

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE <u>11 December 1957</u>	2. LOCATION <u>Guthrie</u> <u>& Parkersburg, West Virginia</u>	12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical MOON <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radar Inversion <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local <u>2200</u> GMT <u>12/0300Z</u>	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar	
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE <u>Military</u>	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION <u>20 - 40 minutes</u>	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS <u>one</u>	9. COURSE <u>stationary</u>
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING A round to crescent shaped object, orange in color, was sighted in the East just above the horizon. The three pilots were of the opinion object was the moon. However, obj supposedly picked up on ground radar also.		
11. COMMENTS The moon was approaching 1/4 (first quarter) on 14th, sighting on 11th. Direction of obj and moon coincide. No witness indicated seeing obj & moon at same time. WX inversion probably present. Same inversion distorting moon would cause spurious radar returns from WX or ground objects. The pilots no doubt saw the moon. The radar paint was probably caused by effects of inversion which distorted visual observation of moon.		

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

United States

REPORT NO.

IR-1-57

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

AREA REPORT CONCERNS

Parkersburg, Ohio

AGENCY OF ORIGIN

58th Air Division (Defense)

DATE OF REPORT

17 December 1957

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

2nd Lt Wayne A. Rhoades, 783rd ACWRON
Avenger White Flight, 87th FIS

DATE OF INFORMATION

11 December 1957

PREPARING OFFICER

JUANITA MANCHA, 2nd Lt, USAF

EVALUATION

B-2

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

58th AD Message Cite # 038-12

SUBJECT

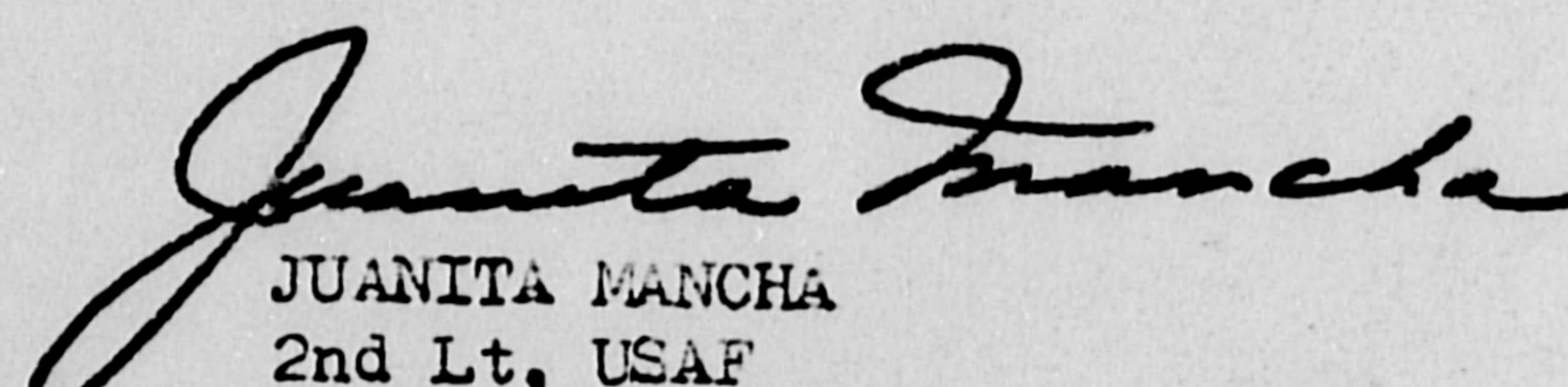
Unidentified Flying Object Report

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 118a.)

An unidentified flying object was sighted on 12/0300Z approximately over Parkersburg, Ohio. Airborne sighting was by Avenger White flight, 3 F-86L's, out of Lockbourne AFB, Ohio. Ground sighting was on search radar by the intercept controller at 783rd ACWRON, Guthrie, West Virginia.

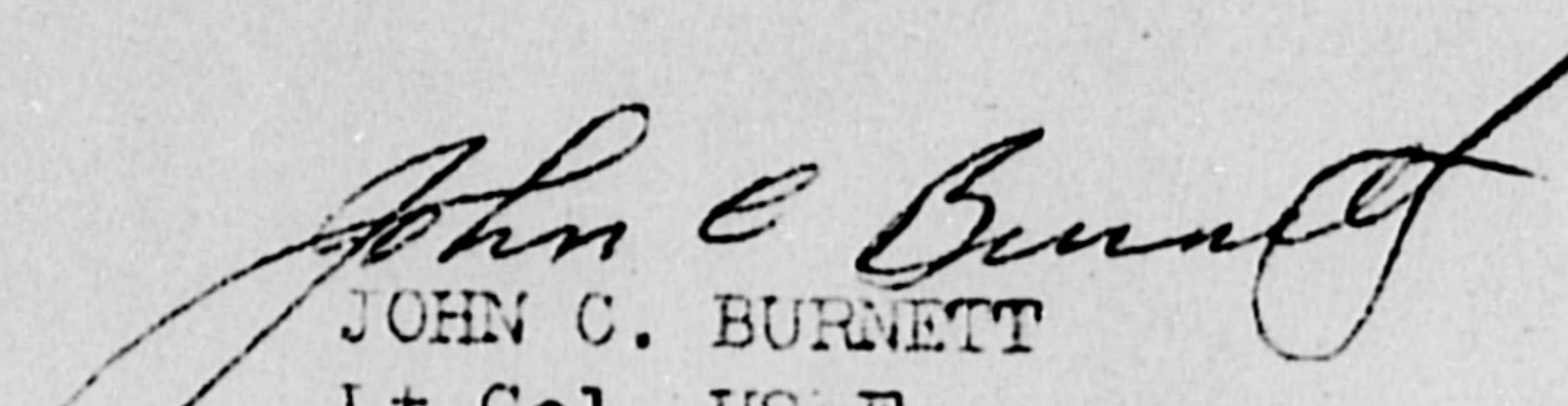
Reports indicate that the object was almost circular and was an orange color. The pilots report that the object did not move and only change appeared to be in range. However, the object moved erratically on the radar scope and was estimated at a speed of mach 1.5. It remained in sight from 20 to 30 minutes.

It is possible that the pilot sighting was the moon and that radar return was from a low flying aircraft or radar noise. Correlation between radar observed position and pilot sighting indicate otherwise.



JUANITA MANCHA
2nd Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

APPROVED:



JOHN C. BURNETT
Lt Col, USAF
Director of Intelligence

INCLs.

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

Original to HQ USAF; ATIC, Wright-Patterson AFB, OHIO 1 cy;
File copy 58th AD

Unidentified Flying Objects Report (Ref AFR 200-2 dtd 12 Aug 54)

1. Description of the object:

- a. Shape: Crescent
- b. Size: Larger than aircraft
- c. Color: Orange
- d. Number: One (1)
- e. Negative
- f. Negative
- g. Negative
- h. Negative
- i. Negative

2. Description of Course of Object:

- a. What first called the attention of observer to object:
Glowing appearance
- b. Angle of elevation and azimuth of the object when first observed: 100° (Approximately 20° above horizon)
- c. Angle of elevation and azimuth of object upon disappearance: 150° level
- d. Description of flight path and maneuvers of object: Object had erratic movement. Maximum speed 1.5 Mach. Minimum speed very slow.
- e. Manner of disappearance of object: Departed in flight.
- f. Length of time in sight: 40 minutes

3. Manner of Observation:

- a. Pilot Visual & FPS-20 Search Radar (Intermittent).
- b. Optical Aids: None
- c. If sighting is made while airborne, give type aircraft, identification number, altitude, heading, speed, and home station: F86L; 30,000 feet; .8 Mach; Lockbourne AFB. Call Sign Avenger White - 3.

4. Time and Date of Sighting:

- a. Zulu date time group of sighting: 12/0300/Dec 57
- b. Optical Aids: None

5. Location of Observer: GJHK 0000

6. Identifying Information of Observer: Military; Lt Wayne A. Rhoades, 2nd Lt, USAF, 783rd ACWRON; Director is reliable.

7. Weather and Winds-Aloft Conditions at Time and Place of Sightings:

- a. Clear

Unclassified

CLASSIFICATION

(SECURITY INFORMATION when filled in)

SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

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b. 6,000 340° / 30k
10,000 350° / 35k
16,000 350° / 25k
20,000 340° / 25k
30,000 310° / 30k
40,000 270° / 25k
50,000 270° / 35k
c. 3500 (light snow)
d. 10 - 15 miles
e. Scattered to broken
f. None

8. None

9. None

10. Location of any air traffic in the area at the time of sighting: Lockbourne AFB, operations stated that several B-47's landed shortly after 0400Z, 12 Dec 57, and were possibly in the local area for a period of time before landing.

11. Position Title and Comments of the Preparing Officer, including his preliminary analysis of the possible cause of the sighting: Lt Wayne A. Rhoades, Senior Director.

Airborne sighting was by Avenger White flight, 3 F86L's. UEOB was first observed when White 3 noticed orange glowing object at one o'clock position. He was 20 miles west of Parkersburg, Ohio heading 090° at 25,000 feet climbing. He was informed that the moon was up and that it could be the moon. He said it was not. At that time we spotted a radar blip 10 miles east of Parkersburg moving toward the flight at estimated 1.5 mach. Movement was erratic, sometimes hovering, then resuming speed. As it neared flight, pilot and radar position reports agreed, and pilot said object was crescent shaped, orange-red and glowing. Object on radar appeared to join flight at Parkersburg. Its radar appearance was less intense than that of an aircraft and it faded from time to time.

Flight turned north, then northwest to Lockbourne. Last radar contact was 20 miles north of Parkersburg. Last pilot contact was 30 miles south of Lockbourne. Pilot was heading 350°. Object was following in 5 o'clock position.

It is possible that pilot sighting was the moon and that radar return was from a low-flying aircraft or radar noise. Correlation between radar observed position and pilot sighting indicate otherwise.

Unclassified

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1.

- a. Circular
- b. Quarter
- c. Orange
- d. One (1)
- e. N/A
- f. N/A
- g. None
- h. None
- i. None

2.

- a. Size and color
- b. Level 30,000 at 10° port. I was heading 020°.
- c. Same position, only higher ✓
- d. Remained stationary ✓
- e. Did not disappear ✓

3.

- a. Airborn visual
- b. None
- c. F-86L, 604; Avenger White 2; 30,000; 020°; 350 knots
Lockbourne AFB, Ohio

4.

- a. 2200 EST, 0300Z, 12 Dec 57
- b. Night

5.

- a. South south east, 50 miles

6.

- b. Howard W Beanland, 2nd Lt; 87th FIS; Fighter-Pilot;
reliable source

7.

- a. Clear, 30 mile visibility

8. None

9. None

10. None

11. At first the sighting looked unusual, but as time went on the object appeared to be the moon.

Unclassified

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1.

- a. Almost circular, possibly flat
- b. Baseball
- c. Red
- d. One (1)
- e. N/A
- f. None
- g. None Visible
- h. None
- i. Looked like red moon. Appeared to close in range and move away again.

2.

- a. At first appeared to be tail cone of jet. I pulled up clear, however, azimuth did not change.
- b. 20° low, 20° port, pilot heading 090°, 22-23,000, 375k
- c. Did not disappear
- d. Only change appeared to be in range
- e. Did not disappear
- f. 20 minutes

3.

- a. Airborne visual
- b. None
- c. F-86L, 53-0568, Avenger White 3; 32,000, 300k, Lockbourne AFB

4.

- a. 0305Z, 12 Dec 57
- b. Night - clear

5. Unknown

6. Frank A. Becker, 1/Lt, 87th FIS, Fighter-Pilot, reliable source

7.

- a. 30 Ø Vis (surface) - visibility unlimited at altitude

8. None

9. Tried to pick up on radar, but was unsuccessful.

10. The object might have been the moon. however, GCI stated that they were painting it.

Unclassified

CLASSIFICATION

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

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58th Air Division (Defense)	IR-1-57	6	OF	6

1.
 - a. Circular, possibly flat
 - b. Quarter
 - c. Orange
 - d. One (1)
 - e. N/A
 - f. None
 - g. Undiscernable
 - h. Not heard
 - i. None
2.
 - a. Color
 - b. Level 10° - 15° port, 090°, 34,000, 325k indicated while climbing
 - c. Same
 - d. Became larger and smaller and varied in azimuth.
 - e. Did not appear
 - f. 30 minutes
3.
 - a. Airborne visual
 - b. None
 - c. F-86L, Avenger White 1, 34,000, 090°, 324k, Lockbourne AFB.
4.
 - a. 0300Z, 12 Dec 57
 - b. Night
5. South south east, 30 miles
6. Robert E. Watkins, 1/Lt, 87th FIS, Fighter-Pilot, reliable source.
7.
 - a. Clear and 30
8. None
9. Attempted lock on
10. None
11. Upon reflection, object at last sighting appeared to be the moon. However, at first sighting the object was much smaller and its movements in azimuth and range coincided with information being supplied at the same time by "Paycheck", the GCI station.

Extract from SDO Report, 11-12 Dec 57

AFCIN-4E4

AFCIN-4X2a

12 Dec 57

Maj T J Connair, Jr/dmt
59117/B 263/P A37

Following is an extract from SDO Capt M Mariolis report of 11 December 57 for your information and necessary action:

11 December 57

" 2210 - Received call from Capt Lybarger, Op's Officer Flight Services, 2046th AAC. Lybarger stated that he had received a UFOB Report and will send to ATIC."

12 December 57

" 0100 - Received call from 58th Air Division, Capt Podvosjki, Senior Controller, who stated that he received report from two fighter aircraft, radar equipped, that they had picked up an object on their scopes, est. speed Mach 1.5. Also stated object chased aircraft. All this over Charleston, West Virginia. Aircraft from Lockburn. Report is being sent ATIC but Capt Podvosjki states that full description not in report. Suggest 58th Air Division be contacted soonest."

T J CONNAIR, JR
Major, USAF
Adjutant