

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 20 September 52	2. LOCATION At sea on (U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt.)
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION BALLOON
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not reported	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS SEE OASE FILE
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual	
7. COURSE Not Stated	
8. PHOTOS NEGATIVES ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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

Metropolitan Sunday Newspapers, Inc.

260 Madison Avenue, New York 16, N.Y. MURRAY HILL 9-8200

EDITORIAL BUREAU

USS Franklin D. Roosevelt

20 Sept 52 October 2, 1952

Major Dewey J. Fournet
AFDIN - 2A2
Headquarters, U.S. Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Major Fournet:

Here are the three Ansco color transparencies, 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 2 $\frac{1}{4}$, shot by Metro Group photographer [REDACTED] aboard the U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt while covering the NATO maneuvers for us.

Following is a quote from Litwin's letter of yesterday describing the circumstances surrounding the shooting of these pictures:

20 SEP 52
"On September twentieth, at a few minutes after four p.m., I was standing on the forward flight deck of the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt, biggest carrier in the world. With me, at the time, was Lt. [REDACTED], helicopter pilot. It was a bright day and there were occasional clouds in a very blue sky. As we were talking, I saw this round object about five hundred or a thousand feet in the air, directly above the after end of the ship. I shouted something to [REDACTED] and ran aft a bit to shoot it with a bit of the ship's 'island' in the picture to establish where. I had time to take a meter reading and three exposures before the rapidly rising thing was out of sight. The weather man man aboard sent a balloon up at three thirty, and says that it rose up and out of sight in the overcast in about fifty seconds. This was not it. The shots were in color.

"The next day there was an item on the teletype as follows:
PITREAVIE, SCOTLAND, SEPT 22 (INS) RAF OFFICERS IN THE NATO MANEUVERS OPERATIONS MAINBRACE TODAY*INVESTIGATED A REPORT THAT A FLYING SAUCER WAS SIGHTED. TEN OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN IN AN RAF BOMBER PLANE REPORTED YESTERDAY THAT THEY SAW A SILVER CIRCULAR OBJECT FOLLOWING A BRITISH PURSUIT PLANE OVER YORKSHIRE. THEY SAID THE OBJECT, WITH A ROTARY MOTION ABOUT ITS OWN AXIS, SUDDENLY ACCELERATED AT INCREDIBLE SPEED AND VANISHED BEFORE THEY COULD GET CLOSER.

(* Sept.20)

"This took place in the same part of the world and could be part of the same situation. I have [REDACTED] affidavit, not

7-3712-19

DISPOSITION FORM

UNCLASSIFIED

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

FILE NO.

SUBJECT

(Unclassified) Material for Project Blue Book

TO Chief, Air Technical
Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson AFB
Ohio

FROM Dept of the Air Force
Hq USAF - AFOIN

DATE

COMMENT NO. 1

Maj Fournet/dbv/71379

1. Inclosed are reproductions of three color transparencies taken by Mr. [REDACTED], an American press photographer, in the vicinity of the Naval formation participating in Operation Mainbrace on 20 Sep 52. The attached copy of a letter from Mr. [REDACTED] of the Metropolitan Sunday Newspapers, Inc. dated 2 Oct 52 (see Incl 2) includes all data on this sighting presently available this office.

2. The original photographs were returned to Mr. [REDACTED] with a letter expressing our sincere thanks for his cooperation in making the photographs available to us. The photographs were enlarged by Hq USAF from the original $2\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ inch size to the present size; the vertical dimension of the copies correspond to the coverage in the original photographs (enlargement ratio 2.25:5). These are the only copies which were made; none are filed in Headquarters. An enlarged reversal print of the second transparency is attached (Incl 3); it was made to show that the image is still round. Photographs are for official use only; not for release.

3. A cable to CINCPAC, with information copy to you, was dispatched 3 Oct 52 requesting information on balloon releases by ships in the Naval formation. Message number is AFOIN 59530.

4. A copy of OPNAV Notice 3820 is attached as Incl 4 for your information and retention.

Incls

1. Pkg of 3 photos
2. Cy ltr fr Mr. [REDACTED] dtd 2 Oct 52
3. Photo
4. Cy OPNAV Notice 3820

William A. Adams
WILLIAM A. ADAMS
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Topical Division
Deputy Director for Estimates
Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O

Mr. [REDACTED] wants print
DOWNGRADED AND
DECLASSIFIED
DOD 5200.10
INTERVAL 13
YEARS

UNCLASSIFIED

Metropolitan Sunday Newspapers, Inc.

260 Madison Avenue, New York 16, N. Y. MURRAY HILL 9-8200

E D I T O R I A L B U R E A U

Major Dewey J. Fournet

-2-

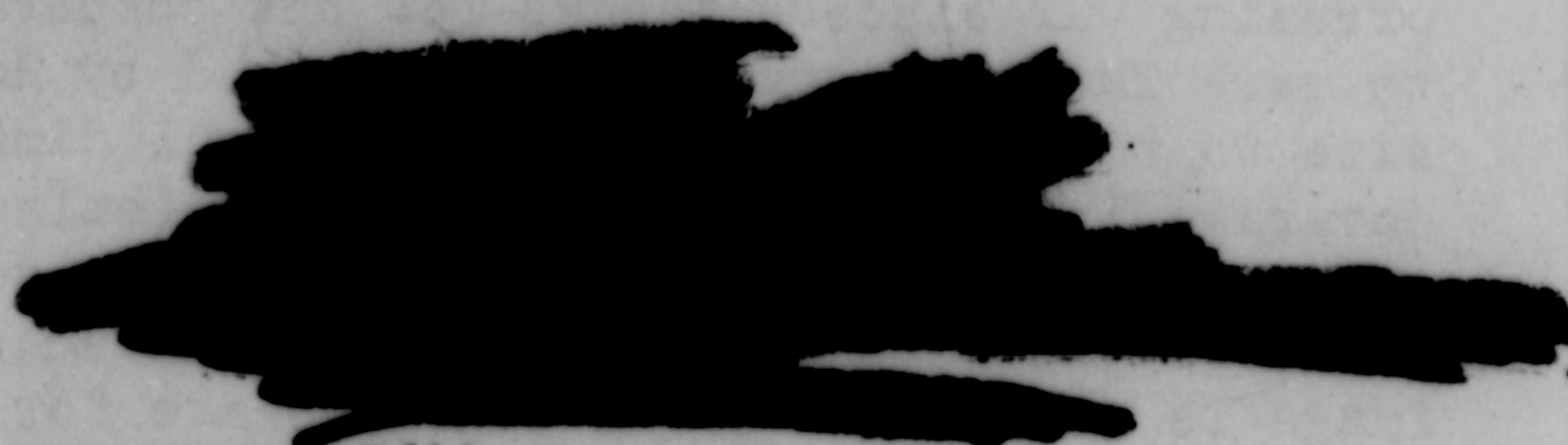
October 2, 1952

stating what it was that we saw, but that he saw it too, at the same time as I was photographing it."

As I said during our telephone conversation today, I would appreciate a quick return of these transparencies and any comment which the Air Force is willing to make about these pictures for publication.

We will look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,



Editor

FRA/mv
Enc.

AC...

2. Atia

1. Atia

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER
BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

UNCLASSIFIED

15 OCT 52

3. Atia

4. C. files

AIR 335

AFM DE AIR

RR JEDUP

DE JEPHQ 1300

R 142142Z

FM HQ USAF WASHDC

TO ZEN/USAIRA OSLO NORWAY

INFO JEDUP/CHIEFATIC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO

FROM: AFOIN 50356 REF YOUR X 36 DTD 13 OCT 52 AND OUR
AFOIN 59553 TO COMNAVORTH DTD 3 OCT 52. ASSUME YOU HAVE ACCEPTED
ACTION ON LATTER. MOST PERTINENT REQUIREMENT IS TO DETERMINE IF ANY
OTHER SHIP IN MAINBRACE NAVAL FORMATION AT CITED TIME RELEASED A
WEATHER BALLOON AROUND THAT TIME. COLOR PHOTOS OF OBJECT TAKEN BY
LITWIN AVAILABLE HERE BUT FINALS ANALYSIS MUST AWAIT ANSWER TO ABOVE
IN RESPONSE REPLY TO AFOIN-2A2
14/2311Z OCT JEPHQ

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

ACTION

UNCLASSIFIED

#1
cf

TRANSMITTAL		RESTRICTED		AFM FORM 3-5 FEB 48 REPLACES AND FORM 30-514 WHICH MAY BE USED	
FROM: ATINA-2	DATE: 10/15	HOUR: 9	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 152-17592		
IN: ☒ I	INTER-OFFICE	☒ 3	OUTGOING	COMPL. FILE COPY	INCOMPL. FILE COPY
FROM: HQ USAF WASH DC			TO: CO ATTC		
REG. NO. AIR 5					
DESCRIPTION, DATES, AND SUBJECT: Ins Msg 10/14/52 & cys recd. 1 p en. Cite AFOIN 50356 Action & Info.					
ENCLOSURES: None 5					
TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)	COPY NO.	REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE)		DATE REC'D	HOUR
ATTN	1				
TO: ATINA	1	[Signature]			
TO:	COPY NO.	REC'D BY		DATE REC'D	HOUR
TO:	COPY NO.	REC'D BY		DATE REC'D	HOUR

RESTRICTED

★ G.P.O. 1950-226118

CSAF ITEM NBR 1 [REDACTED]

TT 222

UNCLASSIFIED

14 Oct 52

TO ATIAA-5 RUPPELT FR AFOIN-2A2 FOURNET
FOLG MSG RECD FR USAIRA OSLO NORWAY:

"REF YOUR AFOIN 59358. NO OFFICIAL
KNOWLEDGE OF CITED INCIDENTS BY ALUSNA,
OSLO OR RNAF. RNAF INVESTIGATING 2 OFFICIAL
AND NUMEROUS VAGUE REPORTS OF CIGAR SHAPED
OBJECT SIGHTED OVER VARIOUS AREAS SOUTHERN
NORWAY, SAME TIME PERIOD. FORWARDING REPORT
SOONEST."

PRESUME AA ACCEPTED ACTION REQUIRED
BY OUR AFOIN 59358 ADDRESSED TO COMNAVORTH
DTD 3 OCT 52 WHICH YOU BELL INFO CY OF
MSG DISPATCHED TO AA OSLO TODAY, INFO
TO YOU, REQUESTING REPLY TO QUERY RE
BALLOON RELEASES BY OTHER SHIPS IN FORMATION

~~AT TIME LISTEN TOOK PHOTOS~~

END OF CSAF ITEM NBR 1 / [REDACTED]

ACTION

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED] UNCLASSIFIED

Name if any other ship used a weather balloon NAME		17 Oct 52 SUSP. DATE DATE	664355 NUMBER TYPE ATIA
10 USAF WASH D.C.		14 Oct 52 FILE DESIGNATION	TT

SUMMARY ATDA-1, 15 Oct 52, 0920 hours DO NOT REMOVE THIS COPY				
TO	TO	TO	TO	TO
ATIA	A-1	Report		
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
10/15/52	10/15/52	10/15/52		
REPLIED OR INDORSED TO No reply		FILED (Place) received	OTHER ACTION	

CSAF ITEM 1 ([REDACTED])

UNCLASSIFIED

TT 243
13 Nov 52

ACTION

TO ATIAA-5 ROTNSTEIN

FR AFOIN-2A2 FOURNET

HAS INFO SUPPLIED BY COM SECOND FLEET IN MAG

052031Z NOV 52 ENABLED ANY FURTHER EVALUATION

OF COLOR PHOTOS TAKEN BY [REDACTED] OVER MAINBRACE?

PLS ADVISE SOONEST.

END CSAF ITEM 1 [REDACTED]

SVC

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

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

AIR 11
AF DE AIR
RR JEDWP
DE JEPHQ 23C
R 232145Z
F HQ USAF AFOIN

UNCLASSIFIED 6 OCT 52 00 55

ACTION

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER
BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

2. Atia
1. Atia ✓
3. Atia
4. C files

TO ZEN/CONNAVNORTH OSLO NORWAY
INFO JEDWP/CHIEF ATIC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO
/SECURITY INFORMATION FROM: AFOIN-2A2
59350 REFERENCE OBSERVATION UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT SHORTLY
AFTER 1600 HOURS 20 SEP 42 BY M4. METRO GROUP
PHOTOGRAPHER, AND LT R. M. USN, ABOARD CARRIER USS F.
D. ROSSEVELT. REQUEST ADVICE OF ANY OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION AND
REPORT ON HIS INCIDENT. ADDITIONALLY REQUEST A CHECK TO DETERMINE
IF ANY OTHER SHIP IN THE FORMATION RELEASED A WEATHER BALLON
AROUND THIS TIME. ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MAY OFFER
POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS SOLICITED. FINALLY REQUEST ANY INFORMATION
AVAILABLE REGARDING OBSERVATION UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT BY 11
CREW MEMBERS RAFBOMBER OVER YORKSHIRE ON 22 SEPTEMBER. IN RESPONSE
REPLY TO AFOIN-2A2.

5/2145Z OCT JEPHQ
DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVALS.
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

ACTION

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR 24

AFM DE AIR
RR JEDWP
DE JEPHQ 1390
R 231955Z

FM HQ USAF WASHDC

TO ZEN/COMNAVNORTH OSLO NORWAY

INFO JEDWP/CHIEF ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

[REDACTED] FROM AFOIN 51025 REFERENCE OBSERVATION

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT SHORTLY AFTER 1600 HOURS 23 SEP 52 BY

MR [REDACTED] CMA METRO GROUP PHOTOGRAPHER CMA AND LT

[REDACTED] CMA USN CMA ABOARD CARRIER USS F. D. ROOSEVELT. REQUEST
ADVISE OF ANY OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION AND REPORT ON THIS INCIDENT.

811224/131311131

LITWIN DETERMINED FROM WEATHER OFFICER ABOARD ROOSEVELT THAT WEATHER
BALLOON WAS NOT RELEASED AT THAT TIME. REQUEST A CHECK TO DETERMINE
IF ANY OTHER SHIP IN THE FORMATION RELEASED A BALLOON ABOUT TIME
IN QUESTION. ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MAY OFFER POSSIBLE
EXPLANATION IS SOLICITED. IN RESPONSE REPLY TO AFOIN-2A2

25/2000Z OCT JEPHQ

ACTION

24 OCT 52 0907 HASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER

BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

UNCLASSIFIED

Mainbrace

ACTION

UNCLASSIFIED

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

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: (Originator)

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

CG ATIO

TO:

D/I HQ USAF WASH D C

INFO:

DATE-TIME GROUP

142000Z NOV 52

PRECEDENCE
FOR:

ACTION

INFORMATION

ROUTINE

☐

BOOK MESSAGE

☒

ORIGINAL MESSAGE

☐

MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐

YES

☒

NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAA-5

FOR MAJ FOURNET

Cite your IT 243, Item 1, 4th 13 Nov 52. Evaluation is that object probably
balloon released shortly before pictures taken.

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

ATIAA

ATIA

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

1

OF 1

PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

SYMBOL

TELEPHONE

OFFICIAL TITLE

ROBERT E. KENNEDY, MAJOR, USAF
AIR ADJUTANT GENERAL

DD

FORM
1 OCT 49

173

REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 48,
WHICH MAY BE USED.

16-58023-8 ★ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

ATTACH-5 FILE

UNCLASSIFIED

1. ATIA
2. ATIAAS
3. ATI
4. C files

7118

6 NOV 52

C-1 ROUTINE

6 NOV 1952 16

FM COM 2ND FLEET NORFOLK VA 052031Z

TO CS USAF WASHDC AF0IN-2A-2

INFO CG AMC WPAFB OHIO

ATI

YOUR 312140Z CITE AF0IN 51716. NO OFFICIAL REPORT OF FLYING OBJECT SIGHTING RECEIVED PRIOR THOSE REQUESTED MY 011534Z AND NO INVESTIGATION MADE UNTIL THAT TIME. INFO INDICATES INCIDENT OCCURRED ABOUT 190400Z SEPT EXACT TIME NOT KNOWN. (AEROLOGICAL BALLOON WITH RADAR REFLECTOR LAUNCHED FROM ROOSEVELT SHORTLY BEFORE PICTURES WERE TAKEN.) THIS 1500 GRAM BALLOON INFLATES TO DIAM ABOUT 8 FEET AT SEA LEVEL AND EXPANDS WITH ALTITUDE AND IS BELIEVED TO BE THE OBJECT SIGHTED. NO OTHER SHIPS IN FORMATION RELEASED BALLOONS AFTERNOON 19 SEPT

06/11/53Z NOV

312140Z - AF0IN - 51716 - 525-112268-ATI

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

UNCLASSIFIED

525-112268-A-

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

UNCLASSIFIED

TRANSMITTAL		RESTRICTED		AMC FORM 8-9 FEB-50 REPLACES AMC FORM 8-9-50 WHICH MAY BE USED	
FROM: ATTN-2	DATE: 10/23/52	IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: 152-13008			
INCOMING ☒	INTER-OFFICE ☐	☒	OUTGOING ☐	COMPLETE FILE COPY ☐	INCOMPL. FILE COPY ☐
FROM: HQ USAF WASH DC	TO: WIC				
REG. NO. AIR 4					
DESCRIPTION, DATES, AND SUBJECT: Inc Mag 10/23/52 & cya recd. 1 p ea. Cite AFM 51025 Action & Info.					
ENCLOSURES: None 5					
TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)	COPY NO.	REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE)	DATE REC'D	HOUR	
ATI 4	1	<i>[Signature]</i>	10-23-52	1445	
TO: ATI 100	COPY NO. 1	REC'D BY <i>[Signature]</i>	DATE REC'D	HOUR	
TO:	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR	
TO:	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR	

RESTRICTED

★ G.P.O. 1950-296119

3 ONLY 4X5 PHOTOGRAPHIC
NEGATIVES

AND

1 ONLY 8X10 PHOTOGRAPHIC
NEGATIVE OR TRANSPARENCY

SIGHTING AT SEA

BY MILITARY PERSONNEL
ON THE USS FDR

UNCLASSIFIED