC

281300Z Nov 51

Routine

Detachment Commander
Reese AFB, CSI Detachment
Reese AFB, Lubbock, Texas

X

X

AIIAA-2c

In reference to telephone conversation between Lt. E. J. Ruppelt and Mr. Lee on 15 November 1951, request status of reinterrogation of [redacted]. In addition, is information available as to whether or not Professor [redacted] intends to submit detailed statement on the series of incidents he and his colleagues observed?

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

513-176034

1 1

Lt. E. J. Ruppelt/peg

ATIAA-2c

54261

KENNETH T. FINCH, Captain, USAF
Asst Air Adjutant General

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

C1 ROUTINE CONFIDENTIAL
FROM DET COMDR REESE AFB OSI DET LUBBOCK TEXAS
TO CG AMC WPAFB OHIO TO CO ATIC ATTN PROJECT GRUDGE

REF ITEM C037.

RE INTERVIEW OF [redacted] COMPLETED 2 DEC 51. DELAY OCCASIONED BY ABSENCE OF [redacted] FROM CITY. NO PERTINENT ADDITIONAL INFO OBTAINED. RPT FOLS VIA OSI CHANNELS. NEW SUBJ DETAILED STATEMENT OF PROFESSOR [redacted] AND OTHER PROFESSORS DISPATCHED BY WING INTELLIGENCE. REESSE AFB ON 26 NOV 51 UNDER REGISTRY NUMBER 40171

1 - ATIAA17
2 - ATIA
3 - ATI RAC 177011
515-177011

NR 6775

ACTION

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DOD DIR 5200.10

OR INTERIOR. DTL Removed

PARAGRAPHS NOT REQUIRED, SEE CRYPTO CENTER
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SECURITY INFORMATION

[redacted] R7C

UNCLASSIFIED

ATIAA-2c/EJR/vs

IN REPLY REFER TO:
AFOIN-ATIAA-2c

SUBJECT: (Uncl) Letter of Appreciation

TO: Commanding Officer
Reese Air Force Base
Lubbock, Texas

ATIAA-2c Dr. Ruppelt

1. The Air Technical Intelligence Center wishes to express its appreciation to the Commanding Officer and personnel of the Reese Air Force Base for the cooperation given Lt Edward J. Ruppelt of ATIC during his recent investigation of unidentified aerial objects reported over Lubbock, Texas.

2. Capt Parker and Lt Farely of Wing Intelligence were very helpful in obtaining additional information on the incident.

3. The initial Spot Intelligence Report and investigations made by Mr. Bossart of the OSI Detachment were excellent. His reports were very complete and informative and are a great aid in the evaluation of the incident by ATIC.

FRANK L. DUNN
Colonel, USAF
Chief

cc: District Commander
23rd District OSI
Carswell AFB
Fort Worth, Texas

[redacted] R7C

UNCLASSIFIED

AMC Form No. 10-7
(Rev. 1 Apr 48)

INSERT OFFICE SYMBOL AND FULL SIGNATURE IN APPROPRIATE BLOCK

CG, CO OR DEPUTY

AIR INSPECTOR

PUBLIC INF. OFFICE

COMPTROLLER

PERSONNEL & ADM.

RESEARCH & DEV.*

INTELLIGENCE

EJR - ATIAA2c
for ATIAA
JOB Mann ATIA

SUPPLY AND MAINT.

PROC. & IND. MOB. PLNG.*

IER

HART

ATIAA-2c/EJR/vs

IN REPLY REFER TO:
AFOIN-ATIAA-2c

21 MAR 1952

[redacted]

Lubbock, Texas

Case file

Dear Mr. [redacted]

Inclosed are four (4) 35 mm negatives of an unidentified aerial object that you so graciously loaned to the Air Force for analysis.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the use of the negatives and the cooperation you have given to Air Force personnel. You have shown the utmost interest in the welfare of our nation.

Sincerely yours,

J. A. O'Mara, Col

S. H. KIRKLAND, JR.
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Technical Analysis Division

1 Incl
35 mm negatives (4)

*AREA COMMANDS WILL LINE OUT ORGANIZATIONAL TITLE NOT APPLICABLE WHEN ADDITIONAL SPACE IS NEEDED IN COORDINATION BLOCK	ORIG. FILE COPIES TO RECORDS SEC. AGD HQ. BR. ☐ LAB. BR. ☐	INITIALS	EXTRA COPY RETAINED	OFF. SYMBOL	INITIALS

WF-L-20 APR 48 800M

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AF FORM 112—PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

~~SECRET~~
(CLASSIFICATION)
UNCLASSIFIED

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
United States	GA-1-51	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT
Unidentified Aerial Objects

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)
Lubbock, Texas—4th Army Area	Wing Intelligence Office 3500th Pilot Training Wing, Reese AFB, Tex.

DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
21 Sept 1951	18 Sept 1951	A-2

PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE
1/Lt. John A. Farley	Mrs. Tom Tilson

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)
CSI-23-9-103, ATIAA-2A

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

The sighting of an unknown aerial object over US highway 70, 2½ miles north of Matador, Texas was reported to the local Matador newspaper on 31 August 1951 by Mrs. [redacted] who lives about [redacted] miles north of Matador, Texas on the same highway. Mrs. [redacted] was interviewed by the reporting officer on 18 September 1951.

518.12

518.6

APPROVED:

John A Farley

JOHN A. FARLEY
1/Lt. USAF
Assistant Wing Intelligence Officer

0 INCLS.

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AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
Wing Intelligence Officer 3500th FTW, Reese AFB, Texas	GA-1-51	

Mrs. [redacted] stated that at approximately 1245 hours CST 31 August 1951, as she and her daughter, Mrs. [redacted] Lawton, Oklahoma, who was visiting her, were driving to her home approximately five [redacted] miles north of Matador, Texas, their attention was drawn to a strange aerial object drifting across US highway 70. Mrs. [redacted] first noticed the object and it was a few seconds before she drew Mrs. [redacted] attention to it. When Mrs. [redacted] saw the object it was drifting slowly in an easterly direction about 150 feet above the terrain and approximately 200 feet in front of the car. About the time she saw it, it began a rapid ascent and moved away to the east in a circular direction in a matter of a few seconds.

The location of the sighting was about 2½ miles north of Matador, Texas on US highway 70. The terrain to the west of the road is rolling for about 10 miles to a line of foothills. The land is sparsely to heavily wooded by mesquite thickets with the first 300 yards open flat terrain. To the east the land is flat for approximately 30 miles, sparsely wooded, and the first 1000 yards is open. At the time of the sighting, Mrs. [redacted] estimated the automobile was traveling between 40 and 50 MPH.

The object sighted was described as looking like a yellow pear-shaped tomato, aluminum or silver in color that reflected the sunlight readily. It had a door, window, or something similar located at a point where the object began to taper toward the smaller end. Only one object was sighted and it moved through the air with the small end forward. No noise, exhaust, wings, or visible means of propulsion were observed. Mrs. [redacted] could not estimate the speed but did say she thought the object was about 40 feet long and 16 feet in diameter.

She stated the sun was shining brightly with very little wind. The 1230 hours Reese Air Force Base observation was as follows: Estimated ceiling 6000 feet, Broken clouds, thin broken clouds at 25,000 feet, visibility 15 miles, temperature 87°, dew point 60°, wind from the east northeast at 3 knots per hour. The 1230 hours Childress, Texas observation was as follows: Estimated ceiling 25,000 feet overcast, visibility 15 miles plus, temperature 90°, dew point 66°, wind from the north northeast at 7 knots per hour, towering cumulus in the southeast quadrant.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

Mrs. [redacted] is a housewife residing with her husband some five [redacted] miles north of Matador, Texas on US highway 70. She seemed to be a very mature woman, in her middle fifties, above average mentally, and in complete use of her faculties. Her report, in the estimation of the reporting officer, would be classified as reliable.

It is the recommendation of this officer that Mrs. [redacted] Lawton, Oklahoma, be interviewed to get her version of the sighting as she was the first to notice the object and observed it for a greater length of time.

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24-0 **SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT** 7 September 1951

SUBJECT: Unidentified Objects in Flight over Lubbock, Texas

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

cc: Headquarters Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio

1. SYNOPSIS: Mysterious objects appearing to be "strings of beads" traveling at high speeds have allegedly been observed over Lubbock, Texas. Subject phenomenon were allegedly observed by three faculty members from Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas, on 25 August 1951. These objects appeared to be V-shaped formations giving off a distinct glow, which may have been reflections from lights on the ground. The observations by the three college professors were later vouched for by four other witnesses. Similar phenomenon was observed by one [redacted], of Lubbock, Texas, who is alleged to have taken photographs of the objects. Numerous other witnesses to similar occurrences have reported varied accounts to reporters of the Lubbock Avalanche Journal, on 1 and 2 September 1951. At Matador, Texas, on 31 August 1951, at 12:45 P. M. CST, two women reported a "strange wingless" aircraft passed within 150 feet of their automobile and disappeared a short time later.

2110-23 A-31
3 Photos

2. DETAILS: Numerous reports have been received by news sources at Lubbock, Texas of strange unidentified objects in flight over Lubbock, Texas and vicinity since 25 August 1951. First observation of such flying phenomenon was reported by three faculty members of Texas Technological College, at Lubbock, Texas. These professors were: [redacted] Professor and head of the Petroleum Engineering Department; Dr. [redacted] Professor of Chemical Engineering; and Dr. [redacted]. [redacted] Professor of Geology. These individuals stated that on Saturday evening at 2110 hours, a group of objects flying in a rough semicircle or crescent formation was sighted flying from the northeast to the southwest at an "incredible speed". These three professors were unable to give any complete description of the objects; however, they

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