

~~RESTRICTED~~

PROJECT 10073 RECORD (AT) Incident #166

ATIC NO. _____	DATE OF INFO 30 Aug 1948
AF NO. _____	LOCATION Los Angeles, Calif.
REPORT NO. _____	SOURCE USAF Airman
DATE OF REPORT _____	DATE IN TO ATIC _____
TIME OF SIGHTING 2000	COLOR Silver
SHAPE V-2 Rocket	SPEED Over 700 MPH <small>Estimated</small>
SIZE Larger than B-29	ALTITUDE Over 20,000 ft. <small>Measured</small>
COURSE W to E	LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED _____
NO. IN GROUP _____	TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground
SOUND _____	MANEUVERS _____
PHOTOS _____ SKETCHES _____	

JAN (METEOR)
~~Handwritten signature~~

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

~~RESTRICTED~~

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Subject: Unidentified Flying Objects UNCLASSIFIED 1 Sep 48

g. Sergeant [redacted] reported that he followed the flight of the object with a pair of high powered binoculars, and was certain that it was not a shooting star.

CHARLES M. TAYLOR
Major, USAF
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

Chief of Staff, USAF, Wash 25, D. C.
ATTN: Director of Intelligence
Commander, MATS, Wash 25, D. C.
ATTN: Chief, Intelligence Div.
Commanding Officer, Flight Service, Wash 25, D. C.
ATTN: A-3

~~RESTRICTED~~

1301 W. Olympic Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif. - Nearest crossing st-
Figuerro St. Weather was clear. No witnesses other than Sgt [REDACTED]
No photos taken only one object sighted - shape that of a V-2 rocket - but
much larger. No estimated as to size except that it was larger than
B-29 and was reported as enormous since object completely filled the lens of
field glasses being used which were of 10 B-80 power and were taken from a german
88 mm artillery piece. Each lens is 8 in diameter. Object silver in
color. No positive estimation of speed but witness thought it well over
700 MPH. Object came from west and was heading east. flying straight level
course and not maneuvering. Altitude estimated to be well over ~~20,000~~
20,000 ft. No sound. Left blue exhaust trail.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

24

MCLAD-3

MCLAD-3/HWS/aw

SEP 8 1948

Project "SIGN"

Commanding Officer
March Air Force Base
Riverside, California
ATTENTION: Base Intelligence Officer

1. This Command is engaged in an intelligence investigation of all reported sightings of unidentified aerial phenomena and has been authorized direct communication with all Air Tactical Command units by Hq USAF, in letter dated 6 February 1948.

2. Reference is made to attached teletypes dated 31 Aug 1948 and 1 September 1948 concerning the sighting of an unidentified aerial object by S/Sgt [redacted] of the Los Angeles Public Information Office.

3. It is requested your office interview the above and obtain a signed graphic statement as to what he observed. This statement should include the facts as itemized in teletype dated 31 August, i. e., location, date and time of sighting, weather conditions at the time, names, occupations and addresses of witnesses (if any), photographs or sketches, construction, number, shape, size, color, speed, in what part of the sky first observed, direction, manner of disappearance, maneuverability, altitude, sound, exhaust trail, odor, effect on clouds and diagram of flight pattern (if any). Since, in this case, no photographs are available, it is desired that the witness sketch the configuration to the best of his ability and submit this as an attachment to his signed statement.

- 4. In connection with the above, request that
 - a. Local teletype sequence of weather conditions and the Winds Aloft Report at the time of the sighting be obtained.
 - b. Local flight schedules of commercial and military aircraft flying in the vicinity at the time be checked.

McCoy's Copy

DOWNGRADED AT [redacted] YEARS.
DECLASSIFIED [redacted]
DOO [redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

166

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

AMC
Subject: Project "SIGN"

c. Possible releases of testing devices sent aloft by Ordnance, Navy, Army, Air Forces, Weather Bureau, Research Organizations or any other, in the vicinity be investigated.

5. All material will be forwarded directly to Commanding General, AMC, Wright-Patterson AF Base, Dayton, Ohio, attention: MCI, in accordance with USAF letter dated 26 February 1948.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

James J. Harrison
H. M. McCoy
Colonel, USAF
Chief of Intelligence

- 2 Incls
- 1. Cy teletype
dtd 31 Aug 48
- 2. Cy teletype
dtd 1 Sept 48

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

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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, 35, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100,
112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 163, 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, 56, 65, 78, 105, 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, 56, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71,
75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 152,
168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226,
227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

MCIAXO-3/RAL/aw

5th Aug (?) 1948

Project "SIGN"

Commanding Officer
Shaw Air Force Base
Sumter, South Carolina
ATTENTION: Base Intelligence Officer

1. This Command is currently engaged in an intelligence investigation of all reported sightings of unidentifiable aerial phenomena and has been authorized direct communication with all Air Force units by Hq, USAF, in letter dated 6 February 1948.

2. It has come to the attention of this Office that ~~Ms. [REDACTED]~~ ~~of Columbia~~, South Carolina, has reported witnessing the so-called "flying discs."

3. It is requested your office interview this individual and obtain a signed graphic statement as to the anomaly observed. It is further requested that the observer indicate to the best of her ability the following salient factors: Location, date and time of sighting, weather conditions at the time, names, occupations and addresses of witnesses, (if any), photographs or sketches, luminous or metallic construction, number, shape, size, color, speed, in what part of sky first observed, direction, manner of disappearance, maneuverability (tactics), altitude, sound, exhaust trail, odor, if any, effect on clouds, etc.

4. It is requested that the individual be informed that her disclosure will be treated as "strictly confidential", and that, in the interests of national defense, all publicity surrounding this investigation be stringently avoided.

5. All pertinent material will be forwarded directly to Commanding General, AMC, Wright-Patterson AF Base, Wright Field, Ohio, attention: MCI, in accordance with USAF letter dated 26 February 1948.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

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

H. M. McCoy
Colonel, USAF
Chief, of Intelligence

T-43491

[REDACTED]

Incident 143

UNCLASSIFIED

7-3712-8

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #166 -- Los Angeles, California -- 30 August 1948

The observer of this incident states that the object looked like a rocket and was larger than a B-29. He does not give the distance, but estimates the altitude as well over 20,000 feet. At this implied distance, it appears to this investigator that resemblance to a rocket must have been largely subjective.

Although a rocket cannot be ruled out, it is also possible that the object seen was a bright meteor. If the hour of observation given is correct, it was late twilight. It seems that a bright meteor appearing at this time could give the general impression of a rocket leaving a trail.

The report states that the object was observed through field glasses taken from a German 83 mm. artillery piece and that each lens was 8" in diameter. (This is an improbably large size for a field glass.) If the object completely filled the lens at that given altitude, either it was of a truly tremendous size or the glass was out of focus. Furthermore, the telegram and summary state that the object was travelling from west to east (another report says from north to south); if it had been a rocket heading east, the landing would probably have been reported.

All in all, the evidence supports the conclusion that the object was more likely a bright meteor than a huge rocket.

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

8-21-48-1

B/Ltr from AMC
dtd 5 Jan 1949
Subj: Project
"SIGN"

AWSS 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: MCIA XO

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	143
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/s

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

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 166

1. Date 30 Aug 48
2. Time 20,000 hours or 8:00 P. M.
3. Location Los Angeles, Calif.
4. Name of observer S/Sgt ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
5. Occupation of observer S/Sgt
6. Address of observer N/S ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, Los Angeles
7. Place of observation ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Los Angeles, Calif.
8. Number of objects 1
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight N/S
11. Altitude estimated to be well over 20,000 ft.
12. Speed thought to be well over 700 MPH
13. Direction of flight ~~West to East~~
14. Tactics none - flew level course
15. Sound No sound
16. Size Larger than B-29
17. Color silver
18. Shape V-2 rocket
19. Odor detected N/S
20. Apparent construction rocket - like
21. Exhaust trails blue exhaust trail
22. Weather conditions N/S
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs None
25. Manner of disappearance N/S
26. Remarks: (over)

Object resembled the fuselage of a V-2 rocket - but much larger. S/Sgt [redacted] stated that it was much larger than a B-29 and silver in color and that it completely filled the lens of a 10 X-80 field glass which was taken from a German 88 mm artillery piece. Each lens was 8" in diameter. Speed estimated to be well over 700 MPH, and object was traveling at an altitude of well over 20,000 ft. No sound was heard. Left a blue exhaust trail. Object traveling from west to east. Only one object sighted.

Return
WJA | *MCI*
11/27
8:08
194

RESO

PP UED

FM UJIR 9/MARCH FLT SVC CTR MARCH AFB CALIF 010001Z
TO CG/ATTN TSDIN/ATC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO
INFO JEPC/CO/ATTN A-2/HQ FLT SVC WASHDC

AF GRNC

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R ~~██████████~~ D/DMZ 0048 H PD ROCKET SIGHTED FLYING NORTH TO SOUTH
WEST OF LOS ANGELES ESTIMATED TO 20 TO 30 THOUSAND FEET AT 2025
PDT WEATHER CLEAR 12 MILES PD REPORTED

BY S/SGT ESTES LOS ANGELES PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE PD FUSELAGE
RESEMBLES A GERMAN V-2 ROCKET PD WITNESS FOLLOWED RICKET WITH PAIR
OF HIGH POWERED GLASSES AND WAS CERTAIN IT WAS NOT A SHOOTING STAR

PD END/R ~~██████████~~ UNCLASSIFIED

TAYLOR CO MFSC

CFN 0048 2025 20 30 12 S/SGT V-2

Page # 2

31/00202

~~SECRET~~ / ATTN WCI PASS TO DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE
CSUSA PD CONTROL NER AF (DASH ONE NINE ONE SEVEN) REPORT SIGHTING
OF UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT BY S SGT LEROY H ESTES AF ONE NINE ZERO
SEVEN EIGHT ONE EIGHT FOUR THIS CRNG AT TWENTY HUNDRED HRS THIRTY AUG
FORTY EIGHT FM ROOF OF BLDG LOCATED AT ONE THREE ZERO ONE WEST OLY
MPIC BLVD LOSANGELES CALIF PD NEAREST MAIN CROSS ST IS FIGUERO ST
PD WEATHER WAS VERY CLEAR CMA NO WITNESS OTHER THAN SGT ESTES CMA NO
PHOTOS TAKEN CMA ONLY ONE OBJECT SIGHTED CMA SHAPE WAS THAT OF A
VICTOR DASH TWO ROCKET BUMUCH LARGER CMA NO ESTIMATE AS TO SIZE
EXCEPT THAT IT WAS LARGER THAN BAKER RWC NINE AND WAS REPORTED AS
ENORMOUS CMA OBJECT COMPLETELY FILLED THE LENS OF THE FIELD GLASSES
BEING USED BYSSGT STES CMA FIELD GLASSES USED WERE OF TEN BE EIGHTY
POWER AND WRE TAKEN FROM A GERMAN EIGHTY EIGHT MM ARTILLERY PIECE
EACH LENS IS EIGHT IN DIAMETER CMA SLIVER COLOR CMA NO POSITVE
ESTIMATION OF SPEED BUR WITNESS ESTIMATED WELL OVER SEVEN HUNDRED MPH
CMA OBJECT CAME FROM WEST AND WAS HEADING IN EASTERLY DIRECTION
CMA WAS FLYING STRAIGHT LEVEL COURSE AND WAS NOT MANEUVERING CMA
ESTIMATED ALTIUDE WELL OVER TWENTY THOUSANF FT CMA NO SCND CMA LEFT
BLUE EXHAUST TRAIL PD FOLLOWING SIGHTING OF OBJECT SGT ESTES REPORTED
THIS FACT TO FLIGHT SEV MARCH AFV CALIF PD REPORTED CAPT OSTENDORF
PD END CITE AMWLA DASH A ONE SIX NINE THREESONE SEVEN FIVE

31/2145Z

8-853

ACT/ INFOR

1st group

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER
WRIGHT PATERSON AFB

SEP SEP 1 03 03

SEP 1 03 24

RF77

EU8011

ETAD11

EU8005

WUG11

WLE217

RR UEDLY

Action	Info
MCIA	MCI

FM UWLFK 11/ASU 6402 UAS UASF RS DIST SANPEDRC CALIF 312120Z
TO COMGENAMC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB DAYTON OHIO

WD GRN

363

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March Flight Service Center
March Air Force Base
Riverside, California

1 September 1948

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AF Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTENTION: TSDIN

In compliance with FS Regulation 200-4, dated 16 August 1948, the following report is submitted, reference TNX, DMZ 0048 H, March Flight Service Center:

- a. An object was sighted west of the City of Los Angeles. The time of the sighting was reported as 2025 Pacific Daylight Time.
- b. The weather was reported to be clear with visibility twelve (12) miles.
- c. The object was reported by Staff Sergeant ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, residence - ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, Los Angeles, California; assigned to the Public Information Office of the Los Angeles Army and Air Force Recruiting Station, located at 610 South Main Street, Los Angeles; Telephone - ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ or Van ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~. Object was not reported by any other person or persons to the March Flight Service Center.
- d. No photographs or sketches are submitted with report.
- e. Object sighted:
 - (1) Number - One
 - (2) Shape - Reported to resemble a German V-2
 - (3) Size - Unknown
 - (4) Color - Unknown
 - (5) Speed - Unknown
 - (6) Heading - Reported flying North to South
 - (7) Maneuverability - Unknown
 - (8) Altitude - Estimated 20,000 feet to 30,000 feet
 - (9) Sound - Unknown
 - (10) Exhaust trail or not - Resembling shooting star

~~RESTRICTED~~

2nc 166