

UNCLASSIFIED



Incident #275

ATRC NO. \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF REPORT 23 Sept 48  
 AF NO. \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION Sante Fe, N.M.  
 REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ STATUS Private Pilot  
 DATE OF REPORT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE IN SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_  
 TYPE OF WEAPON 6040 XST COLOR Perfectly white  
 TYPE Disc H. 100' H. 100' H. 100' H. 100'  
 SIZE 100' 100'-150' ALTITUDE 30,000' H. 100' H. 100'  
 COURSE 180° DIRECTION OF TRAVEL Observed 15-20 minutes  
 NO. IN GROUP 1 TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground  
 COMMENTS Very little movement

Try ATRC Form 379  
and 378

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452.1 AKADB

UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft at Santa Fe, New Mexico

TO: Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: N.C.I.

1. Reference is made to Control No. -1917, as requested in letter, Intelligence Division, CSGID 452.1, 25 March 1948, subject, "Unconventional Aircraft."

2. Attached Summary of Information dated 30 September 1948 forwarded for your information.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incl  
S/I dtd 30 Sep 48

BETTS L. POLAND  
Colonel, GSC  
AC of S, G-2

1st Ind

100-2/185/dw  
14 Oct 48

Hq A&E, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

TO: Commanding General, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Requests for further investigation of the sighting of unconventional aircraft at Santa Fe, New Mexico have been forwarded to CG, 4th Army Air Force Base, Texas and to District Commander, 17th District CBI, Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

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

1 Incl  
x/3

W. R. LITTMAN  
Colonel, GSC  
Actg Chief of Intelligence

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452.1 AKADB

1 October 1948

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft Sighted at Santa Fe, New Mexico

TO: Director of Intelligence  
General Staff, U. S. Army  
Washington 25, D. C.  
ATTN: Chief, Intelligence Group

1. Reference is made to Control No. A-1917, as requested in letter, Intelligence Division, CSGID 452.1, 25 March 1948, subject, "Unconventional Aircraft."

2. Attached Summary of Information dated 30 September 1948 forwarded for your information.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

AF 17297-1

1 Incl  
S/I dtd 30 Sep 48

EUSTIS L. POLAND  
Colonel, GSC  
AC of S, G-2

AMC  
1 Rpt.  
1 ~~Summary~~

175

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DOWNGRADED AT 5 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DCI DIR 5206.10

21 175

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE 30 Sep 48

PREPARING OFFICE  
Office of the AG of S. G-2, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

SUBJECT <b>Unconventional Aircraft</b>	CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION	
	OF SOURCE:	OF INFORMATION:
	COMPLETELY RELIABLE . . . . . A	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES . . . 1
	USUALLY RELIABLE . . . . . B	PROBABLY TRUE . . . . . 2
	FAIRLY RELIABLE . . . . . C	POSSIBLY TRUE . . . . . 3
	NOT USUALLY RELIABLE . . . . . D	DOUBTFULLY TRUE . . . . . 4
	UNRELIABLE . . . . . E	IMPROBABLE . . . . . 5
	RELIABILITY UNKNOWN . . . . . F	TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED . . . . 6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

On 30 September 1948, the San Antonio Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation reported to this Section that the FBI Resident Agent, Waco, Texas, had received the following information: (A-1)

On 23 September 1948, at 0945, a round, white, object in the sky, estimated at approximately 30,000 feet high and about 150 feet in diameter, was seen from the street in downtown Santa Fe, New Mexico, by [redacted] Waco, Texas, [redacted], and [redacted] Santa Fe, New Mexico. (B-3)

[redacted] is a pilot who is familiar with weather balloons and he claims that the object seen above Santa Fe was not a weather balloon. (B-2)

This information has been furnished the Intelligence Officer, Waco Air Force Base, Waco, Texas, by the FBI Resident Agent, Waco, Texas. (A-1)

AF 17297-2

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175

DISTRIBUTION	Air Material Command	BIO Dallas
	AG/1	IO, Sandia Base
	BIO El Paso	File

WD AGO FORM 568  
1 JUN 47

~~SECRET~~  
UNCLASSIFIED

452.1 AKADB

6 October 1948

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: M.C.I.

1. Reference is made to letter, Intelligence Division, CSGID 452.1, 25 March 1948, subject as above and to Control No. A-1917.

2. Attached Summary of Information forwarded for your information and any action necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*Real*  
1 Incl  
S/I dtd 4 Oct 48

EUSTIS L. POLAND  
Colonel, GSC  
AC of S, G-2

1st Ind

452.1-5/MS/dw

Wg AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio

OCT 18 1948

TO: Commanding General, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

A request for further information has been forwarded directly to Agent in Charge, Branch Intelligence Office, 112th SIG Detachment, New Orleans, Louisiana.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incl  
w/d

H. R. CLINGEMAN  
Colonel, USAF  
Actg Chief of Intelligence

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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BASIC: Project "Sign", basic communication dated 18 October 1948.

File No. 24-6

1st Ind

SLJ/JJS/mfw

Headquarters, 17th District Office of Special Investigations (IG) USAF,  
Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, N. M. 17 November 1948

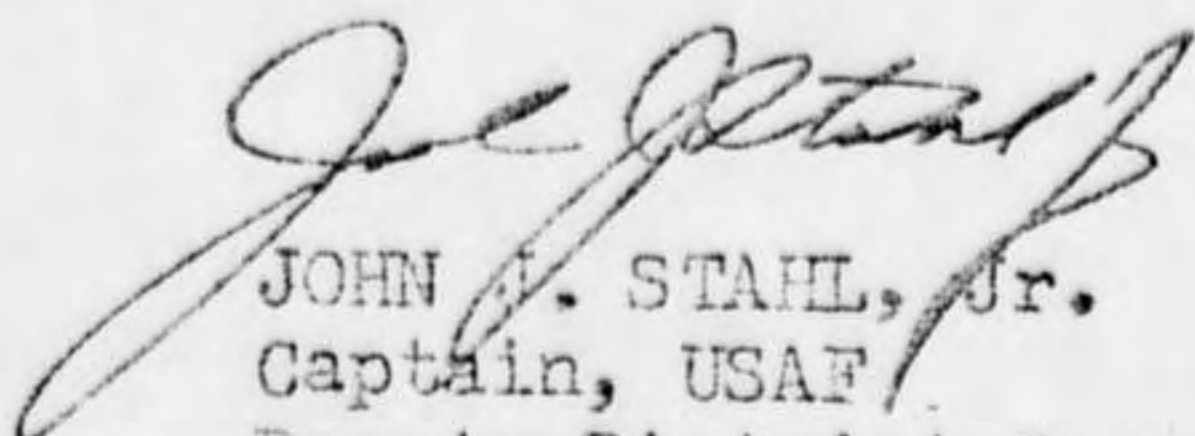
TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio  
ATTENTION: MCIAXO

1. Transmitted herewith Report of Investigation, this headquarters,  
dated 16 November 1948, subject: Project "Sign", as requested in basic communication.

2. Request for development of undeveloped leads as indicated in inclosed report has been forwarded 10th District, Office of Special Investigations.

FOR THE DISTRICT COMMANDER:

- 2 Incls
- 1. n/c
- 2. w/d
- 3. Rpt of Invest re Project "Sign" (dup)

  
JOHN E. STAHL, Jr.  
Captain, USAF  
Deputy District Commander

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HEADQUARTERS  
AIR MATERIEL COMMAND

IN REPLY ADDRESS BOTH  
COMMUNICATION AND EN-  
VELOPE TO COMMANDING  
GENERAL, AIR MATERIEL  
COMMAND, ATTENTION  
FOLLOWING OFFICE SYMBOL:

MCIAKO-3/HNS/dw  
WRIGHT FIELD, DAYTON, OHIO

OCT 18 1948

MCIAKO

SUBJECT: Project "Sign"

TO: District Commander  
17th District O.S.I. (IG)  
Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico  
ATTN: Mr. Jack Bolling

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 Force installations by Headquarters USAF letter dated 6 February 1948, subject "Report of Information on Flying Discs".

2. A report from Headquarters Fourth Army, attached as Inclosure 1, indicates that ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Sante Fe, New Mexico, saw an unidentified aerial object in Sante Fe on 23 September 1948.

3. It is requested your office interview all witnesses to this observation and obtain detailed, signed statements of the anomaly observed. It is further requested that during the interview the agent obtain as much information as possible relative to the object as outlined in the "Essential Elements of Information" form, attached as Inclosure 2. Any additional evidence that may seem pertinent to the investigation, as indicated in section "General" of the EMI, should be included.

4. Interested personnel should be advised that the confidential nature of this matter precludes any publicity.

5. It is requested that all pertinent material be forwarded directly to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, attention MCIAKO-3.

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- 2 Incls
- 1. Cy of Spt
- 2. EMI Form

*Weyall*  
R. OLIVERMAN  
Colonel, USAF  
Actg Chief of Intelligence

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION	FILE NO.	24-6	DATE	16 Nov 48
	REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM H. PITTSO			
TITLE  PROJECT "SIGN"	REPORT MADE AT DO #17, Kirtland AF Base			
	PERIOD 26 October 1948			
	OFFICE OF ORIGIN Air Materiel Command			
	STATUS REFERRED UPON COMPLETION			

CHARACTER  
SPECIAL INQUIRY

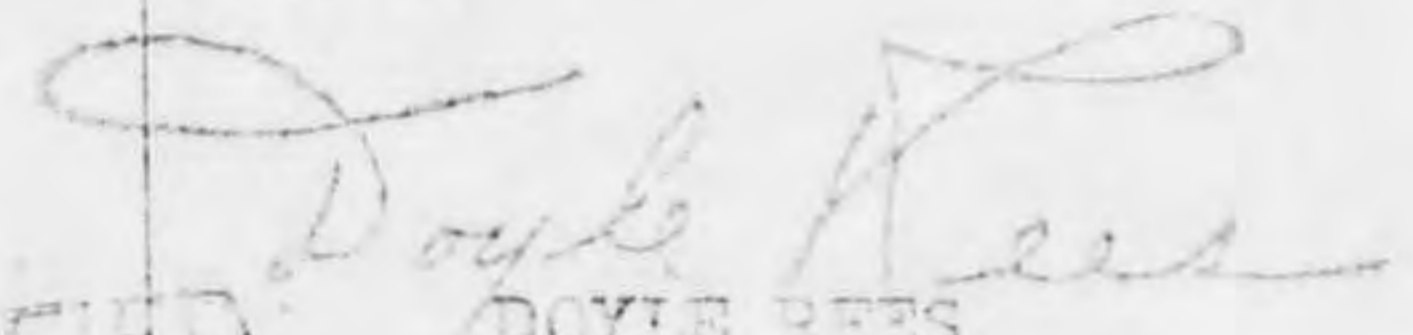
REFERENCE  
Letter, Air Materiel Command, dated 18 October 1948

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AF Base, Dayton, Ohio, Mr. [REDACTED] in a signed statement, substantiated the aerial anomaly sighted over Santa Fe, New Mexico, on 23 September 1948. The reliability of the observer was checked with no derogatory information revealed.

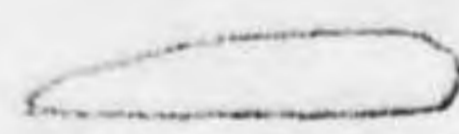
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DOD DIR 5200.10

DISTRIBUTION	ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP
CG, AMC, W-P AFB (Action Copy) (2 Incls) 2	CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AF Base ATTN: MXIAXO-3	
OSI Hq. (2 Incls) 2		
DO #10, Kelly AFB (1 Incl) 2		
File 2		
APPROVED		
 DOYLE REES Lt. Col., USAF DISTRICT COMMANDER		



GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions - Reading at 1030 hours, 23 September 1948; clear visibility 40 miles, pressure 1064 mili bars, temperature 71°, dupoint 31°, surface wind W S W 13°, altimeter setting 29.98 inches. AS:
2. Winds aloft report - Reading at 0900 hours, 23 September 1948; 10,000 ft. 11 miles per hour 290°, 18,500 ft. 17 miles per hour 310°, 30,000 ft. 15 miles per hour 290°.
3. Local flight schedules of commercial, private and military aircraft flying in vicinity at the time - Local flight schedules, none.  
(Check Canadian activity if close to that border)
4. Possible releases of testing devices in vicinity sent aloft by Ordnance, Navy, Air Force, Army, Weather Units, Research Organizations, or any other - None.
5. If object contacted earth, obtain soil samples within and without depression or spot where object landed (and then presumably departed) for purpose of making comparison of soils - Object did not contact earth.
6. If object came sufficiently near other aircraft or known objects check surfaces with Geiger counters for possible radioactivity. Make comparisons with other unaffected aircraft objects, etc. - No other aircraft involved.
7. Obtain photographs (or original negatives) where available; if not, secure sketches of
  - a. Object 
  - b. Surrounding terrain where observed - In City of Santa Fe, New Mexico.
  - c. Place where it contacted earth (if this happened) - Did not contact earth.
  - d. Maneuvers - Flew straight course.
  - e. Formation if objects were more than two - Only one (1) object.
8. Secure signed statement - See Inclosure No. 1.
9. Obtain fragments of physical evidence where possible - Not possible.
10. Was any radio antenna to be observed, i.e., (any projections or extensions that might persumably be construed as such) - None observed.

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DOD DIR 2000-0

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3. On 26 October 1948, the following interviews and agency checks were made to substantiate the reliability of the observer: (Reference page 4, paragraph 7 of Essential Elements of Information form.)

a. Mrs. [REDACTED] (Housewife), [REDACTED], Santa Fe, New Mexico, stated in substance, that she has known [REDACTED] approximately three (3) years and that he is a good family man, a hard, aggressive worker, and successful business man. Mrs. [REDACTED] further stated that she has no knowledge of derogatory information concerning Mr. [REDACTED]

b. Mrs. [REDACTED] (Housewife), [REDACTED], Santa Fe, New Mexico, stated in substance, that she has known Mr. [REDACTED] approximately one (1) year and that he leads a nice quiet home life and is a very likeable person. Mrs. [REDACTED] further stated she has no knowledge of derogatory information concerning Mr. [REDACTED]

c. Police Department, Santa Fe, New Mexico - No record.

Sheriff's Office, Santa Fe, New Mexico - No record.

d. Mr. [REDACTED] (filling station proprietor and used car dealer), [REDACTED], New Mexico, stated in substance, that he has known Mr. [REDACTED] approximately one (1) year and is presently in his employment as a building superintendent. Mr. [REDACTED] further stated that Mr. [REDACTED] has never been in trouble and has a fine character and background to the best of his knowledge.

INCLOSURES

FOR HQ., AMC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB:

1. Signed statement of Mr. [REDACTED] dated at Santa Fe, New Mexico, 26 October 1948.
2. Essential Elements of Information.

FOR OSI HQ., WASHINGTON, D. C.:

1. Photostatic copy of signed statement of Mr. [REDACTED] dated at Santa Fe, New Mexico, 26 October 1948.
2. Essential Elements of Information.

FOR DO #10, KELLY AFB:

1. Form of Essential Elements of Information.

- RETURNED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

DISTRICT OFFICE #10, KELLY AFB:

AT EL PASO, TEXAS

1. Will check the criminal and subversive files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to determine if [REDACTED] has a record.

AT WACO, TEXAS

2. Will obtain detailed signed statement from Mr. [REDACTED] in reference to the anomaly observed.

3. Will obtain as much information as possible relative to the object as outlined in the "Essential Elements of Information" form, attached as Inclosure 1. Any additional evidence that may seem pertinent to the investigation, as indicated in section "General" of the EEI, should be included.

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DOD DIS 5200.10

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~~RESTRICTED~~

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Incident #178a-- Santa Fe, New Mexico -- 23 September 1948

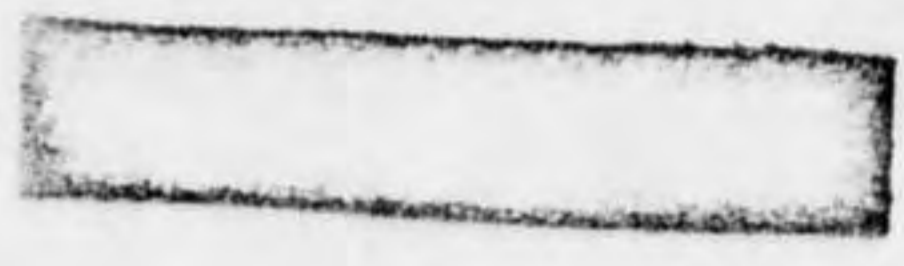
The evidence here is so contradictory that it is very difficult even to attempt any identification. For example, one observer states that the object was stationary; the other that it was moving at a speed of 700-800 MPH. One says the elevation was 45°; the other says 70°. It is hard to believe that they were looking at the same object, even though it is so stated.

Considering #178 (██████████ statement) alone, it is possible that the object observed was the planet Venus. The location is given as southwest and the elevation as 70°, which correspond approximately with the position of Venus at the time. The magnitude of the planet was -3.3; it could have been visible in the daylight sky. It would have appeared, however, more like a pinpoint of bright light than like a "disc in the sky." It seems unlikely that it would have been noticed at all, but since the observer was looking closely at the sky ("watching a government plane come in"), he might have chanced upon it.

Considering the vast discrepancies in the two reports, it may not be amiss to suggest another, far fetched, interpretation for one or both. The moon at the time was in gibbous phase, and was a little off the horizon north of west. Most people are so unused to thinking of the moon in that position in the daytime that they fail

~~RESTRICTED~~

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7-3718-10

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DETAILS:

1. This investigation is predicated upon letter, dated 18 October 1948, Headquarters Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, subject: Project "Sign". Basic letter indicated that [redacted], Santa Fe, New Mexico, saw an unidentified aerial object over Santa Fe, New Mexico, on 23 September 1948.

AT SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

2. On 26 October 1948, this agent interviewed Mr. [redacted] at [redacted], Santa Fe, New Mexico, and the following information was obtained: [redacted] was born 2 April 1920, Sunbright, Tennessee, came to Santa Fe, New Mexico, from Florida in 1945, was employed at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and at Los Alamos, New Mexico, for approximately six (6) months. He is presently employed by a Mr. [redacted] ( [redacted], Santa Fe, New Mexico) as a Building Superintendent. On 23 September 1948, Mr. [redacted] and a business associate (Mr. [redacted], Waco, Texas) observed an unidentified aerial object over Santa Fe, New Mexico, as outlined in "Essential Elements of Information" form, attached as inclosure two (2) of this report. Mr. [redacted] stated he and Mr. [redacted] were the only witnesses to the sighting of the unidentified aerial object. A signed statement of Mr. [redacted] regarding the unidentified aerial object is attached to this report as inclosure one (1) and is set forth verbatim below:

26 October 1948

This statement was taken at the residence of Mr. [redacted] at 1415 hours, on 26 October 1948, by Mr. William H. Pittson S/A Office of Special Investigations Kirtland AFB, Kirtland Field, New Mexico

STATEMENT OF: [redacted]

On September 25, 1948 at approximately 0930 hours, while on East Marcy Street down town Santa Fe, New Mexico. I discovered an oblong bright object flying at a high speed I estimated between seven (7) and eight (8) hundred miles an hour, at thirty (30) thousand foot or over this object gave a blue glare to the rear and was traveling from North East to South West. I did not hear any sound but discovered this object while looking up at K.T.R.C. radio tower. At first glance I thought this object was an insulator on one of the wires, but when I discovered it was moving an effort was made to detect sound and to establish height and direction of course.

/s/ [redacted]  
/t/ [redacted]

WITNESS;

/s/ [redacted]  
/s/ [redacted]  
/s/ Santa Fe

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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26 October 1948

This statement was taken at the residence of Mr. [REDACTED] at 1415 hours, on 26 October 1948, by Mr. William H. Pittson S/A Office of Special Investigations Kirtland AFB, Kirtland Field, New Mexico.

STATEMENT OF: [REDACTED]

On September 23, 1948 at approximately 0930 hours, while on East Marcy Street down town Santa Fe, New Mexico. I discovered an oblong bright object fly - ing at a high speed I estimated between seven (7) and eight (8) hundred miles an hour, at thirty (30) thousand foot or over this object gave a blue glare to the rear and was traveling from North East to South West. I did not hear any sound but discovered this object while looking up at K.T.R.C. radio tower. At first glance I thought this object was an insulator on one of the wires, but when I discovered it was moving an effort was made to detect sound and to establish hight and direction of course.

[REDACTED]

WITNESS;

[REDACTED]

Santa Fe

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Incl. #1.

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UNCL. #2

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION

(Re Sighting(s) of Unidentified Aerial Object(s))

PROJECT "SIGW"

- 1. Date of sighting - 23 September 1948
- 2. Time of sighting  
(Zonal by 24 hr clock) - 0930
- 3. Where sighted: Santa Fe, New Mexico

1A'

a. Ground

- (1) City, Town - City
- (2) Distance and direction from city or town  
Road, intersections, etc. - seven (7) miles at 30 thousand ft. flying over the southern part of the city
- (3) From building (story), yard, etc - Street
- (4) Map coordinates (if feasible) showing  
Latitude and longitude - 35° 30 minutes 40 seconds north latitude, 105° 45 minutes 45 seconds west longitude

b. Air

- (1) Type aircraft, speed, altitude, direction flight
- (2) Distance & direction from city, town or known landmark
- (3) Clock position of object from observer's aircraft
- (4) Latitude and longitude

c. Sea

- (1) Latitude and Longitude
- (2) Proximity to land  
(Name city, country, etc)

4. Number of objects

- a. Formation type (if any) (Sketch if possible)



5. Distance of object from observer - seven (7) miles

- a. Laterally or horizontally - laterally

- b. Angle of elevation from horizon - 15°

- c. Altitude - 30,000 feet

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UNCL. #2

INCL. #2.

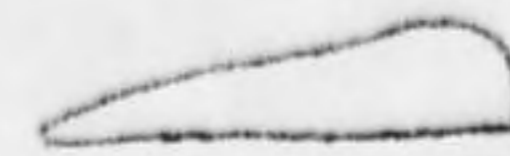
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6. Time in sight -  $1\frac{1}{2}$  minutes

7. Appearance of object

- a. Color - Bright silvery object
- b. Shape  
(sketch if possible) - oblong egg shape
- c. Apparent construction (translucent) - unknown
- d. Size



(1) Estimated size - 150-200 feet

(2) Size as it appeared from observer's view  
(Compared to known object) - one foot

8. Direction of flight North East - South West

9. Tactics or maneuvers - Straight course

- a. Vertical ascent or descent, horizontal, oscillating  
fluttering, evasive, aggressive, erratic, etc.

10. Evidence of exhaust

- a. Color of smoke - Bluish appearance to rear
- b. Length and width - sort of a sunflower shape at the end of  
object seemed to be apart from object but close on its tail
- c. Odor (if any) - None
- d. Rate of evaporation - Solid bluish appearance stayed at end  
of object
- e. Does trail vary with sound? - None

11. Effect on clouds

- a. Opened path thru clouds
- b. Formed cloud or mists
- c. Reflected on cloud Clear sky
- d. Show thru cloud

12. Lights

- a. Reflected or attached
- b. Ominous - one silver streak
- c. Blinked on and off in  
relation to speed

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- 13. Support - Could not determine
  - a. Wings
  - b. Aerodynamic lift of fuselage
  - c. Vertical jet
  - d. Rotating cylinder or cone
  - e. Aerostatic lift (balloon or dirigible)

- 14. Propulsion - Could not determine
  - a. Propeller or jet
  - b. Rotor
  - c. Aerodynamic vanes (flapping or oscillating)  
(KatzMayer effect)
  - d. Visible exhaust or jet openings

- 15. Control and stability - Could not determine
  - a. Fins
  - b. Stabilizers (Horizontal or vertical)
    - (1) Size
    - (2) Shape
    - (3) Location

- 16. Air Ducts
  - a. Slots
  - b. Duct openings

17. Speed - M.P.H. - 700 or 800 miles per hour

- 18. Sound - None
  - a. Continuous whine or hiss
  - b. Rear, whistle, whoosh
  - c. Intermittent - None

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Page 4  
Essential Elements of Info  
Project "SIGN"

19. Manner of disappearance

- a. Explode
  - (1) Possibility of fragments
  - (2) Other physical evidence
- b. Faded from view X
- c. Disappeared behind obstacle

Relative to the Observer

- 1. Name of observer [REDACTED]
- 2. Address [REDACTED] Santa Fe, New Mexico
- 3. Occupation - Building Supt.
- 4. Place of business - None
  - a. Employer or employee - Employee
- 5. Hobbies - drawing, mechanical, woodwork and photographing
  - a. Time engaged in hobby (experience) since childhood  
Is observer amateur astronomer, pilot, engineer, etc.
- 6. Ability to determine
  - a. Color - good
  - b. Speed of moving objects - fair
  - c. Size at distance - fair
- 7. Reliability of observer
  - a. Sources
    - (1) Neighbor - yes
    - (2) Police Dept. - No record
    - (3) FBI records
    - (4) Employer - yes

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Page 5  
Essential Elements of Info  
Project "SIGN"

8. Notes relative to observer on
  - a. Sightings in general
  - b. How attention was drawn to object(s) Was looking up at radio tower when observed object, thought it was an insulator or wire when first spotted.
    - (1) Sound
    - (2) Motion
    - (3) Glint of Light X
9. Witnesses - Mr. [REDACTED]
  - a. Addresses - [REDACTED], Waco, Texas
  - b. Occupation - Pilot
  - c. Reliability - Unknown
10. Comments of interrogator re intelligence and character of person interrogated. Subject was well educated, character very good

Relative to Radar Sightings

1. Re radars now operating on ground
  - a. Observations of range, speed, altitude and size of target
  - b. Does target execute any turns? If so, what angle (180°), etc. and what radius of turn. If radius of turn is not observable, how long did the target stay in the turn and what was its speed?
  - c. Note particularly any separation of distant target into separation of a distant target into several targets upon approach. Track all if possible.


If airbourne when object sighted

- a. Were there any radar inductions or extra noise on radio circuits.
- b. Give estimates of size, speed, maneuvers, etc.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~UNCLASSIFIED HEADQUARTERS  
AIR MATERIEL COMMANDIN REPLY ADDRESS BOTH  
COMMUNICATION AND EN-  
VELOPE TO COMMANDING  
GENERAL, AIR MATERIEL  
COMMAND, ATTENTION  
FOLLOWING OFFICE SYMBOL:MCIAKOMCIAKO-3/MS/dw  
WRIGHT FIELD, DAYTON, OHIO  
OCT 18 1948

SUBJECT: Project "Sign"

TO: Commanding Officer  
Waco Air Force Base  
Waco, Texas  
ATTN: 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 Force installations by Headquarters USAF letter dated 6 February 1948, subject "Report of Information on Flying Discs".
2. A report from Headquarters Fourth Army, attached as Inclosure 1, indicates that ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ Waco, Texas, telephone 1180, reported sighting an unidentified aerial object on 23 September 1948 in Santa Fe, New Mexico.
3. It is requested your office interview all witnesses to this observation and obtain detailed, signed statements of the anomaly observed. It is further requested that during the interview the agent obtain as much information as possible relative to the object as outlined in the "Essential Elements of Information" form, attached as Inclosure 2. Any additional evidence that may seem pertinent to the investigation, as indicated in section "General" of the EEI, should be included.
4. Since it would be impractical for your office to attempt to conduct all phases of the investigation as outlined in the EEI, an agency in Albuquerque, New Mexico has been requested to investigate the fully at the scene of the observation.
5. Interested personnel should be advised that the confidential nature of this matter precludes any publicity.

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

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UNCLASSIFIED

K-140

A/C

Subject: Project "Sign"

6. It is requested that all pertinent material be forwarded directly to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, attention MCIAXO-3.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

- 2 Incls  
1. Cy of Rpt  
2. EEI Form

*W. R. Clinger*  
W. R. CLINGERMAN  
Colonel, USAF  
Actg Chief of Intelligence

3F

1st Ind

HEM/mdp

Office of the Intelligence Officer, 3565th Basic Pilot Training Wing,  
Waco Air Force Base, Waco, Texas, 29 October 1948

TO: Commanding General, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright  
Field, Dayton, Ohio, ATTENTION: MCIAXO-3

In compliance with basic communication, Headquarters, Air  
Materiel Command, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, MCIAXO-3, Subject:  
Project "Sign" dated 18 October 1948 the inclosed report is submitted

- 2 Incl  
1. Statement of  
A. R. Angier  
2. Rpt on EEI

*Hugh E. McCall*  
HUGH E. MC CALL  
Captain, USAF  
Intelligence Officer

175  
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10 2

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AGENT R. JRT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

11 October 1948 (ek)

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

452.1 AKADB

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

Mr. [REDACTED], Waco, Texas on 8 October 1948 furnished the following information concerning the unconventional aircraft seen at Santa Fe, New Mexico on 23 September 1948:

a. Weather at time object was sighted was ceiling and visibility unlimited. Object was first seen at 0945.

b. The only drawing of the object that could be furnished would be a perfect circle. Therefore, it was deemed unnecessary to obtain a sketch.

c. The object appeared to be a perfect circle, approximately 100 to 150 feet in diameter and white in color. At first the object seemed to move in a semi-circle, from South to East and finally to North East. This may have been an optical illusion. The estimated altitude was 30,000 feet, and because of this great height, the speed and maneuverability could not be ascertained. During the period of observation this object made no sound and did not create an exhaust trail. After the first observed movement, the object remained stationary.

d. Mr Angier has been a pilot since 1929 and is familiar with all types of conventional aircraft. He observed this object from 0945 until 0950, and then again at 1000. These observations were also made by [REDACTED] Santa Fe, New Mexico. (B-2)

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5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

STANLEY KRISTIANSEN, CIC, Fourth Army

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

*Stanley Kristiansen*

WD-AGO FORM 341  
1 JUN 47  
175

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 66-16-53407-1

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[REDACTED]

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Incident #175 -- page 2

to identify it. This is particularly true if one's eyesight is not of the best. While this hypothesis has little correspondence to either report, as the evidence is stated, it is worth mentioning, especially since it may be met in future citations of incidents.

It seems far more probable that some type of balloon was the object in this case.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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5D-OS/JAF/pmm

5D 24-4

18 February 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT "SIGN"

TO: Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: MCIAXD-3, Captain B. Sneider

Forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary are two Reports of Investigation, in duplicate, subject as above, and both dated 8 February 1949.

2 Incls

1. Rpt of [REDACTED]  
(in dup) dtd 8 Feb 49

2. Rpt of [REDACTED]  
(in dup) dtd 8 Feb 49

H. B. GIBSON  
Colonel, USAF  
District Commander

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22 125



HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO.	DATE 8 February 1949
TITLE  PROJECT "SIGN"	REPORT MADE BY ATC/INM/JH.		
	PERIOD 10, Early 1948		
	OFFICE OF ORIGIN 1045		
	STATUS 8, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio		
CHARACTER	RUC		
REFERENCE	SPECIAL INQUIRY		
SYNOPSIS Report of Investigation of Special Agent J J Tenschner dtd 31 Dec 48			
<p>During the course of the investigation, no information was found pertaining to SUBJECT in the files of the local field office, FBI.</p>			
DISTRIBUTION	ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP	
DD # 3 3	3		
CS, SAC, W/P AFB ATTN: HXIAN-3 3	3		
DR. OSI 3	3		
DD # 17 3	3		
DEGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DIR 5200.10		APPROVED <i>Henry F. Haas</i> HENRY F. HAAS Major, USAF DISTRICT COMMANDER	

Doc 2 - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DETAILS:

AT EL PASO, TEXAS

1. On 9 January 1949 a check of the criminal and subversive files of the local field office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was made and revealed no information pertaining to [REDACTED]

B U C

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

175

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO. <i>100-100000</i>	DATE <i>6 FEBRUARY 1948</i>
TITLE  <b>PROJECT "BIGH"</b>		REPORT MADE AT <i>WHEELING</i>	
		PERIOD <i>10, Kelly AFB</i>	
		OFFICE OF ORIGIN <i>WHEELING</i>	
		STATUS <i>1/7 AFB, Dayton, Ohio</i>	
CHARACTER <i>AD-3</i>			
REFERENCE <i>SPECIAL INQUIRY</i> <i>Report of Special Agent William H. Pittman, D-17,</i> <i>dated 14 November 1947, File No. 100-100000</i>			
SYNOPSIS  Statement obtained from <i>[redacted]</i> substantiated sighting of aerial anomaly over Santa Fe, New Mexico on 23 September 1947. Reliability of observer checked. No derogatory information revealed. Detailed factual data concerning sighting obtained.			
DISTRIBUTION	ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP	
<i>DD Form 1</i> 3			
<i>CS, SAC, W/P AFB</i> <i>ATTE: HEAD-3</i> 2			
<i>DD Form 27</i> 2			
<i>File</i>	APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i>		
UPGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DIB 5200.10		<i>JOHN P. HARRIS</i> <i>Major, USAF</i> <i>10 FEB 1948</i> <i>175</i>	

*Incl 1<sup>2</sup>*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~DETAILS:

1. Investigation was initiated upon the receipt of report of Special Agent William H. Pittson, D-17, dated 13 November 1948, File # 34-8.

2. Having prior knowledge that a letter, SUBJECT "SICP", dated 13 October 1948, and directed to the Base Intelligence Officer, Waco Air Force Base, was on file in the Intelligence Office of the 3505th Basic Pilot Training Wing, Waco Air Force Base, Waco, Texas, with reference to the identical case of sighting serial anomaly at Santa Fe, New Mexico, this Agent contacted Captain EUGEN E. McCALL, Wing Intelligence Officer, Waco Air Force Base, Waco, Texas, on 5 January 1949 and received from him copies of all reports, correspondence, and signed statement of one, Mr. [REDACTED] in regard to this matter. Since this case has already been developed by the local Intelligence Office to the extent requested by Headquarters 10th District SAI, and in view of the fact that information obtained by the Intelligence Officer coincides in every respect with information currently desired, no further investigative processes were undertaken. Letter SUBJECT "SICP", dated 13 October 1948; statement of Mr. A. [REDACTED] and Essential Elements of Information (as applicable), are appended herewith as unnumbered enclosures.

AGENT'S NOTE: A comparison of the statements of Mr. [REDACTED] and Mr. [REDACTED] reveals discrepancies in that Mr. [REDACTED] names the date of sighting the unidentified object as 23 September 1948; whereas Mr. [REDACTED] states that the date was 25 September 1948. Despite the fact that the two men observed the object together, [REDACTED] declared that it appeared to be moving in a semicircle and was visible for approximately fifteen to twenty minutes and left no air trail or exhaust of any kind; whereas Mr. [REDACTED] stated that the object was moving at an estimated speed of from seven hundred to eight hundred miles an hour and emitted a blue glare to the rear. According to Mr. [REDACTED] the object was moving in a direction from northeast to southwest.

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ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION

(Re Sighting(s) of Unidentified Aerial  
Object(s))

PROJECT "ALOW"

1. Date of Sighting:
  - a. 23 September 1948
2. Time of sighting:
  - a. 0040 to 1000 hours
3. Where sighted:
  - a. Ground
    - (1) Santa Fe, New Mexico
    - (2) Southwest from Plaza of Santa Fe, New Mexico
4. Number of objects:
  - a. One (1)
5. Distance of object from observer:
  - a. Not applicable
  - b. 70° angle from horizon
  - c. 25,000 to 30,000 feet
6. Time of sight:
  - a. 13 or 20 minutes
7. Appearance of object:
  - a. White
  - b. Perfectly flat in appearance, Compared to dime in sky
  - c. Construction not determined
  - d. At least 100 to 150 feet in diameter
8. Direction of flight:
  - a. Approximately same vicinity, maybe moved a little South of where sighted

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175

Page 3  
Essential Elements of Info  
Project "Sign"

- 9. Tactics or maneuvers:
  - a. Very little movement if any noticed
- 10. Evidence of exhaust:
  - a. No evidence of exhaust noticed
- 11. Effect of clouds:
  - a. No clouds
- 12. Lights:
  - a. Sighted in Daylight
- 13. Support:
  - a. Rotating cylinder
- 14. Propulsion:
  - a. Not determined
- 15. Air ducts:
  - a. Not determined
- 16. Control and stability:
  - a. Not determined
- 17. Speed - M.P.H.
  - a. Stationary at time sighted
- 18. Sounds:
  - a. No sound determined at time of sighting.
- 19. Manner of disappearance:
  - a. Still in view when I left

Relative to the Observer

- 1. ~~██████████~~
- 2. ~~██████████~~, Waco, Texas
- 3. Neon Sign manufacturer
- 4. Car employer

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
STATEMENT

UNCLASSIFIED

I, [redacted] reside at [redacted], Waco, Texas, hereby voluntarily make the following statement to Captain Hugh E. McCall whom I know to be the Intelligence Officer at Waco Air Force Base, Waco, Texas.

I was standing in front of the Hanka Fe Radio Station, Santa Fe, New Mexico, approximately four (4) blocks Northeast of the Plaza at approximately 0940 hours 23 September 1948, watching a Government plane apparently coming in for a landing at Los Alamos when I noticed a strange object in the sky. I immediately lost interest in the plane and focused my attention on the object.

I was approximately fifty (50) feet from the radio tower and easily lined the object up with the tip of the tower. To get the approximate height of the object, I walked a few feet West, and the object immediately jumped clear out of the picture in relation to the tower. I lined it up again with the tip of the tower and backed off to the North. The object was clear out of the picture again, in relation to the tower. This was when it had the appearance of moving in a semi-circle, South and West, but this could possibly have been an optical illusion. Using this perspective, I judged the altitude to be approximately thirty thousand (30,000) feet. At this altitude it would have to have been at least one hundred (100) to one hundred and fifty (150) feet in diameter to have been visible.

It was a perfectly white object, not being transparent or translucent, and having no metallic sheen. It was perfectly circular in appearance, the side visible to me being flat, with the same as a coin would appear when observed from a distance. There were no projections, air trails, or exhaust of any kind. I called [redacted]'s attention to it, and we went into a building, transacted our business which lasted approximately eight (8) minutes, came outside, and the object was still in approximately the same position.

From the time I first saw the object to the last observation was approximately fifteen (15) to twenty (20) minutes.

I left [redacted] and returned to Waco, Texas by automobile.

I did not observe the object after entering my automobile.

I have read this statement consisting of 1 page, and certify that it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I hereby affix my signature to this statement in the presence of Captain Hugh E. McCall whose signature appears on this page.

[redacted signature]

I, the undersigned, witnessed at Waco, McLennan County, Texas, this 23th day of October 1948, the signing of this statement by [redacted] being in his presence and signing at this request. The said [redacted], voluntarily affixing his signature.

✓ Hugh E. McCall  
✓ HUGH E. McCALL  
Captain, USAF  
Intelligence Officer

RECEIVED OCT 23 1948

✓ Hugh E. McCall  
✓ HUGH E. McCALL  
Captain

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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, 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, 6, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 55, 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,  
168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226,  
227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.

HEADQUARTERS  
AIR WEATHER SERVICE  
Andrews Air Force Base  
Washington 25, D. C.

In Reply  
Refer To: AFS DSS

11 May 1949

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

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

1. Reference is made to letter from your headquarters, MCIAXS, dated 9 March 1949, subject "Unidentified Flying Objects," and first indorsement thereto by this headquarters, dated 31 March 1949.

2. The incident summaries 173 through 233 have been checked against routine weather-balloon ascents made by the Air Force, Navy and Weather Bureau. Comments based on this review are inclosed.

3. It is recommended that the "Guide To Investigation Of Unidentified Aerial Objects" be changed as follows: Item 13, "Direction of Flight of Object," should be clarified so that vertical and horizontal motions are distinguished if possible, and so that motion is specified as the direction towards which the object appears to move. "Relative to Radar Settings" should include a statement of the type of radar set used.

FOR THE CHIEF, AIR WEATHER SERVICE

2 Incls:  
1 - Incident Summaries  
2 - Comments 173 thru 233

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

23 Sept 48

No. 175: Pilot balloon sounding released from Albuquerque at same time as observation. Upper winds show WNW flow hence could not have been the AB balloon. Great differences of opinion exist as to speed and shape of the object. One observer states that the object was not a weather balloon. All evidence indicates that this is true. Conclusion; Not a balloon.

1. Date of Observation 23 Sept 1945 Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_
2. Exact time (local) 0940 to 1000
3. Place of Observation SW from Plaza of Santa Fe, N. M.
4. Position of observer ground
5. What attracted attention to object: Saw object glint while watching another aircraft
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size 100 to 150 feet in diameter
8. Color of object white
9. Shape round flat - comparable to dime
10. Altitude 25,000 to 30,000 feet
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) Stationary - seemed to move in a semi-circle (may have been optical illusion) from S. to E. & finally to NE
14. Time in sight 15 or 20 minutes
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor No sound
17. Trail No evidence of exhaust noticed
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Very little movement if any noticed
21. Manner of disappearance Still in view when observer left
22. Effect on clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather conditions CAVU

(over)

Name and address of observer:

Waco, Texas

Occupation and hobbies:

Neon Sign Manufacturer - own employer. A pilot since 1928

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):

Mr. [redacted] is approx 50 yrs of age, well settled and conducts his own business. He is an experienced pilot, comes from a middle-class family, is a little above average in intelligence and is a good conversationalist. He told a straight forward story and did not contradict himself. He appeared honest in his conviction that he saw an unconventional aircraft. He was convinced the object was not a weather balloon since he is familiar with weather balloons.

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

While watching a government plane come in for a landing at Los Alamos at 0940 hours 23 Sept 1948, Mr. [redacted] noticed something glint in the sun. Focusing his attention on the object he perceived that it was perfectly white, neither transparent or translucent and that it had no metallic sheen. It was perfectly circular, the side visible to him being flat - much as a coin would appear when observed from a distance. It appeared no larger than a dime. Lining it up in relation to the tip of the radio tower he backed off to the north. The object appeared clear out of the picture in relation to the tower. Using this perspective he judged the altitude to be approximately 30,000 ft. At this altitude the object would necessarily be some 100 to 150 feet in size in order to be visible at all. There were no projects, air-trails, or exhaust of any kind. [redacted] called the object to the attention of [redacted] his companion. Both men then went into a building, transacted their business, and at the end of eight minutes, went outside and again perceived the object in approximately the same position. From the time [redacted] first saw the object to his last observation was approximately 15 to 20 minutes. AGENT'S NOTE: A comparison of the above statement with that of Mr. [redacted] (175A) reveals discrepancies in that Mr. [redacted] places the date of sighting as 23 Sept whereas Mr. [redacted] states the date to be 25 Sept 48. Mr. [redacted] thought the object appeared to be moving in a semicircle. He also stated that it was visible for approximately 15 to 20 minutes; that it left no air trail or exhaust and that it moved from South to East and finally to Northeast. Mr. [redacted] stated that the object was moving at an estimated speed of from 700 to 800 MPH and that it emitted a blue glare to the rear. Mr. [redacted] stated the object was moving in a direction from northeast to southwest.

1. Date of Observation 25 Sept 48 Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_
2. Exact time (local) 0930
3. Place of Observation Santa Fe, N. M.
4. Position of observer ground
5. What attracted attention to object 3: - Attention called to object  
by Mr. [REDACTED]
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size 150 to 200 feet estimated size
8. Color of object bright silvery object
9. Shape oblong egg shape
10. Altitude 30,000 feet
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer 7 miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s) Northeast - Southwest
14. Time in sight
15. Speed 700 or 800 MPH
16. Sound and odor None
17. Trail Bluish appearance to rear
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Straight course
21. Manner of disappearance Faded from view
22. Effect on clouds
23. Additional information concerning object A sort of a sunflower shape at the  
end of object seemed to be apart from it but close on its tail
24. Weather conditions CAVU

(over)

Name and address of observer: Mr. [REDACTED]

Occupation and hobbies: Building Superintendent, drawing, mechanical inclinations, also woodworking & photography

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):

A check of the criminal and subversive files of the local field office of the FBI revealed no information pertaining to [REDACTED]

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Mr. [REDACTED] saw a bright silvery oblong or egg-shaped object which appeared to have a speed of 700 to 800 MPH and which seemed to have a sort of sunflower shape at the end of it but apart from it and close on its tail. He perceived a bluish appearance to rear of the object which could have been exhaust. To him the object appeared silvery instead of white and oblong rather than round. Mr. [REDACTED] thought the object remained stationary or that it seemed to move in a semi-circle from south to east and finally to northeast. Mr. [REDACTED] stated that the direction of flight was from northeast to southwest.