

[REDACTED]

Incident #113

PROJECT LOGS RECORD CARD

ATIC NO. \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF INFO 9 April 1948

AF NO. \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION Montgomery, Ala

REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ SOURCE USAF Pilot

DATE OF REPORT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE IN TO ATIC \_\_\_\_\_

TIME OF SIGHTING 1506 COLOR silver

SHAPE parachute carrying large cannister or balloon SPEED 310 mph Estimated \_\_\_\_\_  
Measured \_\_\_\_\_

SIZE top 8 ft diameter ALTITUDE 16,000 ft Estimated \_\_\_\_\_  
Measured \_\_\_\_\_

COURSE NW LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 5 sec

NO. IN GROUP 1 TYPE OF OBSERVATION aerial

SOUND \_\_\_\_\_ MANEUVERS \_\_\_\_\_

PHOTOS \_\_\_\_\_ SKETCHES 1 JAH: BALLOON

*Unidentified*

Temporary ATIC Form 329  
(2 Jan 52)

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Flying Disc  
Montgomery, Alabama  
9 April 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE

On 9 April 1948, approximately 1500 hours, this agent interviewed Lt Colonel Robert B. HUGHES, Tactics Division, Air Tactical School, Tyndall Air Force Base, who stated in substance: He had left Tyndall approximately 1410 hours on 9 April 1948, flying a P-51H at the altitude of 20000 feet. He had proceeded to Montgomery, Alabama, and just previous to sighting the town had let down to the altitude of 13000 feet and directly over the town had made a 130 degree left turn. Just before completing his left turn, he had sighted an object at 10 o'clock off his left wing which appeared to be a silver disc. Colonel HUGHES had immediately made a sharp bank to the left in order to follow the object which appeared to be heading North west. After completing his turn, Colonel HUGHES had been able to get a better look at the object which he had first thought to be merely a disc and described as follows: Top part of the object approximately eight feet in diameter, silver in color, had the appearance of a parachute. Attached to the bottom of this had been a dark cable or shroud which appeared to be approximately five feet long. Suspended upon the cable had been a large canister or ball (Colonel HUGHES could not discern which) also silver in color. This canister or ball had the appearance of being slightly to the rear of the top part of the object. The overall appearance of the object, according to Colonel HUGHES, looked something similar to the parachute and canister containing photographic testing equipment dropped from a V-2 rocket. Colonel HUGHES had kept the object in sight for approximately five seconds but had lost it at exactly 1510 hours. At the time he had lost sight of the object, HUGHES' aircraft had been indicating 310 miles per hour air speed, and the object had appeared to fly away from him on a horizontal plane rather than a vertical decline. HUGHES further stated that the object might possibly have changed course during the time it was in his sight but it was impossible for him to definitely establish this fact as his aircraft had been in a sharp turn during part of the time that the object was in sight. At the time that the object had been sighted the weather had been clear, no clouds, visibility and ceiling unlimited; and as far as Colonel HUGHES could determine the object had made no sound and no exhaust trail had been seen. After having lost the object, Colonel HUGHES proceeded to return to Tyndall Air Force Base and upon landing, reported the above mentioned incident to the Intelligence Officer, Tyndall, A-3. Attached hereto as Exhibit I, is a sketch of the object's appropriate configuration.

AGENT'S NOTES:

UNCLASSIFIED

It is to be noted, Colonel HUGHES told his story both to this agent and to Lt Burt, A-3, Tyndall, at separate interviews and in both instances his story coincided.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 15 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5200.10

John F. Frampton, S/A 700-3 616 Det (USAF) (PROV), Tyndall AF Base, Florida

[REDACTED]

11/13



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Header: (H-4)MEJ/a/R, subj: "Report of Information on 'Flying Disc'",  
3rd 12 Apr 48, 2d Div cont'd.

- a. Two or three hundred feet below Lt. Colonel Hughes' aircraft at a 10° angle from the horizontal plane.
- b. Three to five hundred feet.
- c. Object seemed rigid in construction, having the shape of a parachute.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*Sam E. Jordan*  
SAM E. JORDAN  
Captain, USAF  
Assistant Adjutant

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

AMC  
Subject: Report of Information on "Flying Disc"

1st Ind

WCM/JCS/amb

21P  
JFK

From: HQ, 500th Air University Wing, Maxwell Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

APR 22 1948

To: Commanding General, AMC, Maxwell Air Force Base, Panama City, Florida

1. Reference is made to basic communication dated 12 April 1948. It is requested that Lt Colonel Robert P. Hughes be interrogated once again to furnish the following information:

a. The altitude of the reported object and position of Colonel Hughes' airplane at the time of sighting.

b. The appearance of the object and whether it resembled the object described in the report of 12 April 1948.

c. Did the entire object give the appearance of rigid construction, or more the appearance of being a parachute and canister?

2. Any further information available on this or other sightings of this nature will be greatly appreciated in this headquarters.

FOR THIS COMMUNICATION CONFIDENTIAL

*James J. ...*  
Chief of Intelligence

2d Ind

(R-4) JEP/cl/R

HEADQUARTERS, 500th Air University Wing, Maxwell Air Force Base, Panama City, Florida, 23 April 1948

TO: Commanding General, AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: Chief of Intelligence

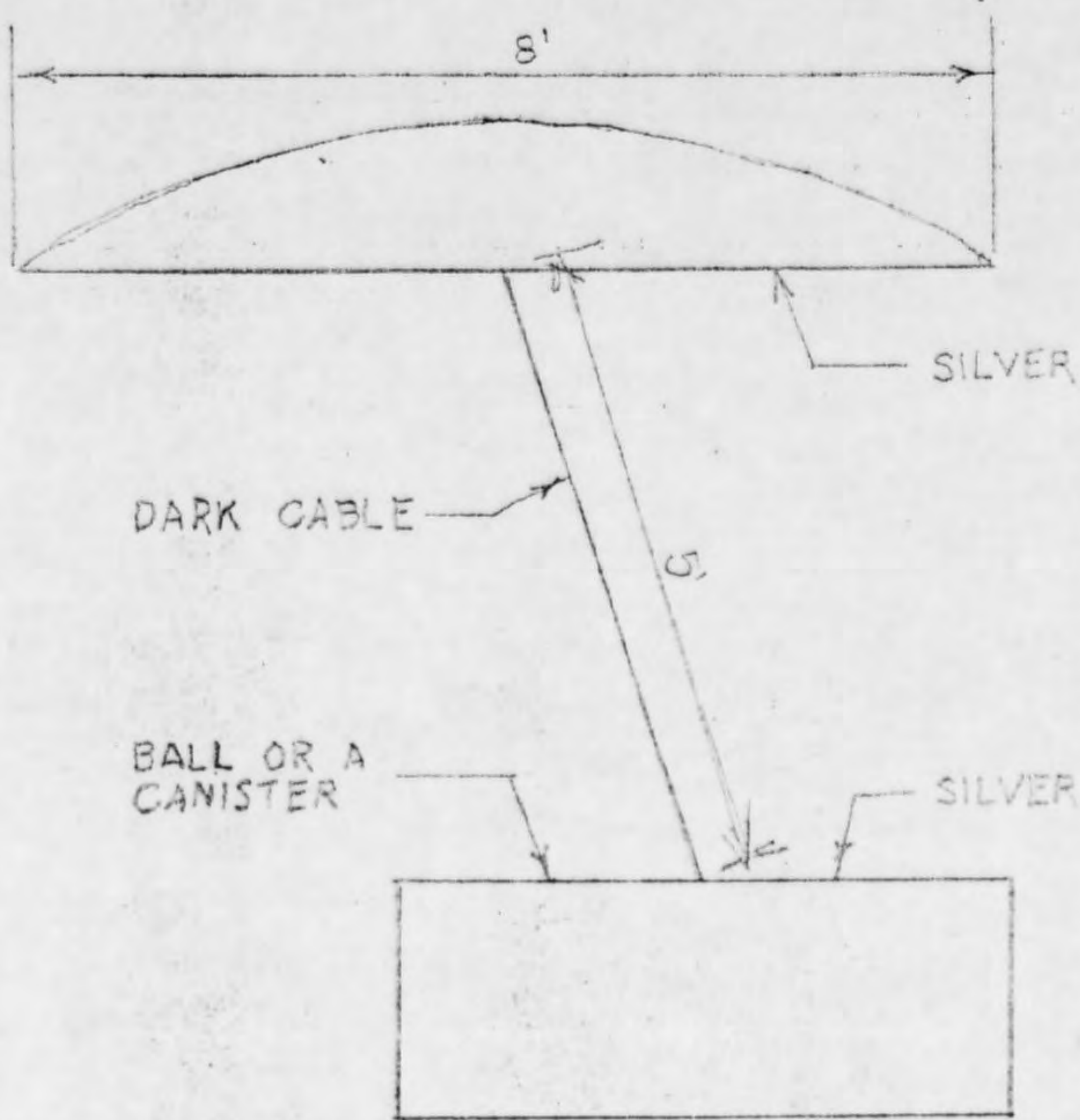
1. In reference to 1st Indorsement, basic communication, dtd 12 April 1948, requesting further information re: object sighted by Lt Colonel Hughes, this station, the following answers to sub-paragraphs a, b, c, paragraph 1 is submitted:

CONFIDENTIAL

21P



EXHIBIT I  
UNCLASSIFIED



1918 JUN 10  
1918 JUN 10  
1918 JUN 10

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

UNCLASSIFIED

EXHIBIT I



10000000113



Dr. HYNĚK'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, 93, 100,  
112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 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, 188, 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, 55, 65, 78, 106, 107,  
108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

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

#39, 39, 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,  
168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226,  
227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.



[REDACTED]  
~~RESTRICTED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #113 -- Montgomery, Alabama -- 9 April 1948

The object cited in this incident answers to the description of an instrument-carrying balloon. In any case, there is nothing whatever in the report which would allow for an astronomical interpretation.

Attention can be called to the similarity of the description given here to that of incident #81.

UNCLASSIFIED

~~RESTRICTED~~  
[REDACTED]

1-2-1948



HEADQUARTERS  
AIR MATERIEL COMMAND  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio

MCIAAXO-3/EWS/rm  
Jan 5 1949

MCIAAXO

SUBJECT: Project "SIGN"

TO: Chief, Air Weather Service,  
Andrews Air Force Base,  
Washington 25, D. C.  
ATTN: DSS

1. Project "SIGN" is responsible for the collection, investigation and interpretation of data relative to sighting of unidentified flying objects. Attached Incident Summaries 1 thru 172 from the files of Project "SIGN" are forwarded for study and recommendations as to which of the incidents may be eliminated as balloons released on routine synoptic ascents by the Air Weather Service, the Navy Aerological Service or the United States Weather Bureau. The summaries attached may be retained in your headquarters for working and reference purposes.

2. The Air Weather Service is the only agency of its type that has been asked to assist in the accomplishment of Project "SIGN" except that the United States Weather Bureau has provided information on ball lightning. Research projects in which balloons are used and which are conducted or sponsored by the Army, Navy or United States Air Force are checked by the Intelligence Department of this Command. These checks are usually made direct from the Project "SIGN" Office, MCIAAXO-3. These checks are distinct from the check of synoptic balloon flights made by weather service stations of the Air Force, the Navy and the Department of Commerce. (U. S. Weather Bureau) requested of Air Weather Service.

3. It is the opinion of this office that the below listed incidents are those having the greatest possibility of being balloons. This list does not eliminate the possibility that many of the remaining incidents are balloons.

2	24	50	91	113	155
3	25	52	92	115	156
4	28	72	96	126	157
11	30	73	104	141	159
14	31	81	105	143	163
16	32	87	107, 8, 9	151	167
22	33	89	112 (See 122)	154	169
23	43				

3-24481-A



Hq AMC, Chief, Air Weather Service, Washington 25, D. C.  
Subj: Project "SIGN"

4. The form used in interrogating witnesses to sightings is inclosed as a matter of interest. Comment as to possible improvement of the "Essential Elements of Information" in regard to routine synoptic balloon flights is invited.

5. It is requested that correspondence be forwarded to the Commanding General, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, attention MCIAXO-3.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

2 Incls:  
Summaries 1-172 incl  
"EEI"

/s/ W. R. Clingerman, Col, USAF  
for H. M. McCoy  
Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Intelligence Dept

Copies furnished:

AFOIR, Hq. USAF  
Capt Trakowski, Geophysics Lab  
Major Kodis, MCREEP  
Colonel Neal, MCLAWS



B/Ltr from AWC  
dtd 5 Jan 1949  
Subj: Project  
"SIGH"

AWS DSS

1st Ind

24 Jan 1949

HEADQUARTERS, AIR WEATHER SERVICE Andrews Air Force Base, Wash-  
ington 25, D. C.

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

Investigations by this headquarters reveal that a synoptic  
weather balloon could have been at the location where sightings  
were reported in the following incidents. In compiling this  
list consideration was given to the wind direction and speed at  
the surface and aloft at the scheduled time of balloon release, and  
the location of the nearest weather station making balloon obser-  
vations.

2	52	91	126
3	72	93	148
4	73	94	155
25	78	105	166
28	81	113	169
36	87	115	172

FOR THE CHIEF AIR WEATHER SERVICE

2 Incls:  
n/c

/s/ W. A. West  
W. A. WEST  
Lt. Col., USAF  
Adjutant General



The object, sighted at ten o'clock off his left wing, appeared to be a silver disc. He immediately completed a sharp bank to the left and was able to get a better look at the object, and described it as follows:

"Top part of the object approximately eight feet in diameter, silver in color, had the appearance of a parachute. Attached to the bottom of this had been a dark cable or shroud which appeared to be approximately five feet long. Suspended upon the cable had been a large canister or ball (Colonel Hughes could not discern which) also silver in color. This canister or ball had the appearance of being slightly to the rear of the top part of the object. The overall appearance of the object looked something similar to the parachute and canister containing photographic testing equipment dropped from a V-2 rocket."

At the time he lost sight of the object, Hughes' aircraft had been indicating 310 miles per hour air speed, and the object had appeared to fly away from him on a horizontal plane rather than a vertical decline.

A sketch of the object is attached.



CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 113

1. Date 9 April 1948
2. Time ~~1510~~ 1506
3. Location Montgomery, Alabama
4. Name of observer Robert B. Hughes, Lt. Colonel, USAF
5. Occupation of observer Pilot
6. Address of observer Tactics Div., Air Tactical School, Tyndall AF Base
7. Place of observation From the air
8. Number of objects One
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight Five seconds
11. Altitude Approximately 16000 feet
12. Speed In excess of the viewer's 310 mph air speed
13. Direction of flight Northwest
14. Tactics N/S
15. Sound None
16. Size Top part eight feet diameter
17. Color Silver
18. Shape Had the appearance of a parachute carrying a large canister or ball
19. Odor detected N/S
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails None
22. Weather conditions Clear, visibility and ceiling unlimited
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs - Sketch (trip)
25. Manner of disappearance N/S
26. Remarks Lt. Col. Robert B. Hughes first sighted the object before completing an 180° left turn over the town of Montgomery, Alabama.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FLYING DISC  
~~SECRET~~

UNCLASSIFIED

1st Ind.

MARIANNA CIC OFFICE, P.O. Box 404, Marianna, Florida, 14 April 1948

TO: COMMANDING GENERAL, Headquarters Third Army, ~~Atlanta~~ Fort McPherson, Georgia  
ATTN: A C of S, G-2

Enclosed memo obtained from Col. ~~██████████~~ in an interview by AF SA CIC regarding SUBJECT.

*James A. Ward*  
JAMES A WARD  
Special Agent in Charge

<sup>2</sup>  
Incl:

- 1 memo 6 copies
- 2 exhibit No. 1.

AJACI-9

2nd Ind

(9 Apr 48)

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY, Fort McPherson, Georgia, 16 April 1948

TO: COMGENAMC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Dayton, Ohio  
ATTENTION: MCI

1. Attached report is forwarded in compliance with Letter GSUSA, ID, Wash., D.C., File # CSGID 452.1, dtd 25 Mar 48, Subject: "Unconventional Aircraft."

2. No telegraphic report was rendered since Colonel ~~██████████~~ also reported the incident to A-2, Tyndall Field.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

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

*Walter A. Buck*  
WALTER A. BUCK  
Colonel, GSC  
AC of S, G-2

2 Incls:

- 1 memo 5 cps (1 w/a)
- 2 exhibit No. 1

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



CONFIDENTIAL R7C

25

HEADQUARTERS  
500th AIR UNIVERSITY WING  
TINDALL AIR FORCE BASE  
PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA

(H-4)MSJ/AL/R

12 April 1948

SUBJECT: Report of Information on "Flying Disc"

TO: Commanding General  
Air Material Command  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: TSDIN

The attached information is forwarded in compliance with USAF Letter, subj: "Reporting of Information on "Flying Discs", dtd 6 February 1948.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*J. B. Prick*  
J. B. PRICK  
Major, USAF  
Adjutant

1 Incl -  
MOIC and Exhibit I

Distribution:

1 cc to:  
C/S USAF  
CG, AIC  
CG, AU

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