

1. DATE - TIME, GROUP 5 June 64 05/0700Z	2. LOCATION Texarkana, Texas
3. SOURCE Civilian and Military	10. CONCLUSION Astronomical (MOON)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Considered to be a possible moon observation by JAH
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Few Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS See Letter in case file (Mrs [REDACTED])
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Stationary	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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

TRIDENT ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES, INC.
CARVEL HALL • TELEPHONE AREA CODE 301 • 267-8128
ANNAPOLIS MARYLAND

7 October 1964

Dr. J. A. Hynek
Dearborn Observatory
Northwestern University
Evanston, Illinois

Dear Dr. Hynek:

I have been meaning to write you for quite some time so that I might ~~bring you up to date on our lunar program~~. I hope that you and your family had an enjoyable vacation north of the border.

A prototype of our "Moon Blink" equipment has been operational on a 16-inch reflector for the last two months. The telescope is located about sixty miles south of Annapolis. Dr. Edson visited the facility about two weeks ago and was pleased with the resolution of the image tube. At present, we are using a modification (S-20 photo-cathode) of the RCA 6914 tube. We are presently assembling five field models which we hope to have distributed and operational before the December 19th lunar eclipse. If the field trials are successful and the program gets sufficient funds, we hope to field fifteen additional units next year.

To date our efforts to secure an orthicon system at no cost have not been successful, but we are still hopeful. In this regard, you might tell Bill Powers that G.E. is working on a new system with a goal of the ultimate in stability. John Spalding is leaving them in the very near future for Perkin and Elmer; I think Jon Anderson will be running the show.

At the meeting in Denver I spent quite a bit of time with Justus. Mrs. Winifred Cameron was there and she became interested in the program. She was also very impressed with the quality of the pictures that Justus has been taking with the 12-inch and the orthicon system. On her return to GSFC she volunteered to set up a "hot-line" telephone network between the major east coast observatories, and Manned Flight is footing the bill. Present thinking is that her office at Goddard will be used as a central data collection office for reports of observatories of transient lunar phenomena.

~~We spent some time discussing the U.F.O. problem when we were in Las Cruces. When I visited some friends of mine at the Air Force Academy, I uncovered an observation that had not been recorded and I gave the information to Justus.~~ One fact that interested me was that here again the people were of above average I.Q. The observation was made by the

Bill -
Have you
seen this?
JHD

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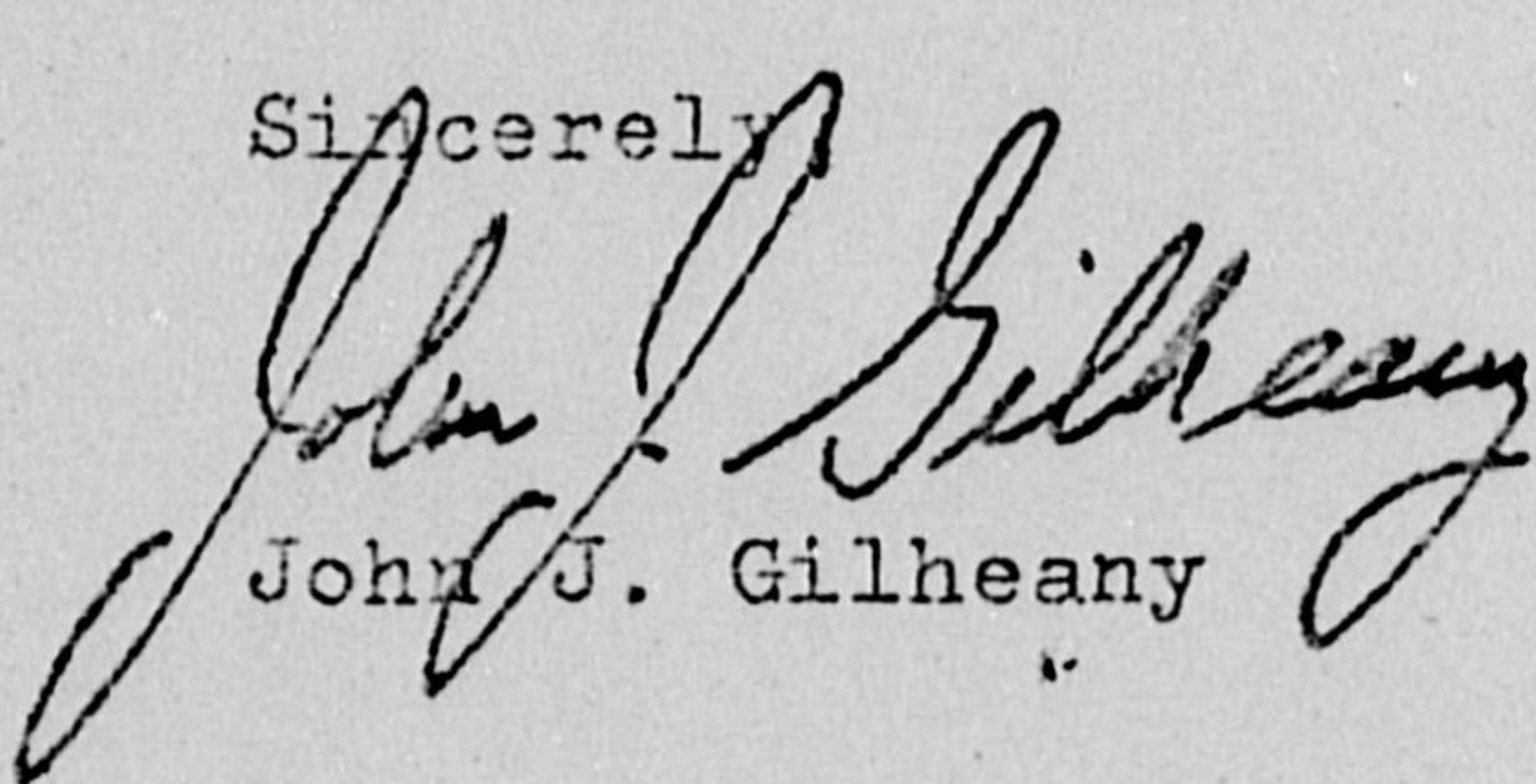
wife of a naval aviator (Cdr. [REDACTED], USN) and three 1st Class (Senior) Air Force Cadets at 2:00 A.M. on June 5, 1964, near Texarkana. They were driving from the Air Force Academy to Florida when they sighted half a red, shimmering sphere hovering about five miles away at an altitude of 5000 feet. They stopped the car and got out to watch it, then proceeded to drive toward it at great speed since it was ahead of them. As they approached it, the object ceased to hover and departed on a lateral track. Since they were all in transit to different points, the incident was never reported. I do not know the names of the Air Force Cadets, but the woman was

Mrs. [REDACTED]
Quarters [REDACTED]
Air Force Academy, Colorado

Lt. Cdr. A. H. Rice, USN, and myself are still very interested in this problem and would like to offer our services. If we could assist you in investigating incidents on the East Coast, we would be most happy to hear from you in this matter.

Finally, I would like to invite you to visit us and the Naval Academy when you are next in this area.

Sincerely,


John J. Gilheany

Not in J file

8 January 1965

Mrs. [REDACTED]

U. S. Air Force Academy
Colorado

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED]

This is in answer to your letter of December 9. Thank you for being so cooperative.

I am struck by one thing, and that is by a fact you failed to mention. Comparison with the almanac shows that the crescent moon was in the precise part of the sky you saw your crescent shaped object. It seems almost impossible that this could be so, but obvious mistakes are frequently made, and the moon, when rising, and viewed through scudding clouds and perhaps additional meteorological conditions, can fool people. We do have documented cases in which the setting moon has been the source of several UFO reports.

I'd appreciate your opinion on this, and, of course, if you saw the moon separately from this object, this could hardly be the explanation. The fact is, however, that the moon was in almost the precise spot you described. May I have your reaction on this hypothesis?

Sincerely yours,

J. Allen Hynek
Director

JAH: [REDACTED]



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY, COLORADO

December 9, 1964

Dear Dr. Hynek:

In reply to your recent letter, I would be most pleased to furnish any information regarding the sighting in question. I must say it is a bit refreshing to make contact with someone who does not scoff at the possibility of "UFO's." After relating it to my family this summer and sensing their doubtfulness, I was inclined to forget the incident.

The time was about 2:00 A.M. June 5, 1964 about 25 miles west of Texarkana. There were two Air Force Academy cadets and my nine year old daughter asleep in the back seat. Another cadet was driving and I was sitting (awake) in the right front seat. I noticed the object first and mentioned it to the cadet at the wheel. He saw it and brought the car to a halt on the roadside. The object appeared at about 20'clock high, as pilots say. We were heading directly east and it was ahead, above and to the right slightly.

It appeared as a large luminous red-orange blob of fiery mass. There was a rolling over motion about it but you saw only the bottom part of it if it was in ball form. It did not appear round as a ball or orange, it looked as a bright orange would if it was being turned over and over and the upper two-thirds of it were hidden.

We roused the two cadets asleep in the back seat and all got out and watched it as it appeared to hover. It was not a blinding light but a very intense reddish-orange coloration.

We returned to the car and proceeded to increase speed as if to get a closer look. The object appeared for perhaps 60 seconds to come closer and brighter in color and then it disappeared so quickly that you could not follow it with the eye or see any signs of a trail. It just vanished just as it had appeared.

We discussed this thing for a good hour among us. One cadet said maybe it was a weather balloon but none of us could imagine what it could be reflecting from to make it so brilliant. Another suggested a forest fire reflecting on low clouds, but there was not a fire in sight anywhere.

I have not seen or talked with the aforementioned cadets since that trip and can not say if they would want to put their impressions of it on paper or not, but they are all first classmen and pretty sharp boys and I'm sure no one can say that they or I just imagined it. There was a definite something there and I'm just as curious as the next person to get to the bottom of it.



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY, COLORADO

Whenever your findings are published in book form, I would certainly like to read it. It must be a fascinating study and yet frustrating when an answer does not appear to be in sight.

I am so glad there were other observers along on the trip to see it. I have had quite a few fairly serious experiences with extrasensory perception and I'm afraid if I'd seen it alone, my family would be more or less tempted to call me a "withh."

Thank you for your letter, Dr. Hynek, and I hope I have been of at least a small bit of help.

Sincerely yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
US Air Force Academy
Colorado