

1. DATE - TIME GROUP	2. LOCATION
19 April 53 19/1920Z	Ft. Davis, Texas
3. SOURCE	10. CONCLUSION
Civilian	AIRCRAFT A jet a/c with swept back wings was flying in the vicinity at the time of the sighting. It is believed that object was the a/c at high altitude with the sun reflecting off it causing the color.
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS
One	COLR. Oblong shaped amber colored object resembled bird flying at high altitude. Object appeared to hover then accelerate rapidly. Object changed directions 3 times, climbed, fell and disappeared below the horizon.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION	
45 Seconds	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION	
Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE	
Not Reported	
8. PHOTOS	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

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

United States

1/Whitne's

IR-28-53

UNCLASSIFIED

1981-326  
FT DAVIS, TEXAS

Unidentified Flying Object

Fort Davis, Texas

97th Bomb Wing, 810th Air Div, Biggs AFB, Tex

1 May 1953

19 April 1953

F-6

H. B. BENTZ, Capt, USAF, Dir/Intel

Mr. [REDACTED] Davis, Texas

SAF ICP, 15 Aug 52

The inclosed letter was received by the Civil Aeronautics Administration Marfa, Texas and forwarded to the Directorate of Intelligence, 97th Bombardment Wing, Medium, 810th Air Division, Biggs Air Force Base, Texas. Mr. Grey A. Pringle, Chief of Airways Operations Service at Marfa, added that "We know of at least one jet aircraft of a type that has 'swept-back' wings that was operating in that vicinity at approximately the time mentioned in the attached letter."

APPROVED:

H. B. BENTZ  
Capt USAF  
Director of Intelligence

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

UNCLASSIFIED

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Ltr fr A. V. Chapin to Civil Aero Adm, Marfa, Texas

Headquarters, Eighth Air Force, Fort Worth, Texas

[REDACTED]  
Ft. Davis, Texas  
April 20, 1953

Civil Aeronautics Administration  
Communications Branch  
Marfa Air Field  
Marfa, Texas

Dear Sir:

Yesterday, on April 19th, about 1:20 P. M., while observing a vapor trail just west of Ft. Davis, from horizon to horizon, and from northwest to southeast, I observed an object which appeared to be floating just west of the vapor trail, about half-way between Ft. Davis and your air field at Marfa.

I at first thought it may have been a balloon released by the plane that made the vapor trail, as it appeared to be about the same altitude, but was not of a spherical shape like an ordinary balloon, and perhaps larger, somewhat oblong in shape. The object then appeared to descend somewhat and resemble an eagle or buzzard sailing, but was much too high for such; but still appeared to drift about like a buzzard and to hover at times. The object then began to swing in an arc toward the north with great acceleration, and short pointed wings became visible, as it passed over, at perhaps half the altitude of the vapor trail.

It continued to accelerate until the speed became uncanny and much greater than any jet plane I have ever seen. All the while it appeared to be an amber color. There was no sound whatsoever and no vapor trail. It followed a course a little west of north and disappeared over the horizon beyond the Davis mountains, in about 45 seconds. As it became a speck in the distance it changed directions lightly two or three times to the right, to the left, and up and down, and then continued on the same course as before. All the while it appeared to be going about a mile in two seconds.

I shall appreciate your forwarding this information to proper authorities, if of importance.

Yours very truly,

AAC:MMH  
[REDACTED]