

## PROJECT 10070 RECORD

1. DATE / TIME GROUP 25 Feb '67 26/0303Z	2. LOCATION Urbana, Illinois	multiple
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Balloon(hot air) -probable	
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One		
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION several minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual	Various observers watched a round shaped object reddish-orange in color travel toward the eastern sky. Sightings from different locations all agreed that the object was moving toward the east. One witness said that it appeared to be dropping ashes or sparks.	
7. COURSE NE		
8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Local radio station reported that they received many calls and a few of the calls said that the object looked like a balloon with a flare attached.	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		

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

25 Feb 67 Urbana, Ill.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 3345th AIR BASE GROUP (ATC)  
CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS 61866



REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: ABOTF

8 March 1967

SUBJECT: UFO Sighting

TO: FTD (TDETR)  
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433

Report of investigation surrounding the circumstances in the sighting of a UFO on 25 February 1967 in the Rantoul and Champaign/Urbana, Illinois area.

*Edward J. O'Brien*

EDWARD J. O'BRIEN, Captain, USAF  
Investigating Officer

7 Atchs

1. Cy of transmitted report.
2. Weather Map.
3. Area Map.
4. WCIA News Release.
5. Ltr from [redacted].
6. Statements.
7. Investigator's comments.

Copies to:  
ATC (ATOOS-O)  
ABCR  
ABOT

JOINT MESSAGE FORM				RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER													
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION																	
UNCLAS																	
TYPE MSG	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE														
PRECEDENCE																	
ACTION	PRIORITY																
INFO				DTG	28/1945Z												
<p>FROM: TECHNGCEN CHANUTE AFB ILL</p> <p>TO: ADC FTD WPAFB OHIO 20ATRDIV TRUAX FLD WIS CSAF OSAF WASH D C</p> <p>SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS</p>																	
<p>UNCLAS ABOT 00003 FEB 67. FOR TDETR, AFRDC and SAF-OI. Subj: Par 11, AFR 80-17.</p> <p>a. (1) Round ball. (2) Light aircraft. (3) Reddish yellow. (4) One. (5) NA. (6) None. (7) None. (8) None. (9) Fluctuating light.</p> <p>b. (1) Visual sighting. (2) 30 degrees high, approximately 1000 feet.</p>																	
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>DATE</td> <td>TIME</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td> <td>1345</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MONTH</td> <td>YEAR</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FEB</td> <td>1967</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PAGE NO.</td> <td>NO. OF PAGES</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>3</td> </tr> </table>		DATE	TIME	28	1345	MONTH	YEAR	FEB	1967	PAGE NO.	NO. OF PAGES	1	3				
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DRAFTER	TYPED NAME AND TITLE		PHONE	SIGNATURE													
	EDWARD J ORENCIC, Capt, USAF UFO Investigating Officer		2705														
RELEASER	TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE																
	CLAIREE W OLSON, Major, USAF Chief, Base Operations & Training Div																
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION			REGRADING INSTRUCTIONS														
UNCLAS																	

DL FORM NOV 63 173

REPLACES EDITION OF 1 MAY 55 WHICH MAY BE USED

★ GPO 1966 200 000

ABBREVIATED JOINT MESSAGEFORM  
and/or CONTINUATION SHEETSECURITY CLASSIFICATION  
UNCLAS

PRECEDENCE	RELEASED BY	DRAFTED BY
ACTION PRIORITY	CLAIRe W OLSON, Maj USAF Chief Base Ops & Tng Div	EDWARD J ORENIC, Capt USAF UFO Inves Off
INFO		

(3) 30 degrees high estimate.  
(4) West to northeast.  
(5) Gradually to northeast.  
(6) Initial observer, 8 minutes.  
c. Ground visual.  
d. (1) 0303Z/26 Feb. 2103L/25 Feb.  
(2) Night  
e. 40 degrees 07 minutes north - 88 degrees 13 minutes west on the University of Illinois campus.  
f. (1) Mr. [REDACTED] graduate student in chemistry; excellent reliability.  
(2) Major Claire W Olson, 3345 Air Base Gp, Base Operations and Training, Chanute AFB; excellent reliability.  
g. (1) Clear unlimited.  
(2) Surface 320/15, 6000 feet 330/25  
(3) Clear  
(4) Unlimited  
(5) None  
(6) None  
(7) Standard  
h. None  
i. None  
j. No aircraft. Possible balloon.

CONTROL NO.	TOR/TOD	PAGE NO. 2	NO. OF PAGES 3	MESSAGE IDENTIFICATION
REGRADING INSTRUCTIONS				SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLAS

DD FORM 1 NOV 63 173-1

REPLACES EDITION OF 1 MAY 55 WHICH MAY BE USED.

ABBREVIATED JOINT MESSAGEFORM and/or CONTINUATION SHEET			SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLAS	
PRECEDENCE	RELEASED BY		DRAFTED BY	PHONE
ACTION <b>PRIORITY</b>	CLAIRE W OLSON, Maj USAF Chief, Base Ops & Tug Div		EDWARD J ORENIC, Capt USAF UFO Inves Off	2705
INFO				

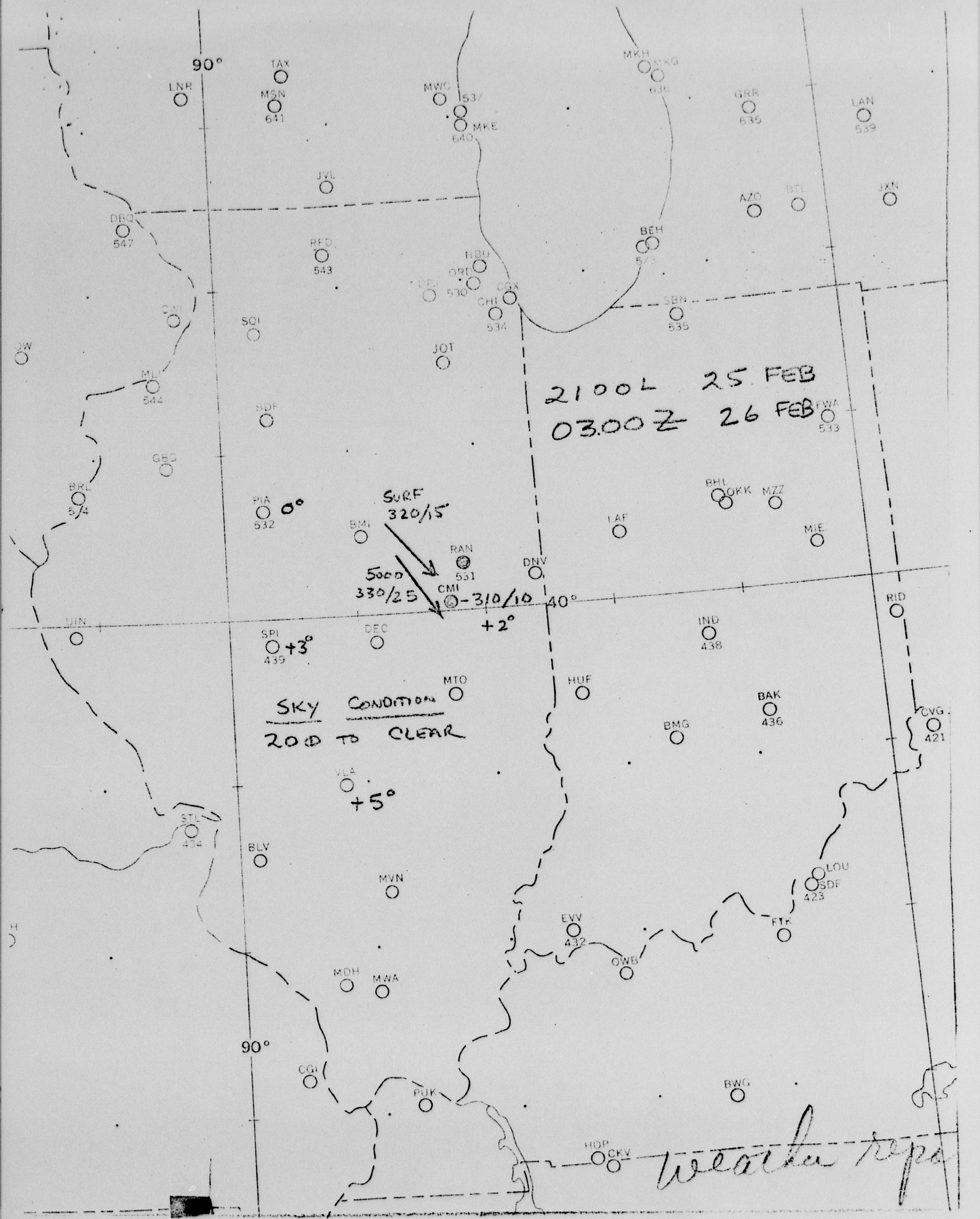
k. UFO Investigating Officer, Edward J Orenic, Capt USAF, 3345 Air Base Gp, Chanute AFB, Ill. 61366; telephone area code 217; office 893-3111 extension 2020; home 893-1557. At this time no determination has been made. The sighting was given television news release prior to reporting occurrence to Chanute AFB. Detailed investigation will follow. Written report will be submitted.

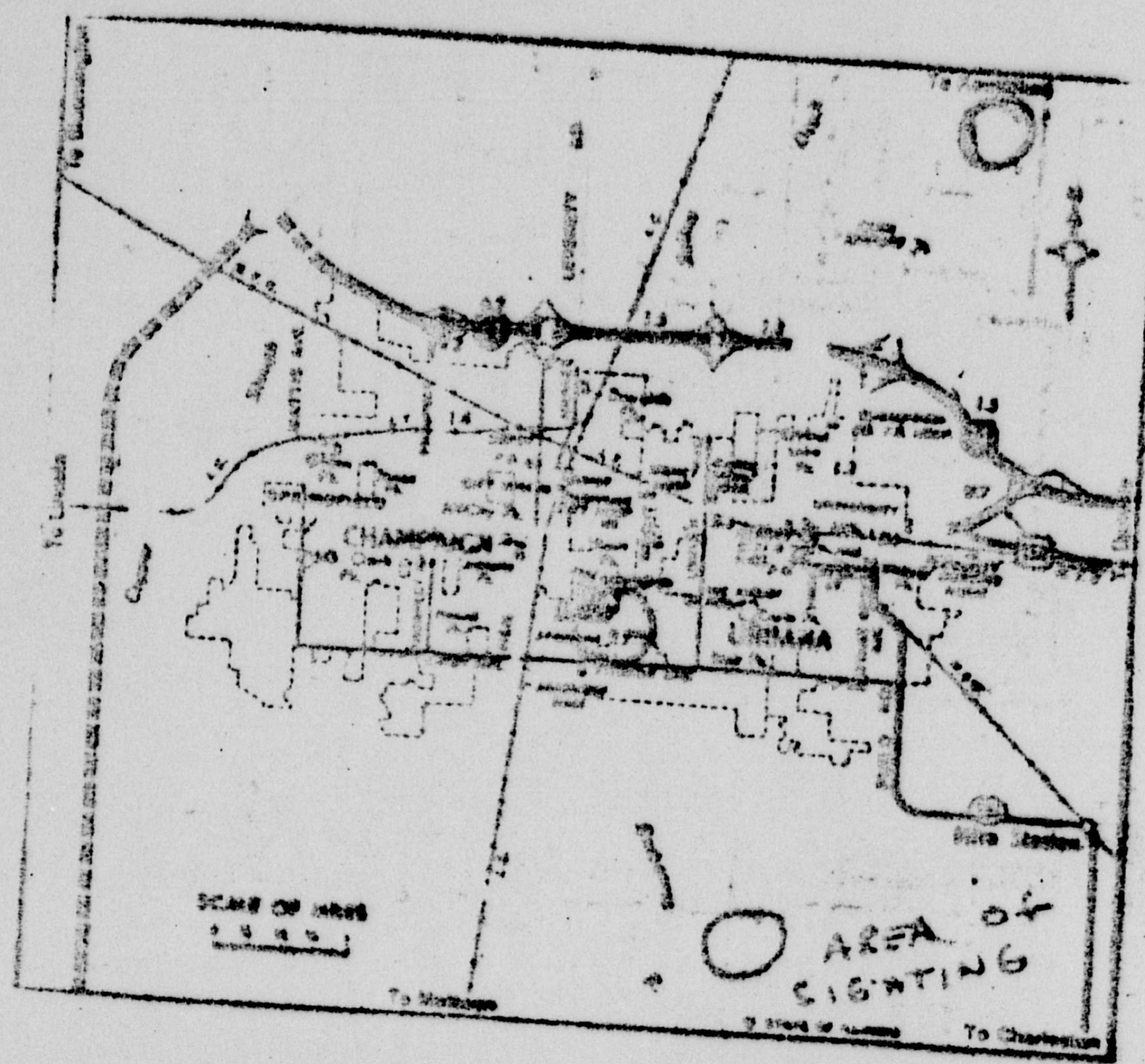
CONTROL NO.	TOR/TOD	PAGE NO.	NO. OF PAGES	MESSAGE IDENTIFICATION	INITIALS
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REPLACES EDITION OF 1 MAY 55 WHICH MAY BE USED.

UNCLAS





2/25/67

jgh

U-F-O'S  
(LEAD WEATHER)

tonight A number of people in the Champaign-Urbana area reported tonight sighting an unidentified flying object west of Champaign...~~shortly after nine o'clock.~~  
A student ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ working at the University of Illinois... reported he saw the object from a campus building and described it as coming out of the west at an estimated altitude of one-thousand feet. ~~He~~ said the object was yellow in color and had no markings such as as a plane might have. He said it was pulsating and going very slowly at a level flight, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ and the other persons observed the object for a total of 10 minutes...before it disappeared.

University of Illinois police and the FAA control tower at the U of I Willard Airport both reported they had numerous calls about the ~~staged~~ U-F-O.

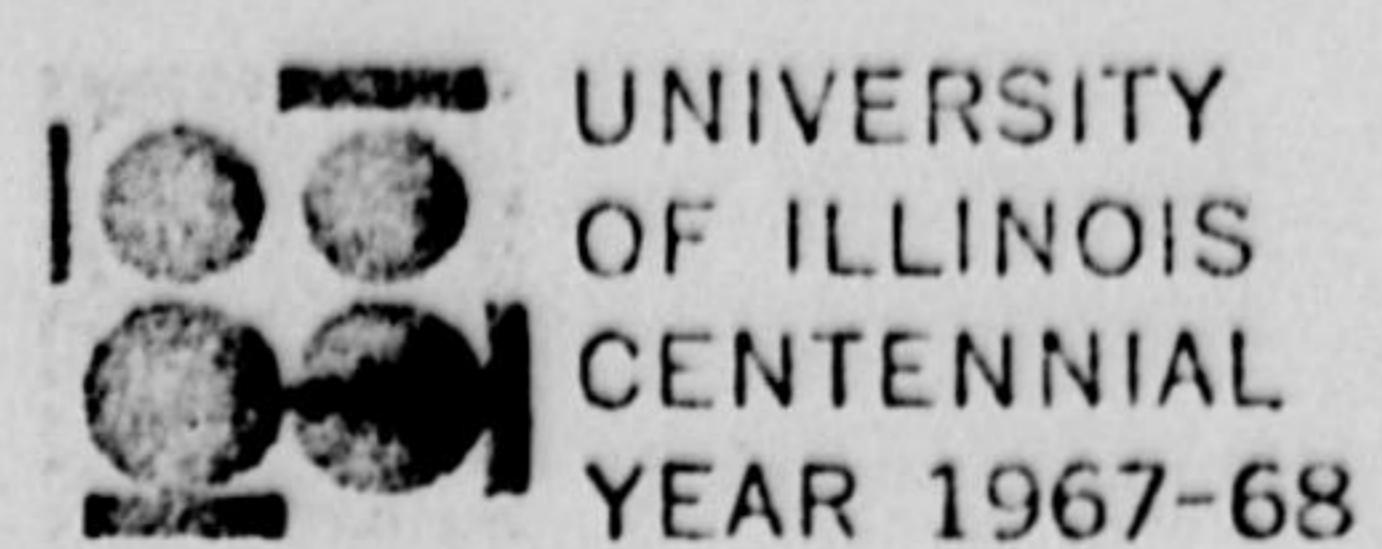
Several callers to Channel Three ~~xxxxxx~~ also reported the incident...and a few said they believed it to be a balloon with a flare attached.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

*Department of*  
CHEMISTRY AND CHEMICAL ENGINEERING  
URBANA  
61801

*The William Albert Noyes Laboratory*

March 3, 1967



Captain Edward J. Orenic  
United States Air Force  
Chanute AFB, Illinois

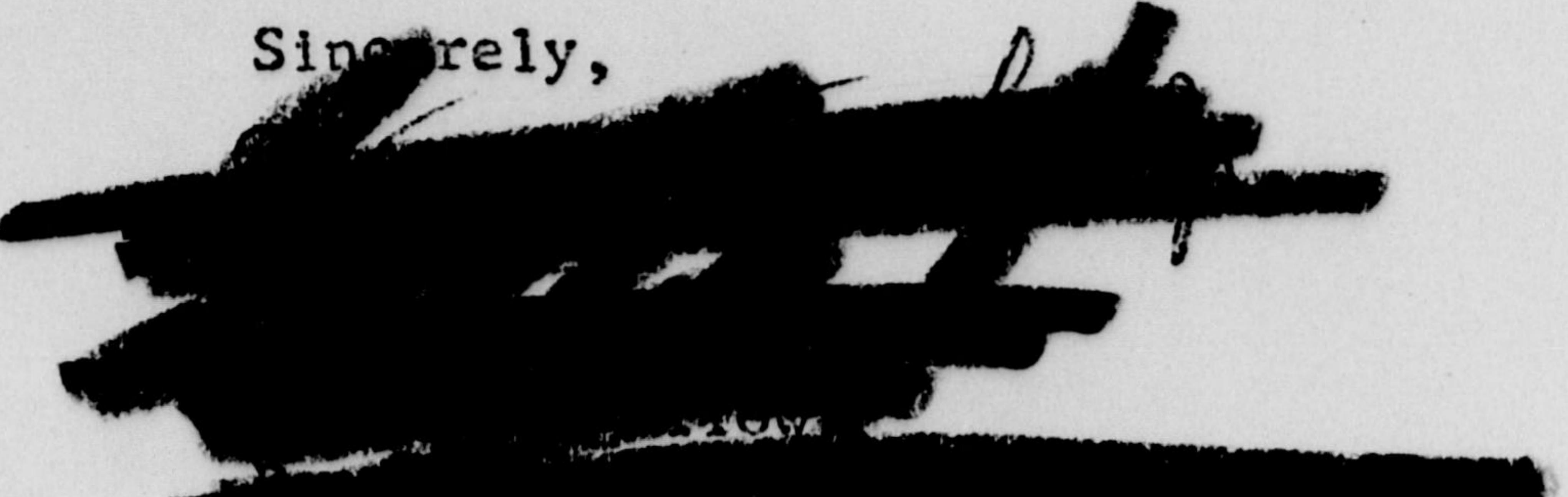
Sir:

In accordance with your request I enclose one (1) copy of my description of a flying object sighted by me on February 25, 1967. I believe that you will find this information to be essentially the same as that transmitted to you by telephone on February 27, 1967.

This information is submitted to the United States Air Force with the understanding that its source will remain confidential. I also need to point out that my opinion concerning the flying object does not in any way reflect the opinion of the University of Illinois or any of its officials. Similarly, my opinion does not reflect any opinion of the Department of Chemistry & Chemical Engineering of the University of Illinois. I have voluntarily submitted this report as an employee of the University of Illinois since I was on duty in a University building when I sighted the object.

I hope that my observations will be of use to you. In the event that I may be of further service in this connection please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Engineering

JTL;lj

Enclosure

STATEMENT REGARDING SIGHTING OF A FLYING OBJECT ON FEBRUARY 25, 1967

At 2103 (CST) on the night of February 25, 1967 I sighted from the window of room 358 of the East Chemistry Addition on the University of Illinois campus in Urbana, Illinois what I believed to be an unusual flying object. When this object was first observed it appeared in the western sky as a single ball of yellow light moving east at a low rate of speed. The object seemed to be approximately 45 degrees above the western horizon when initially sighted. No compass was on hand so that Oregon street in Urbana, Illinois was used as a reference, assuming that this street is a true east-west line (said street is visible from window mentioned above). No accurate measure of the object's altitude could be made. Qualitatively, it seemed that the object was approximately 1,000 feet above the ground if it were assumed to have the size of a very small single engine aircraft. After making written notes of these features I summoned another employee from my laboratory and together we observed the object until it had progressed so far toward us that it could no longer be viewed from the above mentioned window.

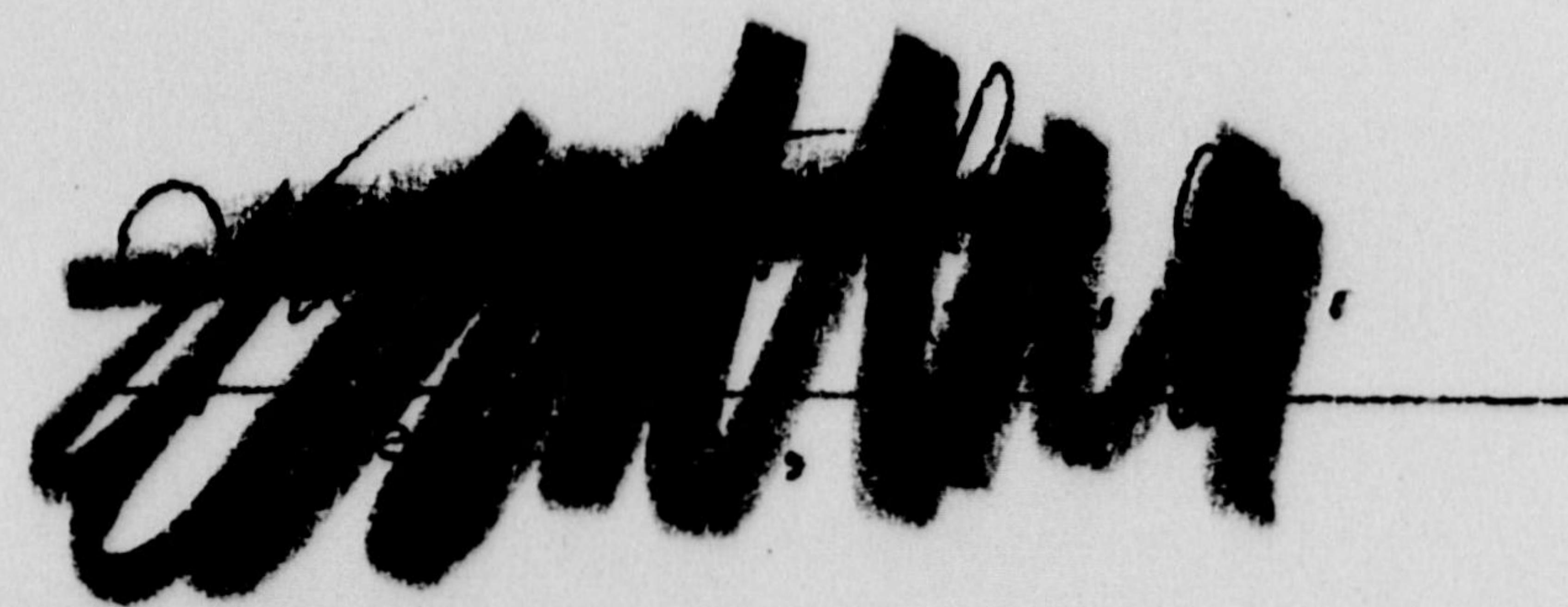
At this point I ran to the street below (Matthews street entrance to a parking lot behind the Chemistry Annex) and was accompanied by another employee. We sighted the object again and noted that no aircraft lights (i.e. no red, green, or white lights) were visible, that no sound was emitted by the object, and that there was no definite structure associated with the yellow ball of light. It appeared to me at that time that the object was slowly turning to a heading of northeast. No change in altitude was noticed and the object maintained its very smooth, slow movement across the sky. The yellow light clearly fluctuated in

intensity, dimming sharply to small size and then returning to a ball of light of approximately the same size and intensity as originally observed. These fluctuations displayed no noticeable periodicity.

To get a clearer view of the object we then went to the roof of the East Chemistry Addition. From this vantage point, six floors above the ground, a commanding view of the surrounding area is available. Again we sighted the object and noted that it was moving slowly into the northeast. At this time it was noted that (1) the full moon was in the southeastern quadrant of the sky and that (2) the wind direction, as estimated by observing the smoke from the University power plant, was approximately southwest. The object was last observed at 2113 (CST) just before we left the roof. At that time the weather conditions in the area were noted. The sky was cloudless.

Shortly after returning from the roof I telephoned the University of Illinois Police Department and reported the sighting described above.

March 3, 1967  
Urbana, Illinois

A large, dark, handwritten signature is written across the page, appearing to read "John H. Smith". It is written in a bold, cursive style.

S T A T E M E N T

Major [REDACTED], 3345th  
Air Base Group, Chanute AFB, ILLINOIS.

"I was traveling North on U. S. Highway 45 at about 2000 hours, 25 February 1967. I observed a red-orange ball, about 35 to 45° angle of elevation, moving slowly East. I estimated it was over an area between Rantoul and Ludlow."

S T A T E M E N T

University of Illinois; High School  
Graduate, 3 years with USMC.

"I was standing in the quadrangle looking to the North East and observed a bright orange object, which I thought was a star, moving East. My sighting lasted about 5 minutes. The body was at a  $40^{\circ}$  angle and appeared to be about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch diameter at arms length. This was around 2115 hours on the 25th of February."

S T A T E M E N T

[REDACTED] 11, Student, University of Illinois.

"I was returning home from the auditorium after attending the movie, "Von Ryans Express". I observed a bright light, orange-white, pulsating in intensity at about a  $45^{\circ}$  angle above the trees. It was traveling to the North East and was visible for 10 minutes. The time was from 2125 to 2135 hours on the 25th of February."

S T A T E M E N T

[REDACTED], University of Illinois, age 20.

"I left the auditorium around 2100 hours on 25 February and was proceeding to the Union. As I was crossing the Quad, I casually looked up and saw a bright orange light moving West to East. It was kinda low in the sky and appeared to be blinking. After watching for a few minutes, I decided to call the Police. [REDACTED] said she saw this about 1900 hours above the Illini Towers and that it was stationary."

7

S T A T E M E N T

[REDACTED], Base Operations, Chanute AFB, Illinois, Secretary.

"At about 1915 hours, 27 February, local time, my parents and I were driving West to intersection U. S. Highway 45. I observed a reddish object, steady light about  $45^{\circ}$  L above the horizon. It didn't appear to be moving at all."

S T A T E M E N T

[REDACTED], Urbana, Illinois, student, University of Illinois,  
age 18.

"On the 25th of February at around 2100 hours, I left the auditorium and was walking to my quarters at 904 W. Green. I first saw the object, yellow-white, North West about 700 feet high. There was no sound. It did not have any definite shape, just a light. It seemed to be drifting to the North East."

S T A T E M E N T

[REDACTED] Urbana, student, University of Illinois.

"I was walking from my Dorm to the Quad around 2100, 25 February. I was standing in the Quad, looked up and saw an object. At first I thought it was a star. It appeared to have red, green and white lights. I observed it for around 5 minutes. I'd guess its angle of elevation was 45 to 50 degrees. It appeared to be a great distance off. The sky was clear. There was no definite shape. The lights appeared to be very close together."

STATEMENT

"At 1940 hours, 25 February my friend [REDACTED] and I were standing on the corner of Wright and Armory, about 5 stories above the Illini Towers (Illini Towers is a building 16 stories high). We observed an elongated yellow white light moving at a slow speed in a North East direction. It appeared thicker in the center with a red orange glow on the bottom. It appeared to be dropping ashes or sparks. Then the light returned to a steady glow and disappeared to the North East."

INVESTIGATING OFFICERS REPORT

Edward J. Orenic, Captain, USAF

I received the first report of the UFO at 0930 hours on the 27th of February. I then called Mr James Lee since his report appeared to be the most detailed. as a result, I contacted the following agencies:

a. University Police. Five persons submitted personal reports and four telephoned reports in. All were essentially the same. Orange color, very slow movement from West to East, appeared to pass over the city.

b. Chanute AFB Tower. No sighting or anything unusual.

c. Chicago ARTC. No sightings reported.

d. Navy Glenview. No aircraft flown in Champaign-Chanute area.

e. Hulman Field, 181st TAC Air Guard. No flights in area.

f. Scott Metro. No equipment launched.

g. Chanute Metro. No equipment launched.

h. Scott AFB UFO Investigator. No reported sightings.

i. Champaign Willard Airport Tower. No unusual sightings.

j. WCIA Television. Enclosed is a copy of the news release given Saturday night on the 10:00 Clock News. See attachment 4.

k. Weather conditions at times of sightings. See attachment 2. This information was obtained from the Chanute AFB weather station.

l. Captain Edward Baumann, Staff Navigator furnished the following information on stars and planets:

Venus - 12 degree elevation at a 260° degree bearing.

Jupiter - 60 degree elevation, 80 degree bearing.

Regulus, 30° elevation, 100° bearing.

These planets are in a fairly bright magnitude.

m. Wright-Patterson FTD on UFO's could not place bright satellites in the area.

As of this time, I have not been able to determine what the object was. All of the persons interviewed appear to be reliable. Since I was not notified immediately, the information I did receive may have been

affected by the television news broadcast.

I feel further investigation is not warranted at this time. In the event new evidence is received, the investigation should be continued until a satisfactory conclusion is reached.

*Edward J. Orenic*

EDWARD J. ORENIC, Captain, USAF  
UFO Officer