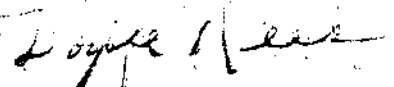


~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO. (24-8)-11	DATE 12 December 1949
TITLE UNKNOWN AERIAL PHENOMENON Sighted by Mr. ENRIQUE FLORES, Civilian Employee, Holloman AFB, At 1040 hours, 5 December 1949.		REPORT MADE BY S/A RUSSELL O. WOLACK, JR.	REPORT MADE AT 17th DC, Kirtland AFB
CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY (UNKNOWN AERIAL PHENOMENON)		PERIOD 6 December 1949	PLACE OF ORIGIN 17th DC, Kirtland AFB
REFERENCE AFCSI Letter No. 85, dated 12 August 1949.		STATUS CLOSED	
SYNOPSIS <p>This investigation is submitted in compliance with AFCSI Letter No. 85, dated 12 August 1949; to report all sightings of unidentified flying objects. Mr. ENRIQUE FLORES, Civilian Employee, Holloman Air Force Base, observed an unusual aerial phenomenon at 1040 hours, 5 December 1949. FLORES was interviewed and all pertinent information was obtained.</p>			
UNCLASSIFIED AT 5 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED ON 12 YEARS; DATE 04/25/10			
DISTRIBUTION CG, AMC, ATTN MCIAXO-3 2 Hq, OSI 2 Director of Intelligence USAF (Info) 1 FBI, El Paso (Info) 1 File 2		ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO Commanding General, ACD ATTN: MCIAXO-3	
APPROVED  DOYLE REES Lt Colonel, USAF <i>Tactical Commander</i>		FILE STAMP UNCLASSIFIED	

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

A: 96-6161

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ UNCLASSIFIED

DETAILS:

1. This investigation predicated upon a directive, AFCSI Letter No. 85, dated 12 August 1949, to report all sightings of unidentified flying objects:

AT ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO

2. Mr. ENRIQUE FLORES was interviewed on 6 December 1949, concerning his sighting of an unusual aerial phenomenon and the following information was obtained:

- a. Date of sighting: 5 December 1949
- b. Time of sighting: 2240 hours MST
- c. Where sighted: 105° 58' West, 32° 57' North.
Observer was driving in a vehicle and observed object through the windshield.
- d. Number of objects: One
- e. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting: None
- f. Distance of object from observer:
 - (1) Horizontally: Appeared to be about 8 miles.
 - (2) Angle of elevation above horizon: Unable to determine in degrees but stated it was very low over mountains to the east of Tularosa.
 - (3) Altitude: Unable to determine.
- g. Time in sight: One second.
- h. Appearance of object:
 - (1) Color: Blue with yellowish red toward the tail.
 - (2) Shape: Streak of light.
 - (3) Apparent construction: Unable to determine.
 - (4) Size: Appeared to be a little longer than the length of a new lead pencil viewed from 6 feet.
- i. Direction of flight: East to West.
- j. Tactics or maneuvers: Described a smooth arc downward from East to West.
- k. Evidence of exhaust: None (Tail of object had a yellowish red appearance and seemed to be quite long.)

T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1140

A

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

- l. Effect on clouds: No clouds visible.
- m. Lights: None (Luminosity was greater than that of Venus).
- n. Support: None
- o. Propulsion: Unable to determine.
- p. Control and stability: Described a smooth arc, was not erratic in its flight.
- q. Air ducts: None visible.
- r. Sound: No sound.
- s. Manner of disappearance: Appeared to hit the ground in the northern part of Tularosa, New Mexico. Stayed bright until it appeared to hit the ground.
- t. Notes relative to observer:
- (1) Name of observer: Mr. ENRIQUE FLORES
 - (2) Address: Tularosa, New Mexico
 - (3) Occupation: Engineering Aide with Geodetic Survey Section.
 - (4) Place of business: Holloman Air Force Base.
 - (5) Pertinent hobbies: None.
 - (6) Ability to determine: Questionable.
 - (7) Reliability of observer: According to his supervisor, Mr. Bagley, he is a very reliable individual.
 - (8) FLORES has never before observed a phenomena of this nature and he was not suffering from fatigue at the time of sighting.
 - (9) Witnesses: None

3. Check with authorities at Holloman AFB revealed that there was no radar in operation at the time of this sighting, that weather conditions were normal, and that there had been no testing devices released which could account for the sighting.

- CLOSED -

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

-A

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

17 Jan 1973

20

Changing

Circular

1 1/2 Ave. ... light at ...

down to light

1

SECRET

SECRET

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

13 Dec 49
Holloman AFB, N.M.
25

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
17TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

DR/WEB/pc

File No: (24-8) - 1

26 January 1950

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN AERIAL PHENOMENON Sighted by S/A ROBERT R. JOHNS,
Holloman AFB, 2005 hours, 13 December 1949
SPECIAL INQUIRY - Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

1. Reference is made to previous Reports of Investigation from this district concerning the sighting of unidentified aerial objects.
2. Attached is one copy of a Report of Investigation by Special Agent Robert R. Johns of this office, dated 17 January 1950, subject as above.
3. Copies of all future reports of sightings of this nature will be forwarded to your headquarters.

1 Incl
Rpt of Inv, 17 Jan '50

Doyle Rees
DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander


DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED UNDER 25 USC

UNCLASSIFIED

T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

7-3912-26

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO. (24-8) - 1	DATE 17 January 1950
TITLE UNKNOWN AERIAL PHENOMENON Sighted by S/A ROBERT R. JOHNS Holloman AFB, 2005 hours, 13 December 1949.		REPORT MADE BY S/A ROBERT R. JOHNS	REPORT MADE AT 17th DO, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico
CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY - Unconventional Aircraft		PERIOD 13 December 1949	OFFICE OF ORIGIN 17th DO, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico
REFERENCE AFCSI Letter No. 85; Headquarters OSI file 24-185		STATUS CLOSED	
SYNOPSIS This investigation is submitted in compliance with AFCSI Letter No. 85, dated 12 August 1949, to report all sightings of unidentified flying objects. The writer observed an unusual aerial phenomenon at 2005 hours, 13 December 1949.			
DISTRIBUTION CG, AMC (Action Copy)	1	ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO Commanding General Air Materiel Command Wright-Patterson AF Base Dayton, Ohio ATTN: MCIAXO-3	FILE STAMP
HQ OSI	2	APPROVED  DOYLE REES Lt Col, USAF District Commander	
CO, AF CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH LAB.	1		
FILE	2		

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

DETAILS:

1. This investigation predicated upon a directive (AFCSI Letter No. 85) dated 12 August 1949, to report all sightings of unidentified flying objects.

AT ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO

2. The following information was obtained on a sighting of an unidentified object by the writer on 13 December 1949:

- a. Date of sighting: 13 December 1949.
- b. Time of sighting: From 2008 to 2017 hours.
- c. Where sighted: From ground, traveling in automobile, in a southwesterly direction from Alamogordo, New Mexico, to Holloman AFB, on US Highway No. 70.
Position when first sighted: $32^{\circ} 52'$ North
 $105^{\circ} 58'$ West.
Position when object faded from view: $32^{\circ} 51'$ North, $106^{\circ} 2'$ West.
- d. Number of objects: One
- e. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting: None
- f. Distance of object from observer:
 - (1) Laterally or horizontally: Estimated maximum of 75 miles.
 - (2) Angle of elevation from horizon: 15°
 - (3) Altitude: Estimated maximum of 5000 ft above ground.
- g. Time in sight: Approximately 9 minutes.
- h. Appearance of object:
 - (1) Color: Object changed color from white to amber, to red, and to green; however not in the order as listed. During entire sighting a flame appeared to shoot out from various positions of object. When object disappeared from view, it faded out in a bright green color.
 - (2) Shape: Circular; e.g. Street light.
 - (3) Apparent construction: Undeterminable.
 - (4) Size: One and one-half times the size of the average street light at a distance of 8 miles.
- i. Direction of flight: During first five (5) minutes, the object did not appear to be moving. Then it began to slowly move downward and to the right.
- j. Tactics or maneuvers: The last estimated $3/4$ second in view the object definitely suddenly picked up great speed while fading on this bright green color.

T
H
I
S

P
A
G
E

I
S

U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

UNCLASSIFIED
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

- k. Evidence of exhaust: None
- l. Effect on clouds: No clouds
- m. Lights: The hour preceding this sighting, while in the drive-in theater at Alamogordo, New Mexico, the writer and his sister-in-law, Miss Ramona Dahl, and Mrs. John Frampton, sighted several (approximately 6) brilliant shooting stars, some appeared to be a light green color and some appeared to travel much slower than others. Approximately 10 seconds before the Subject Object faded from view, another "shooting star" came from behind the automobile in which the writer and his companions were traveling, moving in the direction where the Object faded from view. This "shooting star" was of a slightly green color also, however, very bright, and traveled almost parallel to U.S. Highway 70, in a southwesterly direction. This "shooting star" appeared to fade from view before reaching the Subject Object.
- n. Support: None visible.
- o. Propulsion: Undeterminable.
- p. Control and stability: Very good.
- q. Air ducts: None visible.
- r. Speed: There was no definite movement the first five minutes in view. Object then began to move downward, which might have been forward movement away from the writer, giving the appearance of downward movement. However, this movement was very slow. The descent was at a rate of approximately 1° per minute. As mentioned before, object picked up speed within the last 3/4 of second in view. The writer cannot estimate speed at that time.
- s. Sound: No sound audible.
- t. Manner of disappearance: Object took on brilliant green color, picked up speed, and faded from view. Reason for disappearance in this case was definitely not due to the object traveling behind a mountain range, building, or any other obstacle.
- u. Notes relative to observer:
 - (1) Name: S/A ROBERT R. JOHNS

T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

- (2) Address: Holloman AFB Detachment, Alamogordo, N.M.
- (3) Occupation: Special Agent, OSI.
- (4) Place of business: Holloman AFB
- (5) Pertinent hobbies: None
- (6) Ability to determine: Average
- (7) Reliability of observer: Reliable
- (8) Former sightings: The writer has observed several "shooting stars" of a green color within the past year, and at this time was acutely conscious of obtaining correct information during the Subject sighting.
- (9) Witnesses:
Miss Ramona N. Dahl, 315 - 14th St, Alamogordo, N.M.
Mrs. John F. Frampton, Alamogordo, New Mexico (wife of S/A John F. Frampton).

3. Check of the Electronics and Atmosphere Branch, Holloman AFB, revealed that no information was obtained by them during the period the object was in view. Further check with the Base Weather Station, Holloman AFB, revealed that there were no unusual weather conditions at the time of the sighting nor had they any balloons or other free flying objects in the sky at that time. Check with the Operations & Projects Division, Holloman AFB, and the Research Section of White Sands Proving Ground, revealed that no testing devices had been sent aloft in this vicinity at the time of the sighting. Further inquiries of personnel of Holloman AFB revealed no other witnesses.

- CLOSED -

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
17TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KATLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

DR/WEB/pc

File No. (24-8) - 12

13 February 1950

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT
Sighted by Rev. GEORGE A. STRACKE,
Farmington, New Mexico, 1330 hours, 16 Decem-
ber 1949
SPECIAL INQUIRY

*16 December 49
Farmington, N.M.*

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXC-3

1. Reference is made to previous reports from this District concerning sightings of unidentified aerial objects.
2. Attached is one copy of a Report of Investigation by Special Agent Rodney A. Ludeman of this office, dated 8 February 1950, subject as above.
3. Investigation of unidentified aerial objects is continuing in this District and copies of all future reports will be forwarded to your headquarters.

1 Incl:
Rpt of Inv, 8 Feb 50

Doyle Rees
DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

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

UNCLASSIFIED

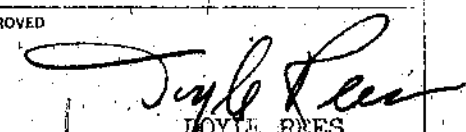
T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

1-3712-26

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO. 24-8 (12)	DATE 8 February 1950
TITLE UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT Sighted by Rev. GEORGE A. STRACK Farmington, New Mexico 1330 hours, 16 December 1949		REPORT MADE BY S/A ROBERT A. INDIAN	REPORT MADE AT 17th DO, Kirtland AFB
CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY		PERIOD 6 February 1950	OFFICE OF ORIGIN 17th DO, Kirtland AFB
REFERENCE None. This is an initial report.		STATUS CLOSED	
SYNOPSIS DETAILS: This investigation is predicated on a letter from the Reverend GEORGE A. STRACK, Box 626, Farmington, New Mexico, dated 9 December 1949, in which STRACK stated that at 1330 hours, 6 December 1949, he sighted an object at approximately 500 feet altitude and approximately 5 miles distant which appeared to be a charred parachute or cargo net dropping rapidly, such as a partially deflated parachute would. Due to shortage of Agent personnel, large work load, distance and expense of travel involved, indicated lead will not be developed by this office.			
DOWNGRADED AT 3-YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED BY 10-51744-1			
DISTRIBUTION CG, AMC (Action Copy) 1 CO, USAF Cambridge Research Laboratories 1 HQ OSI 2 FILE 2	ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO Commanding General Air Materiel Command Wright-Patterson AFB Dayton, Ohio ATTN: MCMAO-3	FILE STAMP	
APPROVED  DOYLE REES Lt Col, USAF District Commander			

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 12 Apr 68	2. LOCATION Ice District, N. S.
3. SOURCE US-121-0	10. CONCLUSION
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10:00 - 10:15	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Observation of a small, dark, irregularly shaped object in the ice field.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Visual	
7. COURSE	
8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #90 -- between Las Cruces, New Mexico and White Sands V-2
firing grounds -- 29 June 1947

The information given here is insufficient for any definite conclusion to be drawn, but it is not possible that the object observed was meteoric. The estimated time in sight is quite long, however, and, if a meteor, the object should have had a pronounced vapor trail. The "solar specular reflection which seemed to change in intensity" could, of course, have been light from the meteor itself, blended with daylight.

Once again, it is unfortunate that no detailed observations were not made.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED UNCLASSIFIED OBJECTS

Incident # 90

1. Date 29 June 1947
2. Time 1:00 and 1:30 P.M.
3. Location Highway 17 between Las Cruces, N. M. & White Sands V-2 firing grounds
4. Name of observer Mr. J. R. Kauke, Mr. Zohn, Mr. C. C. Rockwood, & Mrs. Nancy Rockwood.
5. Occupation of observer Mr. Zohn - Admin Assis in Rocket Sonda Section NRL, Mr. Rockwood, NRL Rocket Sonda high altitude spectrograph scientist, &
6. Address of observer N/S Mr. Kauke, telemetering supervis.
7. Place of observation highway 17 - ground
8. Number of objects 1
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight 30 seconds
11. Altitude between 8,000 and 10,000 ft
(Mr. Zohn put little credence in the estimates)
12. Speed rapid velocity
13. Direction of flight northerly direction
14. Tactics horizontal flight
15. Sound N/S
16. Size N/S
17. Color N/S
18. Shape uniform - no protuberances such as wings of a plane
19. Cdr. detected N/S
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails Mr. Kauke thought at one time there were vapor trails
22. Weather conditions sunlight
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs None
25. Manner of disappearance receded until lost from sight
26. Remarks: (over)

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR
INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY
DECLASSIFIED, DOD LTR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

Mr. Kanke who was driving the car noticed the object first. He called it to the attention of the other occupants. Mr. Zohn thereupon opened the window nearest him and observed the object moving at an unknown rapid velocity at an unknown altitude (which he estimated at 10,000 ft) and which Mr. Kanke thought was between 5,000 and 10,000 feet. When first sighted the object was to their right and forward of the automobile at an unatated elevation and apparently moving horizontally in a Northerly direction such as to cross the highway from right to left. The object was seen by all the occupants of the machine. Mr. Zohn could observe no details other than the shape was uniform with no protuberances such as the wings of a plane. It was too distant to enable stereoscopic visualization. There was some solar specular reflection which seemed to change in intensity as the object receded until lost from sight (after an estimated 30 seconds from the time first noticed.) Mr. Zohn could not explain how it disappeared except that he thought the reflection angle could have changed abruptly. The sun was to the rear of the automobile. Mr. Kanke thought at one time he saw vapor trails.

[REDACTED]

T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

ADDRESS REPLY TO
DIRECTOR, NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
AND REFER TO:

Code 110

ARMY LIAISON OFFICE
NAVY DEPARTMENT
NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

UNCLASSIFIED

18 July 1947

SUBJECT: Interview of Person Reporting Unidentified Aerial Object

TO: Asst Chief of Air Staff-2
Collection Branch, AAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. At the request of Lt. Col. G. D. Garrett, AAF A-2, the undersigned has interviewed this date Mr. C. H. Zohn, Administrative Assistant in the Rocket Sende Section, NRL, who had previously released information to the press regarding an aerial object which he stated he saw at White Sands, New Mexico, 29 June.

2. Substance of the interview is as follows:

At between 1:00 and 1:30 p. m. Sunday, 29 June 1947, Mr. Zohn, in the company of the following: Mr. J. R. Mauke, NRL Rocket Sende Section telemetering supervisor; Mr. C. C. Rockwood, NRL Rocket Sende high altitude spectrograph scientist; and Mrs. Nancy Rockwood, wife of the latter, was proceeding along Highway 17 in a North-Easterly direction from Las Cruces, New Mexico to White Sands V-2 firing grounds in an automobile driven by Mr. Mauke. At some time between those given and about one-third of the distance from Las Cruces Mr. Mauke, who was driving the car, noticed the subject device and called attention to the other occupants. Mr. Zohn opened the window nearest him and observed the object moving at an unknown rapid velocity at an unknown altitude, which he estimated at about 10,000 feet, and which Mr. Mauke, who also observed it through an open window, estimated at between 8,000 and 10,000 feet, although the former puts little credence in the estimates.

When first sighted the object was to the right and forward of the automobile at an unstated elevation and was apparently moving horizontally in a Northerly direction such as to cross the highway from right to left. The object was observed by all persons in the automobile. Mr. Zohn stated that he could not observe any details of the object other than that its shape was uniform, with no protuberances such as the wings of an airplane. It was too distant to enable stereoscopic visualization. There was apparently some solar specular reflection which seemed to change in intensity as the object receded until it was lost from sight after an estimated 30 seconds from the time first noticed. He could not explain how it disappeared except perhaps that the reflection angle may have changed abruptly. There were apparently no clouds or visibility obstructions at the time. The sun was to the rear of the automobile. Mr. Mauke thought that at one time he saw vapor trails.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr. AIG, NBL, 18 July 47 to Asst Chief Air Staff-3, Collection Br., AAF,
subj: "Interview of Person Reporting Unidentified Aerial Object" *Jul 19 1947*

3. This interview was made in the presence of Dr. H. E. Newell, Acting Rocket Engine Section Head, who said that Mr. Zahn had recently been in the Navy and is familiar with the appearance of the majority of aircraft types and with meteorological balloons. Mr. Zahn also stated that none of the occupants of the car were interested.

WILLIAM P. MCELLEN
Major, Air Corps
AEC Liaison Officer

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

ARMY HONORARY OFFICE
NAVY DEPARTMENT
NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Case 11

25 July 1947

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

REPORT: [Illegible]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible signature]

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

JULY 8, 1947

Missile Expert Reveals Seeing 'Flying Saucer'

Naval Lab Expert Tells of Seeing Craft

By WILLIAM J. BRADY

A Naval Research laboratory guided missiles expert yesterday described a "flying saucer" he and two fellow-scientists had observed June 29 near White Sands, New Mex., but admitted his unofficial report to Army officers there drew only fishy-eyed stares.

Glare in the Sky

Dr. C. J. Zohn, 400 block Mellon St. S.E., was in New Mexico to observe a V-2 launching test for the Navy. Four days before the test, he and Curtis C. Rockwood, also attached to the research laboratory, and John R. Kauke, stationed at the White Sands testing area, were driving a short distance from the launching site.

"Kauke suddenly spotted a

(Turn to Page 4, Col. 5)

glare in the sky," Zohn said. "We all looked up and saw a silvery disc whirling through the unclouded sky.

"We watched the thing for near-

officials developed the following theories about the skimming objects:

1. They may be a mirage induced by mass self-hypnosis, similar to the sea serpents often reported spotted from sea coast towns. A Navy guided missiles expert recalled a sky phenomenon reported during the air war in Europe.

American pilots said they saw "floating balls of fire" which disintegrated planes in a flash or left a trail of smoke. A thorough investigation uncovered no basis for the reports.

The flying saucers are optical illusions, the result of tricks the eyes play upon the brain. Some authorities said the discs might be reflections from near-by aircraft or the sun mirrored by clouds.

Double Allen Missile

As far as is known, no guided missile has been developed which can travel more than 300 miles under its own power. For this reason, Army and Navy officers doubted the objects, if they do exist, were launched from any foreign country.

Dr. F. Zwicky, astrophysicist and professor at California Institute of Technology, writing in the current issue of Ordnance, a publication of the Army Ordnance Association, a professional group of industrial engineers interested in military matters, said scientists were expected to shoot "artificial meteors" to explore the secrets of the skies.

These mock meteors, however, would be launched from rockets to escape the gravity of the earth, and never return. Scientists explained they could not be mistaken for "flying saucers."

'Saucer' Seen by Rocket Expert; Flight Over Desert Described

D. C. Navy Research Worker Says Flying Disc Was Unlike Any Guided Missile He Has Seen

An eye-witness account of a flight of a "flying saucer" came today from a Naval Research Laboratory rocket expert here as aircraft were alerted along the West Coast in the hope of locating one of the discs and solving the mystery.

The rockets expert, Dr. C. J. Zohn, who disclosed today that he had spotted one of the speeding discs on a recent Navy mission to New Mexico, said it looked like no guided missile he had ever studied.

On the other hand, Lester Barlow, internationally known explosives inventor, advanced the theory at Stamford, Conn., that the "flying saucers" were probably radio-controlled flying missiles being tested in the west by military authorities.

The inventor said he felt certain that "quite a number" of such flying missiles had been produced and "were in early stages of perfection." He said they were capable of flying in squadrons and being controlled "from remote points."

Government sources have denied any tests are being conducted that might be the answer to the mystery that has baffled the Nation since June 25. An Army Air Forces

spokesman said the AAF believes "there's something to this" but is completely mystified as to just what.

Dr. Zohn said he had gone to New Mexico for a V-2 test, but he emphasized that he saw the "flying saucer" four days before the test and that it had nothing to do with any Navy experiments.

He said he was crossing the desert with three other men, two of them scientists, on June 29 when he spotted the object traveling north at an altitude of about 10,000 feet.

Dr. Zohn described it as very bright and silvery with no projections. Since he was not sure it was revolving and his view of it was two dimensional, Dr. Zohn said as far as he could tell it was elliptical in shape and flat.

"It was traveling away from us at a uniform rate of speed," he reported. "It was clearly visible and then suddenly, it wasn't there. It didn't go behind a mountain range. It simply disappeared."

Dr. Zohn said the sun was behind him when he saw the object about 1:30 p.m. and he had a clear view of it.

He was not sure of the time but said it was about 1:30 p.m. on June 25. An Army Air Forces

(Continued from First Page.)

did not discount completely the possibility of a guided missile, he pointed out that he had worked on the V-2 rockets and that the disc was unlike any guided missile he had ever seen.

Dr. Zohn is stationed at the Naval Research Laboratory here and lives at 440 Mellon street, S.E.

T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

1947

APPENDIX F

3610th Electronics Station
Analysis of Project Grudge Reports

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

AIR MATERIEL COMMAND
3160 Electronics Station
Cambridge Field Station
230 Albany Street
Cambridge 39, Mass.

ACT/Ba

000.02

In reply address
both communication
and envelope to the
Commanding Officer,
and attention of
following office
symbol. BRH

April 18, 1949

SUBJECT: Analysis of Project "Grudge" Reported Incidents

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO

1. Reference is made to the letters from your Headquarters to this station of 22 November 1948, 6 December 1948, and 14 January 1949. Subjects: "Project 'Sign' ", requesting that reported incidents 1 through 172 be analyzed to determine whether or not these might have been caused by balloons launched by these laboratories.

2. A listing has been compiled of all balloons launched by these laboratories and its contractors for special atmospheric research purposes, from the first such launching to No. 101 on 17 November 1948. Each of these launchings has been compared with the reported incidents 1 through 172. Factors of comparison were date of launching and date of recovery with respect to date of reported incidents; place of launching and place of recovery with respect to the place of reported incidents, and possible deviations from the known flight path with respect to the place of reported incidents. So that your office may make an independent analysis, three copies of the launching list are inclosed.

a. Incidents No. 5 through No. 16 reported on 4 July 1947 throughout Oregon, Idaho and Washington gave, in general, descriptions of clusters or groups of objects. The 3 July 1947 balloon launching No. 8 at Alamogordo was a cluster of balloons and was not recovered, and so might be suspected of being the cause of these reports. However, although not recovered, this flight was terminated in the New Mexico Tularosa Valley only a few miles northwest of Alamogordo. That the balloons were downed was determined both by airplane spotting and by radio direction finding upon the balloon telemetering instruments. Recovery of the balloons and instruments was prevented by the impassability of the terrain.

b. Balloon release No. 11 of 7 July 1947 could compare with respect to date with incident No. 1 through No. 4, and again with incident No. 40. This balloon flight was again a cluster.

8-34560

T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr, EHH, to CG, AMC, Subj: Analysis of Proj. "Cavago" Reported Incidents

The description of incident No. 10 is inconsistent with the appearance of balloon flight No. 11. Also, in consideration of the prevailing upper winds, it is very unlikely that the balloons would have gone more than a few miles westward of Alamogordo, although it must be admitted that a long flight west of the launching point could not be ruled out as impossible.

c. Incident No. 47 compares somewhat in time with balloon launching No. 10 of 5 July 1947. However, balloon No. 10 although not recovered was known to have been downed northeast of Albuquerque, New Mexico. It was not recovered due to impassability of terrain. Incident No. 113 is a reasonable description of the 20 ft. plastic balloon and instruments used by these Laboratories. This incident was on the date of balloon release No. 46 of 9 April 1948 at Alamogordo. However, the time of the reported incident (1506 CST) is about 1/2 hour before the time of balloon release (1432 MST), thus the incident could not have been that balloon.

d. It is of interest to note that incident No. 122 was reported by an employee of these Laboratories who had considerable experience in the use of balloons of all kinds, and could have been depended upon to know the appearance and behavior of a balloon if it was this he saw.

e. Incident No. 163 bears a fair description of the appearance of a large plastic balloon in sunset light. The object's disappearance could be accounted for either by its movement into the earth's sunset shadow or by natural defocusing of the observer's eyes. This incident could possibly have been balloon release No. 75 or No. 76 or 20 and 21 July 48 from Alamogordo. Balloon No. 75 was recovered at Hollister, California, which is in the Monterey Bay area, on 22 July 1948 and could have easily had a trajectory which would have been within sight of the Los Angeles area. Balloon No. 76 was never recovered. It is possible that it had a trajectory similar to No. 75.

f. All other reported incidents from 1 to 172 do not seem to have reasonable comparison with balloons launched by these Laboratories.

3. The balloons used by these Laboratories are now somewhat standardized. They are 20 feet long, plastic, white in color, and hemisphere-on-cone in shape. Nearly all launchings are made at the Holloman AFB at Alamogordo, New Mexico. Two photograph prints are enclosed showing the appearance and size of these balloons. The larger photograph shows the typical flight appearance at any altitudes where it would be visible. It is hoped that this information may be of some use to you in identifying future reports of incidents.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr, ESH, to CG, AEC, Subj: Analysis of Proj. "Credge" Reported Incidents

4. It is believed that certain of the items in the questionnaire "Checklist-Identified Flying Objects" produce insignificant and unreliable data from an observer. These are: 9. Distance of object from observer; 11. Altitude; 12. Speed; and 16. Size. For any unfamiliar object beyond the focal range of the human eyes (about 60 ft.), these four factors are mutually inter-dependent and therefore indeterminate unless at least one of them (and some observed angles) are known. Directly asking an observer about these indeterminants not only gets unreliable data but induces wild answers because the observer is led into making a statement about quantities for which he has no basis in fact. He will unconsciously accept knowledge of some one of these factors and so give incorrect information on all. That people (many of whom should know better) will habitually give answers to two significant figures on these questions, which really cannot be answered at all, is proof of the unreliability of their information.

5. It is suggested that these four items on the questionnaire be replaced by questions which will yield answers possible of being independent facts in terms of the observer's best estimates of angles and time. From such data given by observers of the same object at two different places, a reliable calculated estimate could be made of the object's size, altitude, speed and path. These data should include:

a. An estimate of the angular size of the object. A quick but reasonable estimate can be made by comparing the angle subtended by the index finger held at arms length. The finger ($7/8$ " wide) of an average man held at 26° to 30° (arms length) will subtend an angle of approximately two degrees. In this way angular size from about $1/2^{\circ}$ to about 5° can be estimated.

b. The range of the object's flight in terms of the angle subtended by the observed path. If the object moves in a reasonably straight course it is important to observe the position at the beginning and the end of its course. After the flight has been completed a person can extend his arms toward the two points and also at 90° or 180° and by comparison estimate the angular extent of the flight. It is also important that information which will determine those directions relative to a compass point be given. If the angular course is associated with objects on the horizon, with roads, with the sun (if the time of day is also noted) or by the north star, the orientation can be rechecked at any later time.

c. The time required for the object to traverse the observed course. This is probably the most difficult estimate to make. Timing with a watch is the most satisfactory, but an observer is seldom prepared to do so. Seconds can be counted with good accuracy by saying,

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr, BHH, to CG, AMO, Subj: Analysis of Proj. "Grudge" Reported Incidents

"one flying saucer, two flying saucers, three flying saucers" ---etc. At a normal speaking speed. On the other hand it is not easy to count seconds and at the same time make all the other desirable observations. It must be remembered that when a person is excited his estimates of time are apt to be rather inaccurate.

d. Estimation of the elevation angle of the object. Almost all persons will overestimate elevation angles. This tendency can be reduced by the observer extending one arm vertically and the other horizontally to observe a 90° angle. The vertical arm can then be lowered to point to the observed object. In this way the observed angle can be compared with a 90° angle and a more accurate estimate obtained.

6. It is realized that it might not be possible for an observer to perform the operations suggested in the preceding paragraph, during the period the object is sighted. If he would immediately reconsider what he saw and then estimate such measurements, he should be able to give quantitative answers accurate to at least 25%. In interrogating observers, they should also be asked to reconstruct their observations and then estimate these same factors. It is suggested that instructions for making such quick and estimated observations be given to weather observers, control tower operators, civil police, forest and fire rangers, and other such people who might have good chance of seeing unidentified flying objects. If any information concerning unidentified flying objects is given to the public, instructions for reliable observation should be included.

7. This organization will be pleased to be of any further assistance required in connection with this matter.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

3 Incls

1. List of balloons launched (in trip)
2. 8" X 10" photo print of plastic balloon
3. 4" X 5" photo print of plastic balloon

/s/ A. C. Trakowski, Jr.
A. C. TRAKOWSKI, JR.
Captain, USAF
Director, Base Directorate
for Geophysical Research

T
H
I
S
P
A
G
E
I
S
U
N
C
L
A
S
S
I
F
I
E
D

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

a. High probability:

#26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94,
95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140,
147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216,
219, 238.

b. Fair or low probability:

#19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 83, 100,
112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 160, 166, 167, 175, 192,
199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:

#3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115,
126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163,
169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 198, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198,
200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:

#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107,
108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):

#39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:

#38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118,
125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213,
229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:

#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71,
75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162,
158, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226,
227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED