PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP	2. LOCATION
3 August 65 03/1835Z	Santa Ana, California
3. SOURCE Civilian	**10. CONCLUSION** Other (HOAX)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	Photo analysis indicates that the pictures of the object did not represent the visual conditions of the sighting.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 15 seconds	**11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS** Three polaroid photos taken in 15 seconds of object reportedly 30 ft in diameter. Object made turn and went over the horizon in 15 seconds. Photos taken through car window (open). Photos 1 and 2 showed the object the same distance from the camera lens, and the third slightly farther away. All prints showed object within 50 ft of camera lens. Size assumed to be about one ft in diameter and less than 3 ft.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ground-visual	
7. COURSE over horizon	
8. PHOTOS ☒ Yes Copies of ☐ No Enlargements	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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

ENGINEERING SUPPORT WORK REQUEST

☐ ENGINEERING ANALYSIS ☒ PHOTO ANALYSIS ☐ MACHINE COMPUTATION

PPT NUMBER: A6010301

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: Request photo interpretation of the attached alleged flying saucer newspaper clipping. This information is needed by 1500 hours, 22 Sep 65, as the Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Information must be prepared to make a news release at 1530 hours regarding this newsclipping.

REFERENCE MATERIAL: Newsclipping of photos allegedly taken 3 Aug 65. Request all material be returned upon completion of analysis.

REQUESTED BY T.E. H Quintanilla, Jr SYMBOL TDEW/UFO PHONE 69216/66378

I CERTIFY THAT THIS WORK IS AUTHORIZED BY ME AND THAT IT HAS THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY AND DEADLINE WITHIN MY DIVISION.

	1500, 22 Sep 65		22 Sep 65
PRIORITY	DEADLINE DATE	SIGNATURE OF APPROVING DIVISION CHIEF	DATE

ENGINEERING SUPPORT MONITOR _____ ASSISTANT _____

FINAL WORK TO BE IN FORM OF :

☐ ENGINEERING NOTE ☐ COMPUTATION ☐ PI REPORT ☐ DRAWING ☐ PROGRAM

WORK REQUEST APPROVED BY: _____ DEADLINE DATE _____

PRIORITY NUMBER ☐ ONE ☐ TWO ☐ THREE

WORK ORDER NUMBER

FORM
FTD SEP 64 462 Previous editions may be used.

NOV 2 1965

TDEW/UFO

Request for UFO Information, Captain Reichmuth

Hq USAF SAFOICC (Mrs Hunt)
Wash D C 20330

Analysis of data submitted by you concerning the photos taken by Mr [redacted] on 3 Aug 65 at Sanna Anna, California, has been completed. We are attaching two copies of the photo analysis report. It is suggested that one copy be retained for your file and the second copy given to Mr [redacted]. This evaluation was based on enlargements of the polaroid pictures. If the original prints are received, this analysis may be altered.

FOR THE COMMANDER

ERIC T de JONCKHEERE, Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Technology and Subsystems

1 Atch
Photo Analysis Report

ORIGINATOR
TDEW/UFO Maj H Quintanilla, Jr/

DATED 1 Nov 65

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

TDEW/Hqtrs

Blue Penciled

Every time flying saucer believers think they've got the Air Force pinned down, the boys in Project Blue Book at Wright-Patterson come up with an answer.

The latest saucer to get smashed belonged to Californian Rex Heflin, an Orange county highway department inspector. He nailed an unidentified flying object with his Polaroid camera in August.

Mr. Heflin said the thing was 30 feet in diameter and eight feet thick. The Air Force, checking the saucer against highway pavement in the two pictures, estimated its size at less than one foot in diameter.

Apparently the Air Force doesn't believe in Mr. Heflin's observations. No doubt he doesn't believe in theirs.

Assuming the Air Force is right and Mr. Heflin is wrong, however, what about that teensy-weensy pilot and his tulip-high navigator?

Ben

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DATE THIS IS IN ERROR. DATE SHOULD BE 19 OCT 65

PHOTO ANALYSIS REPORT NR 65-48

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DATE OF REPORT 14 August 1965

SUBJECT UFO Report

LOCATION Santa Ana, California DATE 3 August 1965

PHOTOGRAPHY

AF _____ IR _____ QUALITY _____

P NRS 3 - 8X10 Prints & Investigating Reports

1. PURPOSE: This report is in response to work order No. 65-106 submitted by Major Quintanilla, Jr., (TDEW/UFO) requesting photo analysis of attached three photographs showing alleged unidentified flying object. The following analysis was conducted from three cropped, blown-up copies and not the original prints.

2. ANALYSIS: Although it is not possible to disprove size of the object from the camera information submitted and distances to the object quoted in the report by Mr. [redacted], we feel that the following is the true case. The camera was probably focused on a set distance and not on infinity, as the terrain background was blurred on all three photographs. The center white stripe on the road and the object appeared to have the same sharp image. Therefore, it is felt that the object was on the same plane as the center white stripe or closer to the camera and could not possibly be the size quoted in the report. Using the width of the road as a factor, it was estimated the size of the object to be approximately one to three feet in diameter and approximately fifteen to twenty feet above the ground.

3. A test was conducted by the FTD Photo Analyst and Photo Processing personnel with the results shown on the attached photos. The photographs were taken with a Poleroid Camera, Model 110A using 200 ASA film. Focal length 129mm, aperture F32 at 300th of a second, focused on a distance of 15 feet. The object seen in the photographs was a 9" in diameter vaporizing tray, tossed in the air approximately 8 to 12 feet high at a distance from the camera of approximately 15 to 20 feet. The result of the test shows surprising similarities between the object on the test photography and the object on Mr. Heflin's photography.

PHOTO ANALYSIS BY:

Frank E. McPeak

FRANK E. MCPEAK
Intelligence Research Specialist

APPROVED BY:

ROBERT L. BASE
Captain, USAF
Chief, Photo Analysis Division

WILBER PRICE, JR.
Director,
Photo Exploitation Directorate

Ben

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Bem

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

PHOTO ANALYSIS REPORT

NR 65-48

DATE OF REPORT 19 October 1965

SUBJECT UFO Report

LOCATION Santa Ana, California DATE 3 August 1965

PHOTOGRAPHY

AF _____ IR _____ QUALITY _____

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PHOTO ANALYSIS BY:

Frank E. McPeak

FRANK E. MCPEAK
Intelligence Research Specialist

APPROVED BY:

Robert L. Base

ROBERT L. BASE
Captain, USAF
Chief, Photo Analysis Division

WILBER PRICE, JR.
Director,
Photo Exploitation Directorate

Bem

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This case includes three (3) 8"x10"
photographs, five (5) 5"x7" photographs,
and six (6) 5"x4" negatives.

RELEASED
NOV 18 1965

TDEW/UFO

UFO Photo Analysis

Hq USAF SAFOI-CC (Mrs Hunt)

1. Reference your recent telephone conversation with Major Hector Quintanilla of TDEW and the attached memo concerning Congressional interest in two polaroid pictures. These pictures were submitted to the photo analysis directorate at FTD for analysis.

2. The attached letter dated 15 November states that analysis of this type of print would be meaningless. Should the individual who submitted the prints desire an evaluation, it is essential that he submit the original negatives and the desired camera information.

FOR THE COMMANDER

ERIC T de JONCKHEERE, Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Technology and Subsystems

3 Atch
1. Memo/Congressional interest
2. Two polaroid pictures
3. Ltr Photo Analysis

ORIGINATOR TDEW/UFO Maj H Quintanilla, Jr DATED 16 Nov 65

TDEW Louis DeRoze 17 Nov 65

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

TDEW/UFO

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

ACTION: X

1 TO: Maj Quintanilla TDEN	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
	DATE	COORDINATION
2		FILE
		INFORMATION
3		NOTE AND RETURN
		PER CONVERSATION
4		SEE ME
		SIGNATURE

REMARKS

Mr. [redacted] requests that he be informed as to the nature of UFO and desires to know what the final official PI analysis reveals.

This office would like to know also.

FROM: Friedmuth (SSFA) Capt USAF SSD	DATE: 10 Oct 65
	PHONE: x 33310

DD FORM 1 OCT 60 95 Replaces DD Form 94, 1 Feb 50 and DD Form 95, 1 Feb 50 which will be used until exhausted.

GPO 1951 : O—536753

Sources: Dayton Daily News, 21 Sept 65



CAN YOU BELIEVE THE CAMERA EYE?

SANTA ANA, Calif., Sept. 21—Rex Heflin may not be the fastest gun in the West, but he sure is fast on the camera trigger. On Aug. 3, Heflin, who is an investigator for the Orange county highway department, was doing a little investigating around the Santa Ana Marine air base. He's a guy that doesn't believe in flying saucers. But there in the sky, hovering near the base, was an object. He whipped out his trusty camera and took two pictures of something that does look round and flat and saucer-like. Later he said the object was 30 feet in diameter, eight foot thick and visible for 15 seconds.—UPI

MEMO FOR THE RECORD: CONVERSATION WITH CAPT REICHMUTH, SSD regarding photos of [redacted] He will try to stick the photos, the Marines reports ahd a few comments in an evelope this afternoon. He had spoke to Mr [redacted] for approximatedy 3½ hours last Thursday, 24 September 1965. The Marines had contacted Mr [redacted] and returned the original pictures to Mr [redacted] Supposedly NORAD and Boeing contacted him the day after the photos appeared in the newspaper. He said that Mr [redacted] appeared to be on the up and up. A gentlemen from NORAD with credentials had visited Mr [redacted] regarding the phtographs. Mr [redacted] gave the originals to this man without any receipt. He had given them to the Marines without any receipt and gotten them back so figured he would do the same to NORAD, said if he got them back he would give them to Capt Reichmuth without a receipt also. SAFOI and Capt Reichmuth have tried to find out who the gentleman from NORAD was. So far nobody knows. A person from MX NPIC of St Louis had called Mr [redacted] regarding phtoos. The reason they were upset about the news releases was that some estimates given by the photo people at SSD were that the object was maybe 5-8ft in diameter or 30-60 ft in diameter. One photo the man was sitting in a truck. They are sending all the measurements of the truck etc with the photos. The photo lab was unable to do a good analysis or take anytime because of a job they were working on.

NPIC = National Photographic Interpretation Center.

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HEADQUARTERS
SPACE SYSTEMS DIVISION
AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE STATION
Air Force Unit Post Office, Los Angeles, California 90045

REPLY TO ATTN OF: SSFA (Capt Reichmuth/643-3310) 30 September 1965

SUBJECT: (U) Investigation Report, UFO Sighting, 3 August 1965, Santa Ana, California

TO: FTD (TDEW) Attn: Major Quintanilla
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

1. Transmitted herewith are the results of the subject UFO investigation conducted by Captain Charles F. Reichmuth, USAF, Space Systems Division (SSFA), Los Angeles Air Force Station, Los Angeles, Calif.

2. This report involves the sighting and photography of a UFO by Mr [redacted], employed by the Orange County Road Department, offices located in Santa Ana, California. Original Polaroid photographs are not available as of this date, and will be forwarded when and if made available.

FOR THE COMMANDER

WILLIAM J. TRIGG
LtColonel, USAF
Asst Deputy for Foreign Technology

6 Atch
1. Basic rpt IAW AFR 200-2
2. Narrative rpt and assessment
3. Copy of USMC G-2 (El Toro Marine Air Facility) Investigation Rpt
4. 3 8X10 glossy prints of UFO
5. Zerox copies of Atch 4
6. Zerox copies of newspaper articles re UFO

copy to:

SAFOI, Washington DC, Attn: Miss Sarah Hunt, w/Atch 1, 2, 3, 5 & 6

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INVESTIGATION REPORT
NAVMC 10491-65 (REV. 1-61)
SUPERSEDES PREVIOUS EDITION WHICH WILL BE USED

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT; REPORT OF	DATE OF REPORT: 22 September 1965
	REPORT MADE BY: Counterintelligence Section
	REPORT MADE AT: MCAS, El Toro (Santa Ana), Calif.
REFERENCE: (a) CONVERSATION WITH SGT. H. P. DOLYAK of this CO	ORIGIN OF CASE: C/O U. R. MILLER, USMC MAG-3, 3d MAW
	CHARACTER OF INVESTIGATION: Special Inquiry
ENCLOSURES: (1) Photograph of UFO (2) Photograph of UFO (3) Photograph of UFO (4) Enclosure (1) is referenced (a)	PERIOD COVERED: 14 September 1965
	STATUS: Closed
COPY TO: (CAMILLERI; FILE	FILE NO.: G2-1-file

SYNOPSIS

INVESTIGATION

1. This investigation was initiated upon receipt of subject from CWO W. R. MILLER USMC, MAG-3, 3dMAW, FMFPac and was directed by the Commander, Marine Corps Air Bases, Western Area to determine the circumstances surrounding subject.

DETAILS

1. On 14 September 1965 CWO MILLER reported to the Asst. G-2/Inspector, Marine Corps Air Bases, Western Area, MCAS, El Toro (Santa Ana), California that the brother-in-law of his neighbor had seen and taken several photographs of an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO). CWO MILLER had obtained copies of the photographs from his neighbor Mr. [redacted], Santa Ana, California. (Enclosures 1, 2 and 3)

2. Mr. [redacted] was interviewed at his place of employment, Union 76 service station, Garden Grove and Bolsa, Garden Grove, California at 1000 on 10 September 1965. Mr. [redacted] identified the pictures taken by his brother-in-law Mr. [redacted], Santa Ana, California.

3. Mr. [redacted] was interviewed at his residence, [redacted] Santa Ana, California at 1100 on 10 September 1965 concerning his knowledge of the UFO sighting.

4. [redacted] stated substantially the following:

a. That he saw the UFO on 3 August 1965 between approximately 1130-1150. When he first saw the object, he thought that it was a jet from MCAS, El Toro. However, he then noticed that it appeared to be hovering at approximately 150 feet and 1/3 to 1/4 of a mile away. He picked up his camera and started taking pictures. As he was taking the pictures, the object accelerated eastward toward the Saddleback mountains. He lost sight of the object due to the haze and distance.

SIGNATURE: H. P. DOLYAK SSGT, USMC	APPROVED: G. D. WOLVERTON COL, USMC G-2/INSPECTOR, MCAS, El Toro

b6-1,b7(c)
22 September 1965

The object was in view approximately 15 seconds. The only notes he heard was from the helicopters at the Marine Corps Air Facility, Santa Ana, California. The object was silver in color, 25 to 30 feet in diameter and approximately 8 feet thick.

b. During the time that the UFO was in sight, [redacted] attempted to contact his supervisor by radio, but was unable to do so. In his opinion there was interference on the whole county road department net. After the object disappeared from view, [redacted] was able to make contact with his supervisor by radio. The radio worked perfectly before and since the incident.

c. He is 37 years old and presently employed as an investigator for the Orange County Road Department. Prior to his present position, he was a surveyor for the road department, and was a deputy sheriff for a short time.

d. After taking the pictures home he decided to send the photographs to LIFE magazine. He contacted the LIFE office in Los Angeles, California and they advised him to send the photographs to the New York headquarters, which he did. The photographs were returned to him with a letter stating that the organization would be interested in publishing the photographs but the subject was [redacted] for their publication.

e. [redacted] further stated that after his brother-in-law and a friend had expressed a desire to have copies of the pictures. He took them to a drug store to have copies made. He picked up the copies and shortly there after was contacted by a reporter from the Santa Ana Register concerning the photographs. He loaned the originals to the newspaper, and was interviewed on 13 September 1965. The photographs were returned the next day.

f. [redacted] had no idea how the register learned of the photographs, but assumed that the drug store had called.

g. During the interview with the Register reporter, the question was asked whether he [redacted] would submit to a polygraph examination, concerning the UFO. [redacted] stated that he would be willing to submit to a polygraph examination only if the Register or someone put up $1,000.00 with no results guaranteed. [redacted] feels that from his experience as an investigator that the polygraph is not reliable enough and that if the examination turned out negative, it would endanger his job.

h. The original polaroid photographs were supplied to be copied and subsequently returned to Mr. [redacted]

REMARKS

1. Mr. [redacted] appears to be a well adjusted person, with no obvious personality quirks. He was quiet, cooperative, and logical at all times during the interview.

He is a model and electric train enthusiast, with a very extensive collection. On a shelf in his living room were some outstanding models of 2 old automobiles and 3 airplanes, all though they were the commercial plastic type, they were extremely well done in detail, over and above the average model builder.

Mr. [redacted]ld, however, avoid answering 2 questions.

Why the delay in reporting the sighting and the name of the store where he had the photographs copied.

2. A check with the Federal Communication Facility at Santa Ana, California reported that they had received no complaints of interference on UHF or VHF on 3 August 1965.

3. Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro radar control center log has no record of any unusual flight patterns or sightings on 3 August 1965.

4. Enclosure (4) answer YES of enclosure (1) of reference (a).

END OF STORY

DESCRIPTIVE DATA DESIRED ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

1. Description of the object

a. Circular
b. Dims (Approximately 25 to 30 feet diameter - 8 feet thick)
c. Silver
d. One (1)
e. Not applicable
f. Rotating beacon light on underside of object
g. None
h. None (sound covered by helicopters at MCAF, Santa Ana)
i. None

2. Description of course of object

a. Reflection of light
b. 150 feet high - 10 degrees magnetic
c. Climbing - 70 degrees magnetic
d. Hovering to acceleration straight line
e. Disappeared in distance and haze
f. Approximately 15 seconds

3. Manner of observation

a. Ground visual
b. No optical aids
c. Not applicable

4. Time and date of sighting

a. 0310302-0310502/Aug55
b. Day

5. Location of observer

a. Approximately 800 yards south of Santa Ana freeway on Myford Road

6. Identifying information on all observers

a. [redacted]
Santa Ana, California.
Investigator, Orange County Road Department

7. Weather and winds aloft conditions at time and place of sightings

a. Bright, clear with slight haze
b. Surface 230 degrees at 3 Knts
6,000 320 degrees at 4 Knts
10,000 200 degrees at 5 Knts
16,000 250 degrees at 25 Knts

ENCLOSURE (4)

ITEM #7 Contd

20,000	260 degrees	at 32 Knts
30,000	240 degrees	at 37 Knts
50,000	250 degrees	at 15 Knts

c. Unlimited
d. 6 miles with haze
e. None
f. None

8. Observer reported radio net of County Road Department out during observation.

9. No interception or action taken.

10. No air traffic reported by observer (traffic in pattern at MCAS, El Toro.

11. MCOIC Counterintelligence section, MCAS, El Toro.

a. Comments: All though the observer was co-operative during interview, and seemingly honestly tried to answer all questions, observer did avoid answering question of delay in reporting, sighting and reproduction of photographs. After looking at photographs and at actual sight of observation, it appears as though there are some discrepancies, as listed below.

(1) Size, distance and altitude from observer
(2) No other observer, all though object reported hovering over or near heavy traffic on freeway (7 motor vehicles in background)
(3) FCC report of no radio interference.
(4) Rotating beacon light does not appear on underside of object as it should on a photo.

12. 3 photographs of object were taken of object with a polaroid model 1013 on black and white film, speed 3000/207. Focal length 4 5/8" (from film).

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~ Blue

BASIC REPORT IAW AFR 200-2

UFO, 3 August 1965, SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

1. Description of object:

a. Object has a basically circular shape not unlike a man's flat, summer straw hat (see photographs, Atch 4).

b. Size of object: estimated to be about 30' in diameter with a vertical dimension of about eight feet.

c. Color was silver or metallic except for dark areas which appeared to be black.

d. One object only.

e. Not applicable.

f. See Atch 4 for details on features. Observer stated that when the UFO was tilted so that he could see the underside that he observed a small, narrow, rotating beam of light which began at the center of the underside of the object and ran to the outside edge of the object. The color of the light appeared to be either whitish or metallic such as that which could indicate light reflection from a relatively slow moving propeller or other rotating blade. In photo Nr 2 there is a faint indication of such a line running from the center outward at a relative bearing of about 280°. Officials in the G-2 office at El Toro stated that the light line was clearly visible in the original photo.

g. None observed.

h. No sound heard.

i. See photographs in Atch 4.

2. Description of course of object:

a. Object first noticed out of corner of observer's eye while driving an Orange County Road Department vehicle.

b. See photographs.

c. See photographs.

ATTACHMENT 1

Initially, object appeared to observer to be flying on a straight and level path in an ESE direction at about 150' altitude at a relatively low speed and at an estimated range of about 1/8 mile. Three photographs taken while object was on this flight path. After last photograph, object appeared to turn to a northeasterly heading and accelerated while climbing slightly.

e. Observer's attention was diverted for about two seconds; when he turned to look for the UFO again it had disappeared into the haze.

f. Observer estimated total period of observation to be about 15 seconds. Based on test of observer's ability to measure time, it is believed the duration of sighting would be closer to 25 seconds.

3. Manner of observation:

a. Ground - visual.

b. Not applicable.

c. Not applicable.

4. Time and date of sighting:

a. 3 August 1965, 1830Z (1130 PDT).

b. Day.

5. Observer was driving vehicle on Myford Road (heading NNE) and was approximately 3/8 miles to the SSW of the Santa Ana (San Diego) Freeway, which at that point runs from WNW to ESE direction. Mr [redacted] stated that he was about one-fourth of the way from Robert Avenue to the freeway on Myford Street. A check with the Road Department's official map shows that the streets in that area are laid out in one-half mile squares. This would substantiate Mr [redacted] estimate that he was about 3/8 mile from the freeway. Based on the photographs, the G-2 investigator from El Toro went to the observation site and confirmed that these distances were essentially correct. This is in the general area of the city of Santa Ana and was within the flight pattern area of the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station, and ENE of the USMC Air Facility.

6. Identifying information on observer:

Name, [redacted]; age 37; date of birth, 18 October 1927; place of birth, Ottumwa, Iowa; address, [redacted], Santa Ana, California (observer has moved to [redacted] in Santa Ana); telephone number, Area Code [redacted]

Occupation: Employed by Orange County Road Department as a highway traffic investigator. Mr [redacted] has been with the department for 15 years.

Background, education and experience:

a. Completed three and one half years of college towards Business Administration degree. OJT with Road Department - traffic engineering, surveying, drafting, and inspection techniques with varying degrees of experience in all subject areas. His supervisor, Mr [redacted], Santa Ana, telephone number [redacted], considers him best qualified as a traffic investigator. Mr [redacted] is also a former reserve police officer. He dropped his police duties because of increase in responsibility with his job in the highway department.

b. Mr [redacted] supervisors consider him to be a valuable employee, possessing a good personality (friendly, good-natured, alert, mature, and normal in all respects). Based on a three and one half hour interview with Mr [redacted] the investigating officer could find no evidence to disagree with this estimate. Mr [redacted]'s supervisors also felt that his experience as a traffic investigator and inspector qualify Mr [redacted] as an experienced, if not trained, observer.

7. Weather conditions: See Atch 3 of basic letter.

8. There was helicopter activity to the south (behind) of the location of Mr [redacted] during the time of the UFO observation. Mr [redacted] did not look for or see the helicopter since this was a common activity, however, he could hear the helicopter operating. In addition to the above weather conditions, it was confirmed that the weather was generally sunny, clear overhead, but that a large amount of ground haze existed which obscured vision in a horizontal direction or at angles of elevation below 30°. Visibility in a horizontal direction was estimated to be less than one mile.

9. No interception or identification action was taken on the date of sighting, however, a check made by the Marine Corps investigators indicated that no UFO was observed on the Marine Corps Air Facility radar at the time of the reported UFO observation.

10. See paragraph 8.

11. Investigating officer was Captain Charles F. Reichmuth, USAF, Director, Technical Support Directorate, Deputy for Foreign Technology, Space Systems Division, Systems Command.

12. Three photographs of the UFO were taken. Blow-up copies of the original prints are included as Atch 4 to the basic letter. The photographs were taken with a Polaroid camera Model 101 which is a standard item of equipment for Orange County Road Department officials. The camera has a focal length of 114 mm (about 4.134 inches); has a variable aperature varying from f8.0 to about f42.0; speed unknown but variable; picture format 3 1/4" x 4 1/4". The camera is fully automatic and utilizes a built-in light meter which automatically adjusts camera speed and aperature. The only controls are a black and white or color select and a shutter release button. The camera utilizes a black and white film pack utilizing film with a speed of ASA 3000.

Charles F. Reichmuth

CHARLES F. REICHMUTH
Captain, USAF
Investigating Officer

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NARRATIVE REPORT AND ASSESSMENT

UFO, 3 AUGUST 1965, SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

1. The following is based upon investigation conducted personally by the Investigating Officer and from comments obtained from U.S. Marine Corps investigators and various press representatives, and includes a "guesstimate" of the chronological evidence involving the UFO sighting and the interplay of activities involving news media, the Marine Corps, the Air Force, and other unconfirmed agencies and officials.

2. At approximately 1130 hours PDT on 3 August 1965, Mr [redacted] was driving SSW on Myford Road to check out a matter (not identified) pertaining to his job for the Orange County Road Department. After checking the item he turned his vehicle (Ford "van bus") around and began to head NNE, still on Myford Road. He was still traveling at only a few MPH (three to ten) when he first observed something out of the corner of his eye, out of the left side window of the vehicle. At first he assumed that it was a helicopter until the object was almost directly in front of his vehicle. Because of the unusual shape of the object, Mr [redacted] quickly stopped the vehicle and grabbed the Polaroid camera which was on the front seat (SOP for traffic investigators), and took one picture of the object through the windshield. (NOTE: Marine Corps investigators determined that the object was at a bearing of 10° magnetic at the time the photograph was taken.) The UFO continued on an ESE course at slow speed. Mr [redacted] was able to take two additional photographs of the UFO through the ~~left~~ RIGHT door window of his vehicle. (NOTE: Marine Corps investigators estimate that the bearing of the UFO in picture nr 2 was about 90° magnetic, and that the bearing of the UFO in picture nr 3 was about 70° magnetic.) This would indicate that picture nr 3 was taken after the UFO had changed course to a NE heading.

3. Mr [redacted] comment to the Investigating Officer varied somewhat from those given to the Marine Corps investigator. However, it is believed that the undersigned conducted a more thorough investigation and that Mr [redacted] comments which are noted below are essentially correct. Mr [redacted] stated that he had attempted to use his two-way radio once or twice just before he sighted the UFO and could neither transmit nor receive any signal although the radio panel lights indicated that the radio was operational. Detailed questioning indicated that this definitely occurred before the UFO sighting and not during the UFO sighting. Mr [redacted] stated that after the UFO had disappeared that he attempted to use his radio and found that it was working normally. He also stated that he had not had any other radio malfunctions in the preceding weeks.

4. Just after taking the third picture of the UFO, Mr [redacted] heard a vehicle approaching from the rear. Concerned that he might have parked in an awkward postion, he turned around to see if there was enough road clearance for the vehicle to pass him. Noting that he was on the shoulder of the road, he immediately turned again to look at the UFO but found that it had "disappeared into the haze".

5. The Investigating Officer has noted some skepticism on the part of several individuals as to whether or not Mr [redacted] could have observed the UFO, stopped his vehicle and taken three photographs - all in a 15 to 25 second time period. A check was made with people who are familiar with this particular model camera, and it was determined that an experienced man could easily take three photographs within a 12-second time period.

6. At the end of the working day, Mr [redacted] returned to his office in the Road Department building and showed his photographs to several co-workers. They were subsequently filed in a desk drawer. After a few days (and after several duplicate photographs, conversations, comments, and general bull sessions), a friend of Mr [redacted] who is a former employe of the Road Department convinced Mr [redacted] that they should try to sell the photographs to LIFE Magazine. The friend was unidentified, however Mr [redacted] supervisor, Mr [redacted], substantiated this bit of the story. The friend called the LIFE Magazine office in ~~New York~~, and was informed that they were interested. Subsequently, the friend mailed the pictures to the Los Angeles office and presumably the photographs were forwarded to the main office in New York (or Chicago?).

About two weeks later the photographs were returned from New York(?) directly to Mr [redacted] without written comment. At about the same time the Los Angeles office telephoned Mr [redacted] to say that the main office had declined to utilize the pictures "because it was too controversial at the time". Time passed and apparently more copies of the pictures were made and handed out to various friends and friends of friends, until most of Santa Ana was saturated with the UFO pictures.

One of these pictures was obtained by a druggist who then apparently showed it to a friend, a customer who worked for the Santa Ana Register. On or about 18 September, Frank Hall of the Santa Ana Register contacted Mr [redacted], borrowed the three original prints, returned the originals to Mr [redacted], and wrote an article which was published with the UFO picture (Nr 1) in the Santa Ana Register on 20 September 1965. Two of the three photographs were released by the Register on 20 or 21 September to UPI. One or both of these pictures and accompanying articles were published by various newspapers on 21 September 1965.

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

Mr [redacted] states that at no time did he verbally agree to the release of the photographs or sign a statement of release. He also stated he wished it had never happened.

On 14 September 1965, the G-2 office at the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station learned that the photographs existed and contacted Mr Heflin on 18 September. See their report in Atch 3 to the basic letter.

Mr [redacted] stated that following the publication of the UFO reports on 20 or 21 September, he received several telephone calls, including apparent hoax calls and two bomb threats. He also received two additional calls: one from a man who identified himself as a representative of Boeing and the other who identified himself as a representative of NORAD. According to Mr [redacted] both callers requested that he comment no more on the item "for reasons of national security", and that they would contact him personally as soon as possible. Mr [redacted] said he was quite concerned about all of the phone calls for several reasons, the primary one being that his telephone number was unlisted and that he did not know how all of these people managed to get his telephone number. Although Mr [redacted]'s name was mentioned in the press releases, neither his address nor telephone number was mentioned. A check with the Orange County ~~Recr~~ Department verified that Mr [redacted] telephone number is unlisted.

The Marine Corps G-2 investigator who had borrowed the original prints of the photography from Mr [redacted] returned them to him at noon on 22 September. Both Frank Hall of the Santa Ana Register and Sergeant Dolyak of the G-2 office confirmed that Mr [redacted] had given them the photographs without any hesitation, without attempting to verify their stated positions by closely examining their credentials, nor did he ask for any receipt for the photographs.

According to Mr [redacted] on the evening of 22 September a man in civilian clothing visited his house, flashed an identification card, and announced that he was an "investigator" from the North American Defense Command". Mr [redacted] said that he did not examine the man's credentials closely but recalled that the man's I.D. card was in a special cardcase about 4"x5" (Comment: About the same size card carrying case normally used by OSI, CIA, and other investigating officials.), and that the single I.D. card appeared to consist of two sections - the upper half being orange or pink in color, and the lower half being blue or bluegreen in color in the dimness of the porch light. Mr. [redacted] stated that he gave the original prints of the photographs to this man, again without receipt (he being a trusting soul), and assumed

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~

that he would eventually get the pictures back. He told the investigating officer that he would forward the photographs to SSD when they were returned (if they are returned).

Initially, the investigating officer was not able to contact Mr [redacted] directly. On 23 September the investigating officer went to the Road Department offices in Santa Ana and asked how he could contact Mr [redacted] About one hour's conversation ensued with Mr [redacted] supervisor, Mr [redacted] and one or two other officials in the Road Department. All vouched for Mr [redacted] character, etc., etc., which is described earlier in this report. At 1600 hours Mr [redacted] returned from the field and the investigating officer interrogated him for about three and one hours, during which time most of the above information was obtained.

It was also determined that following the UPI press release the Road Department was swamped with telephone calls from all over the United States, and reached such a point that the officials and Mr Heflin had agreed to the following actions effective 22 September:

a. That Mr [redacted] keep his vehicle radio off so that his daily duties would not be disturbed;

b. That his telephone number would be given out to all callers who were informed that they could contact him at his residence after 1730 hours;

c. That in certain instances, appointments would be made with the callers with Mr [redacted] at his residence during evening hours.

One such appointment was made by a man who called the Road Departemtn and identified himself again as a Boeing representative. The appointment was made for the evening of 24 September. During the investigating officer's conversation with Mr [redacted] it was requested that in the event that the Boeing official or the NORAD official contacted Mr [redacted] he should obtain their name, office address, and try to determine their official status. Mr [redacted] stated that he would do some or that he would not talk to them. A subsequent check showed that the "Boeing man" did not show up.

Based on the investigating officer's conversations with Mr [redacted] it appeared that he was a normal, upright and tolerant citizen. From all appearances he is not attempting to perpetrate a hoax. Based on knowledge of Mr [redacted] testimony to the Marine Corps investigator, it was obvious that some of the minor points in his story had changed. However, his basic story remained very consistent. It is believed

that the discrepancies in Mr [redacted]s statements were due to both of the following reasons:

a. The Marine Corps investigation was generally cursory while this investigating officer went into detailed questioning.

b. That Mr [redacted], while trying to provide as much information as possible, was faced with the problem of trying to recall a considerable number of specific points which had been observed some seven weeks' earlier.

It is considered probable that although Mr [redacted] was doing his honest best to recall details, that he would have had some difficulty in trying to separate "fact from memory" from general discussions and suppositions put forth by all of the people who have talked with him prior to the investigating officer's contact with him.

Prior to the contact with Mr [redacted], the investigating officer had been informed by Mrs Sarah Hunt, SAFOI, of FTD's initial P.I. estimate. Based on this information, the investigating officer attempted to effect a minor ruse by stating that he personally had tried to perform analysis of the newspaper print of the UFO and that he personally had estimated that the UFO had a diameter of about three feet. Instead of being insulted or arguing or acting as though he had been caught in a hoax, Mr [redacted] politely made the following comments:

a. That this was quite interesting since a man from North American Autonetics Division in Anahiem (who had gotten a copy of the photograph) had called him to say that it was only about four feet in diameter;

b. That he was still convinced that the object was about 30 feet in diameter and that he did not think he could make that great a mistake in observation. The investigating officer commented to Mr [redacted] that he personally was rusty in analyzing photography and naturally had to work with a newspaper print which had obviously be retouched and that it obviously would be to everyone's benefit if we could obtain the original prints and have an accurate analysis performed by people more qualified to effect photo interpretation.

As stated above, Mr [redacted] agreed to forward the original prints when and if they were returned by the alleged NORAD official.

Charles F Reichmuth

CHARLES F REICHMUTH
Captain, USAF
UFO Investigating Officer

PHOTO #1 BEARING OF UFO ~ 10° MAGNETIC

(TAKEN THROUGH WINDSHIELD)

CAMERA DATA:

MODEL: POLAROID 101

FOCAL LENGTH: 114 mm (~4.134")

PHOTO FORMAT: 3¼" × 4⅝"

f-STOP VARIABLE: f8 → ~f42 (AUTOMATICALLY SET BY EXPOSURE METER)

SHUTTER SPEED VARIABLE

FILM: B&W FILM PACK
ASA 3000

REGISTRATION CARD HOLDER

1 1/16"

4 9/16"

"TELEPHONE" POLE SPACING ~ 300'

TRAFFIC ON SANTA ANA FREEWAY
DISTANCE ABOUT 3/8 MILE

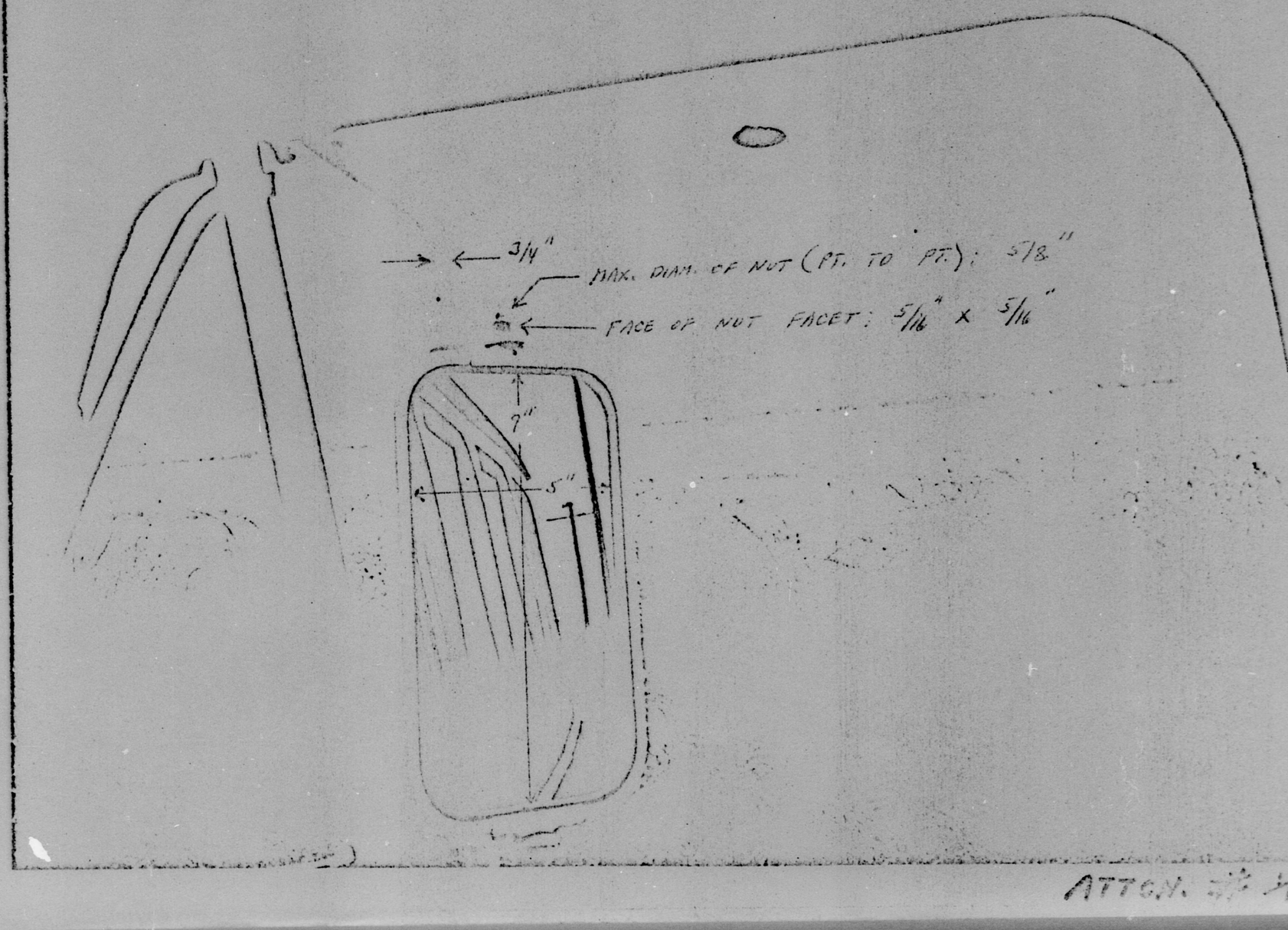
"TELEPHONE POLE SHADOW

ATTCH. #4-1

PHOTO #2 BEARING OF UFO ~ 90° MAGNETIC

TAKEN THROUGH RIGHT DOOR WINDOW
WINDOW BELIEVED CLOSED

INTERNAL WINDOW DIMENSIONS 19 3/4" × 14 1/2"



ATTCH. #4

PHOTO #3 BEARING OF UFO ~70° MAGNETIC

TAKEN THROUGH RIGHT DOOR WINDOW
WINDOW BELIEVED CLOSED

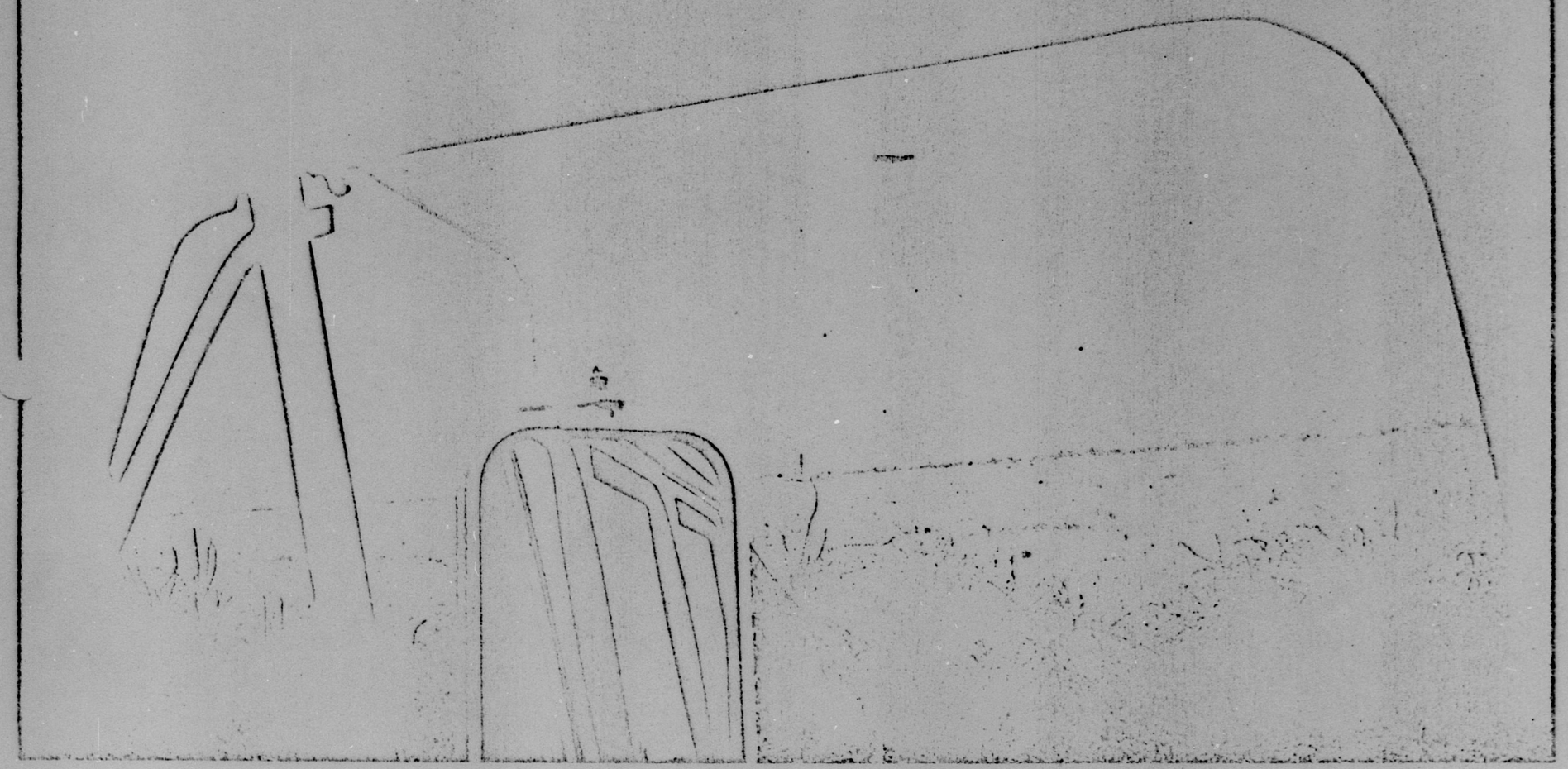


PHOTO # 3

LOS ANGELES EVENING AND SUNDAY
HERALD EXPRESS EXAMINER
CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING Richmond 8-4111 All Other Calls Richmond 8-1212 or Richmond 8-4141
LARGEST EVENING CIRCULATION IN AMERICA
VOL. XCV Four Sections Section A TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1965 10 CENTS H★★ NO. 179

NIGHT FINAL
COMPLETE
New York Stocks
American Stocks



—United Press International Telephoto

WHAT'S THIS IN SOUTHLAND SKY? A FLYING SAUCER OR AN OLD HAT?
Rex Heflin photographed this saucer-shaped unidentified object near Santa Ana with a polaroid camera

'Unbeliever' Takes Photo Of 'Saucer'

An Orange County Highway Department investigator who doesn't believe in flying saucers has photographed a saucer-shaped flying object that has yet to be identified.

Rex Heflin, 37, has released three photographs which he says were taken Aug. 3 when the Midwestern and Southeastern portions of the nation were flooded with reports of unidentified flying objects.

Heflin said he was working near the Santa Ana Marine Corps air facility when he caught a glimpse of a silver object which he estimated to be 30 feet in diameter and eight feet thick.

He said it was visible for 15 seconds and moved from west to east, accelerating at about the same speed as a jet.

He said the object made no sound, but a beam of white light rotated underneath the saucer. He claims that under

(Cont. on Page 4, Col. 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

a magnifying glass the beam is discernable in one of the photographs.

Heflin said he carries a camera with him for his work, and that during the time the object was in sight, he was able to take the three pictures.

During the time the object was near, Heflin said he tried to communicate with his supervisor over a two-way radio in his vehicle, but the radio was inoperative. He said the radio has since worked perfectly.

Despite the object's proximity to the Marine base, radar operations failed to report any mysterious identification on Aug. 3.

Heflin said he was willing to take a line detector test in reply to skeptics who may say the pictures are products of trick photography.

Los Angeles Herald-Examiner
Wednesday, Sept. 22, 1965 D-1
H★

3 Photos

Air Saucer Mystery Stirs Row

By TOM NEWTON
Herald-Examiner Staff Writer

Controversy continued today over pictures of a "flying saucer" reported taken near El Toro Marine Base by Rex Heflin, Orange County Highway Department investigator.

Heflin told The Herald-Examiner he had received a call from a man identifying himself as a colonel with NORAD (North American Air Defense), asking him to refrain from comment at present.

The highway investigator said he intended to check the validity of the call later today.

Heflin, 37, Monday released three photos of "a silver object" he spotted at 11:30 a.m. Aug. 3 while working in an area between the El Toro Base and the nearby Marine Corps Air Facility.

Neither air station reported any unidentified objects on the radar that day.

He told investigators he "glimpsed the silver object and estimated it to be 30 feet in diameter and about eight feet thick."

'NO SOUND'

Heflin said it was visible for about 15 seconds and moved from west to east, accelerating at about the same speed as a jet plane.

"It made no sound," he said, "but a beam of white light rotated underneath the saucer."

Authoritative sources confirmed his claim that "the light was visible in the last of the three pictures, using a magnifying glass." The "saucer" was slightly tipped in the third picture, revealing its underside.

The county employe said he carried the camera as part of his work. Photographers said it would have been possible to take the three pictures within 15 seconds with the camera Heflin carries.

'RADIO DIED'

Heflin, who says he "doesn't believe in flying saucers," said that during his sighting of the object he tried to contact his base station in Santa Ana.

He said: "The radio went dead twice while I was trying to contact the station, but it has worked ever since without trouble."

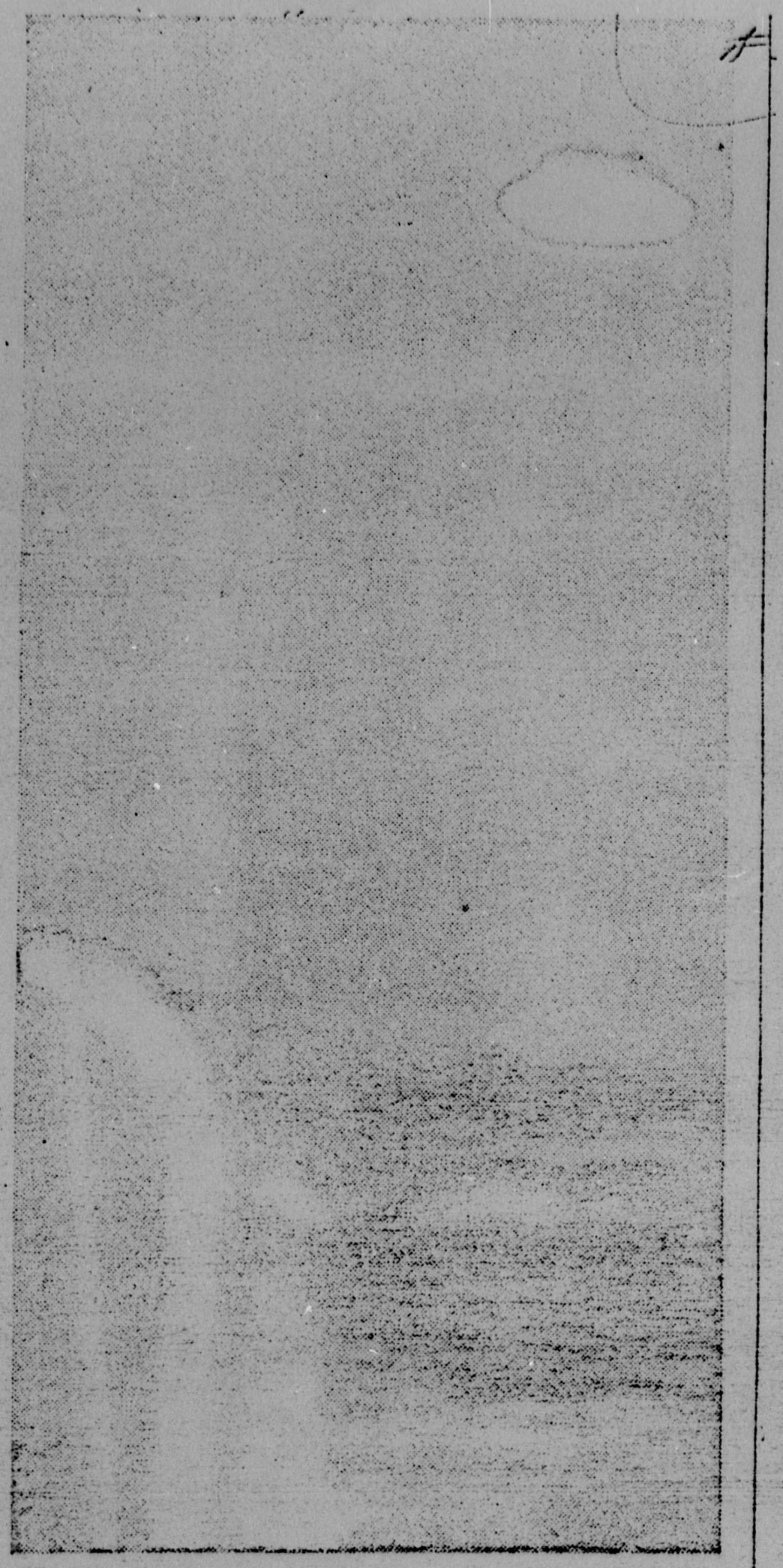
The incident occurred during a period when numerous sightings of UFO's (unidentified flying objects) were reported throughout the Midwestern and Southeastern sections of the country.

Heflin said he is willing to take a lie detector test regarding the pictures.

He said the NORAD officer tentatively set up a meeting for tonight or Thursday night in Santa Ana.

Officials at the El Toro Base said they were copying the pictures for a full report to the 11th Naval District in San Diego. The report will eventually reach Washington.

NEWSPAPER UNKNOWN
(CLIPPING SENT IN)



A Flying Saucer?

Some people don't believe in flying saucers, but what's this? The picture was taken near Santa Ana by a government worker.

UFO Photo Released

SANTA ANA, Calif. (UPI)—A county highway department investigator who doesn't believe in flying saucers has photographed a saucer-shaped flying object that has yet to be identified.

Rex Heflin, 37, has released three photographs which he says were taken Aug. 3 when the midwestern and southeastern portions of the nation were flooded with reports of unidentified flying objects.

Heflin said he was working near the Santa Ana Marine Corps air facility when he caught a glimpse of a silver object which he estimated to be 30 feet in diameter and eight feet thick. He said it was visible for 15 seconds and moved from west to east, accelerating at about the same speed as a jet.

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The Register

METROPOLITAN ORANGE COUNTY'S WATCHFUL NEWSPAPER

SUNDAY EDITION

SANTA ANA, ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 26, 1965 Daily 10c—Sunday 20c 60th Year—Number

AF Launches Full Probe Of County UFO

By FRANK HALL
AND
BILL FARR
Register Staff Writers

The U.S. Air Force has launched a full scale investigation to determine the nature of the unidentified flying object shown in photographs taken by Rex Heflin Aug. 3 near the Marine Corps Air Facility at Santa Ana.

Maj. Hector Quintanella Jr., chief of the Project Blue Book team at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, Saturday confirmed that the probe was underway.

He said initial investigation of the UFO sighting here would be conducted by the Air Force Space Systems Center in Los Angeles.

Three pictures of a purported "flying saucer" taken by Heflin on Myford Road between Valencia Avenue and the Santa Ana Freeway were published by The Register in last Monday's editions.

The 37-year-old Heflin took the photos while on his job as a county highway investigator. He used a Polaroid camera assigned to him for photographing various traffic scenes and road project problems.

Heflin said he was questioned for 3 hours and 45 minutes last Thursday by Capt. C.E. Reichmuth of the Space Systems Center.

"The captain was polite and considerate throughout the interview, and we discussed quite a number of possibilities as to what the object I photographed might have been. Nothing concrete was decided Heflin said.

Heflin took exception to remarks made by Maj. Quintanella Thursday that a preliminary analysis of the pictures showed the circular object to be a "maximum of three feet in diameter and at an altitude of 15 feet."

"I still feel what I saw was about 30 feet in diameter and 3 feet thick. It was about 150 feet off the ground. Even if I'm a bit off in my estimate, I can't see how the Project Blue Book staff can make a very valid analysis from a newspaper reproduction of a copy of my photos," Heflin said.

Maj. Quintanella admitted that his staff photo analysts made their size and altitude estimates from a wire service photo supplied to United Press International by The Register

(Turn To Page A8, Column 5)

UFO Saucer Probe

(Continued from page A-1)

and then printed in the Dayton Daily News.

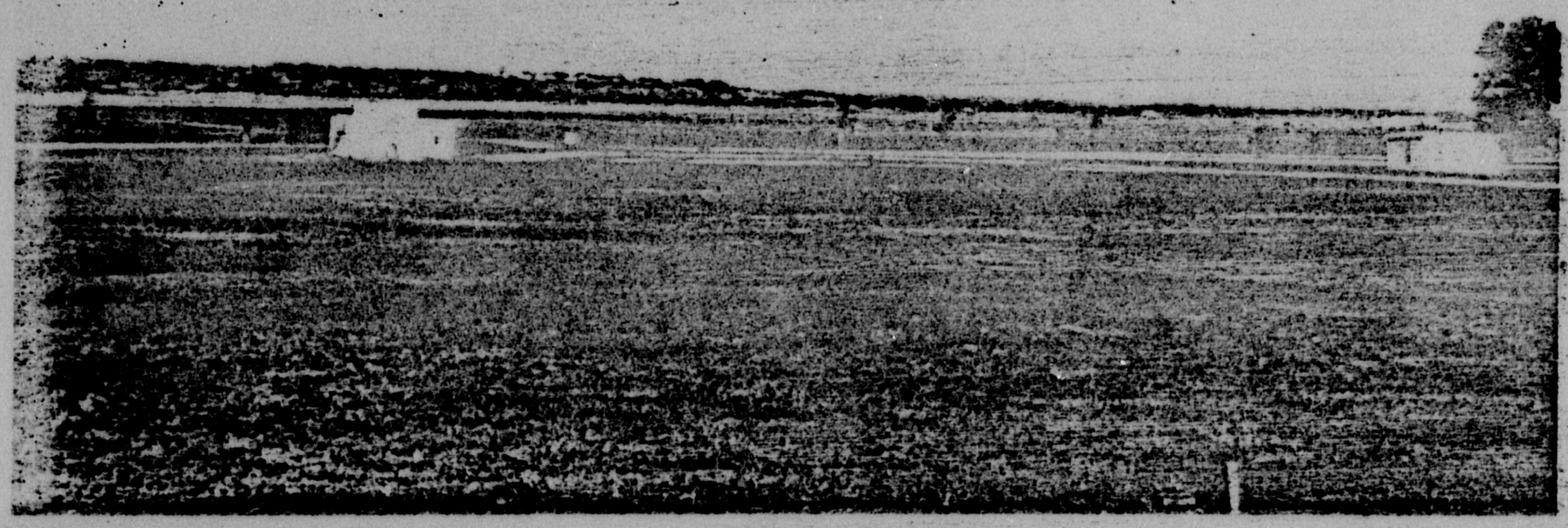
"We will analyze the initial report prepared in Los Angeles and probably make a determination of what was photographed. If further investigation is required to reach a finding, then personnel from Project Blue Book will do it," Maj. Quintanella said.

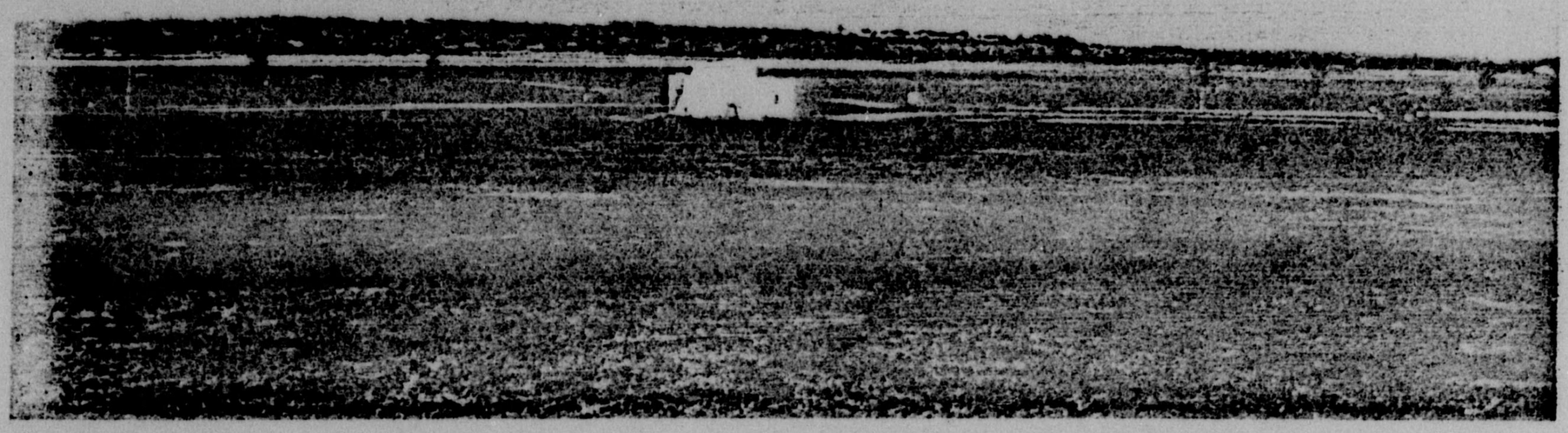
He added, "I don't think we will have much trouble in making a determination."

Project Blue Book is the code name for the Air Force assigned to investigate aerial phenomenon. This task was assigned to the Air Force by Congress in 1947.

Earlier in the week, a representative of the El Toro Marine Air Station intelligence section borrowed Heflin's original photos to make copies for a report which was forwarded to the 11th Naval District headquarters in San Diego.

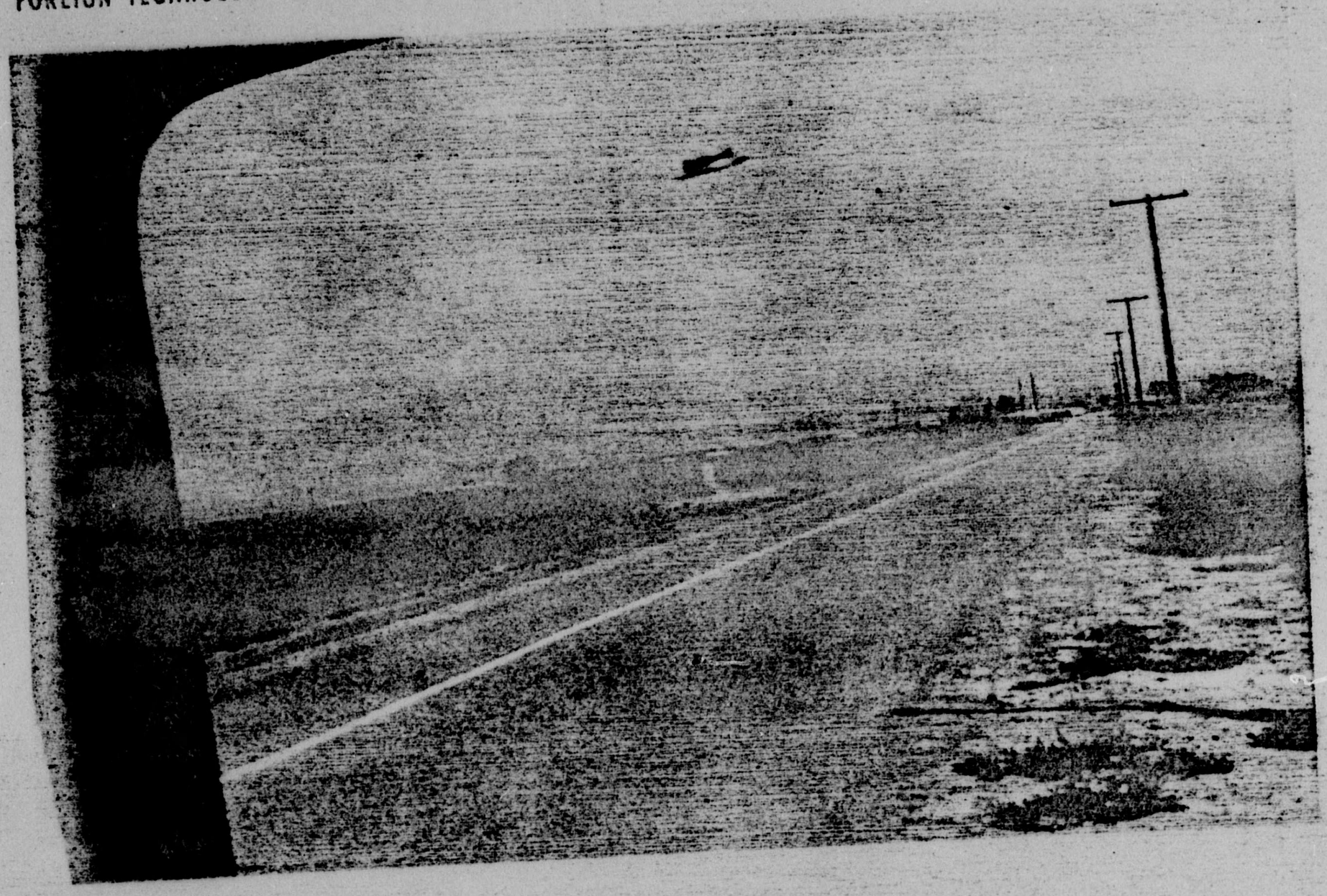
A spokesman for the Naval District said no further investigation was conducted by their intelligence officers, but instead the matter was referred immediately to the Air Force.

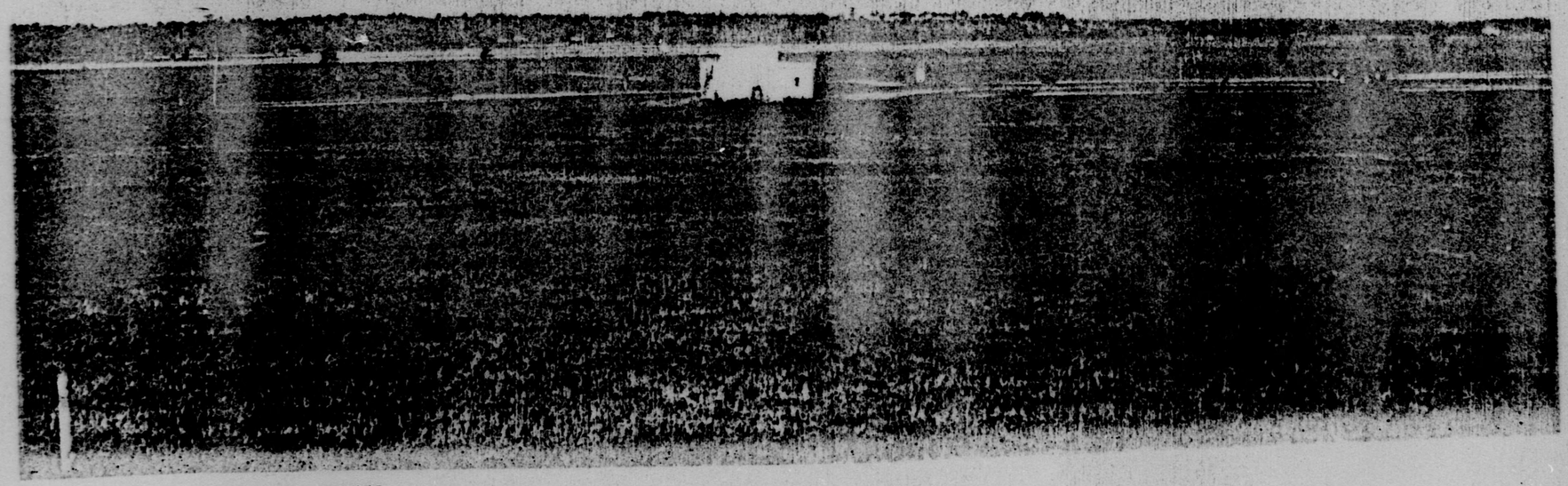


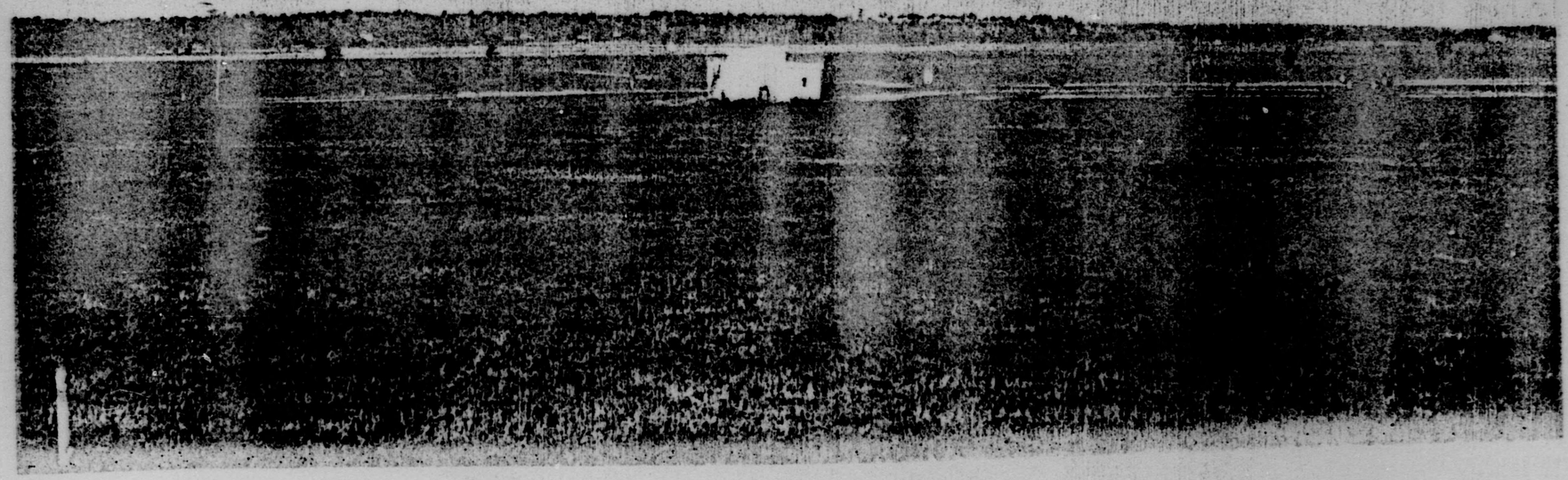


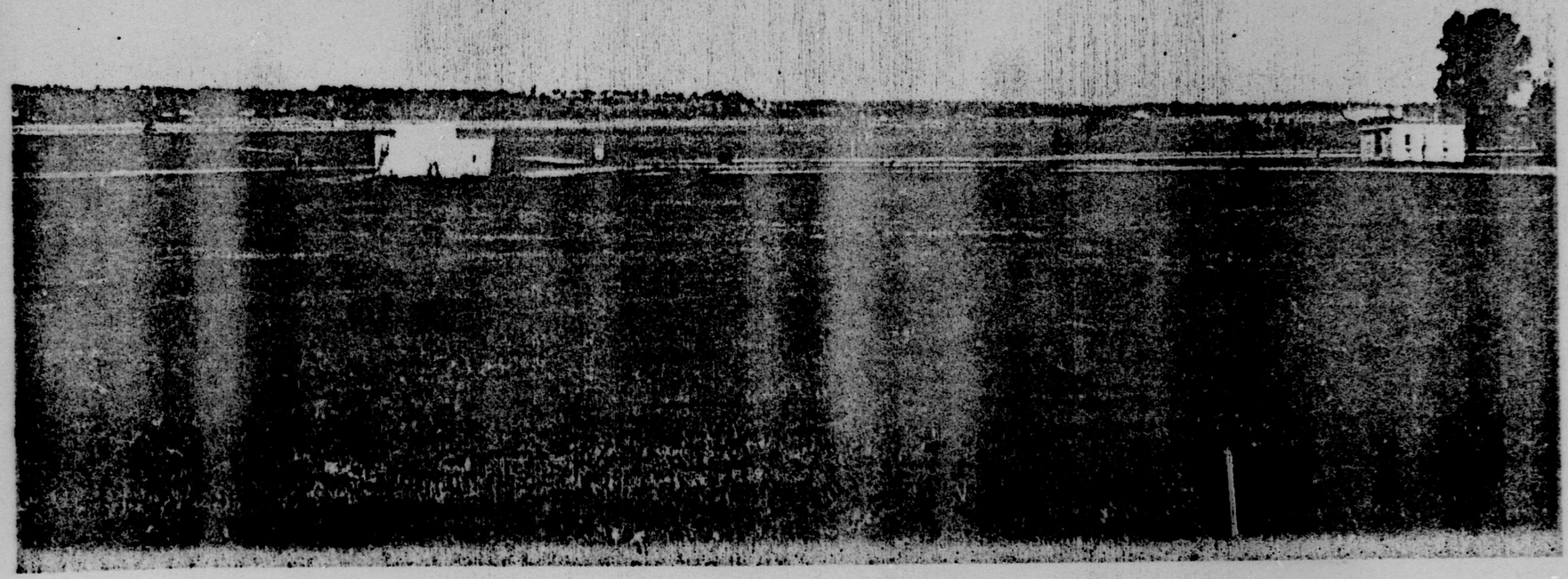


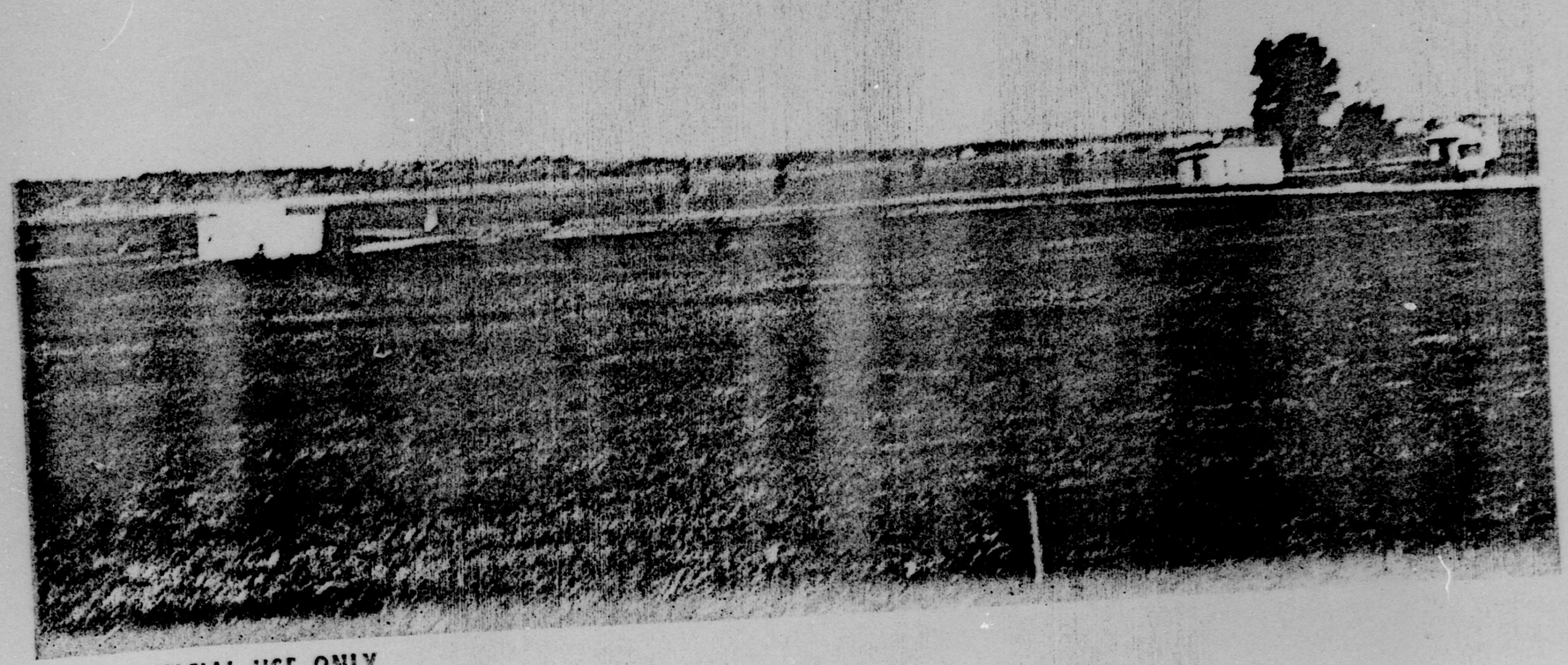
FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION, AFSC













--UPI-Courier-Post Telefax

PICTURE taken Aug. 3 near Santa Ana, Calif., Marine Corps Air Facility shows saucer-shaped object. Photo was taken by Rex Heflin, county highway department investigator, about time numerous UFO sightings were reported in area, and has just been released.

No Case, Information Only
Source: Saucer News, Vol. 12, No. 4
Dec 65

Santa Ana, California
3 Aug 65

FLYING OBJECT CAUGHT ON FILM IN CALIFORNIA: On August 3rd, a county highway department investigator in Santa Ana, California, took three photographs of a UFO which was flying near the Marine Corps Air Force facility there. According to the photographer, the object was close enough for him to be able to estimate its dimensions. He said that it was 30 feet in diameter and 8 feet thick. It was in sight for only about 15 seconds.

The highway department investigator, named Rex Heflin, added that the object made no sound, and had a beam of white light which rotated underneath it. He also stated that he tried to communicate by two-way radio with his supervisor, to tell him about the UFO; but he found the radio inoperative, though it has worked well since then. This is apparently still another case of electromagnetic disturbances caused by the presence of UFOs.

The pictures, which are in our files, were taken in broad daylight, but are not clear enough to reproduce here. They show a flat-topped object with a rim below the main portion, something like a hat. Somehow we get a skeptical feeling about these pictures, though Mr. Heflin has stated that he is willing to take a lie detector test regarding their authenticity.

At least one other sighting was made in the vicinity of the Marine base at about the same time as Mr. Heflin's.