

6/1

Incident #225

(Also 23 Nov 1947
late 1947)

23 or 24 Nov 1947
10 mi. E. Wash, N.H.

Army Col

DAY IN TO ATIC

Color Bright White

Shape Descended slowly

Altitude 400-500'

Direction of Movement

Type of Surface/Weather Ground

Manner of Movement Slow Vertical Descent

Flares
Pat. Wilson

DATE OF REPORT

TIME OF OCCURRENCE 2300 HRT

OBJECT Ball

DESCRIPTION Basketball (1' diameter)

ORIENTATION Vertical

NO. IN GROUP 1

REPORTED BY

ORGANIZATION

Temporary ATIC Form 579
(Rev. 5-51)



also advised that as far as he knows no reports were being held by the National Guard of the Reserve Units in New Mexico.

6. Colonel [redacted] did not report any of these incidents, but upon receiving information of similar occurrences having been observed, did volunteer the information contained in this report.

7. On 9 December 1948, Dr. [redacted], Director, Institute of Meteoritics, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico, was interviewed in his office by Special Agent [redacted]. Dr. [redacted] produced his credentials which indicated that during the 2nd World War he was Technical Director, Operations [redacted] Section, [redacted] 2nd Air Force, and is closely associated in an official capacity with Dr. H. S. [redacted], Executive Director, Commission on [redacted] and Geography, Research and Development Board, Pentagon, Washington, D. C. In connection with this capacity he has a secret and a top secret clearance by the Air Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

8. Dr. [redacted] explained the behavior of meteors and stated that these phenomena being investigated could not be explained or be considered as unknown. He advised, in view of the unexplained Memphis, Tennessee, incident, the occurrence at Los Alamos, New Mexico, and the proclaimed meteorite fall in Angola, West Africa, that the present phenomenon should be investigated and an attempt be made to identify them.

9. On 13 December 1948, Dr. [redacted] gave a statement concerning an incident, which he witnessed at 9:03 p.m., on 12 December 1948. Dr. LA PAZ's statement is included as Incl. No. 1.

10. On 11 December 1948, Major [redacted], 5th Army Liaison Intelligence Officer, Santa Rosa, New Mexico, advised S/A H. C. [redacted], that there were no rumors in this area, and no experiments involving the use of rockets or flares.

11. On 12 December 1948, Col. [redacted], Base Commander, Kirtland Air Force Base, Kirtland Field, New Mexico, was interviewed by S/A [redacted]. Col. [redacted] advised that he knows of no aerial rumors, and feels that in the event that there were, he would be so advised.

AT CHARLES, ARIZONA

12. On 7 December 1948, S/A [redacted], Special Agent, Williams Air Force Base, [redacted], was visited by Special Agent [redacted]. [redacted] advised that he had no information regarding the incident at [redacted] and [redacted] on 7/12/48. [redacted] advised that he had no information regarding the incident at [redacted] on 7/12/48. [redacted] advised that he had no information regarding the incident at [redacted] on 7/12/48.

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

BASIC: Ltr fr 17th Dist OSI, KAFB, to CG, KAFB, dat 15 Dec 43
Subj: Unknown (Aerial Phenomenon)

CO
HEADQUARTERS, Kirkland Air Force Base, Kirkland Field, Texas
TO: Commanding General, AIG, Wright-Patterson AF Base, Dayton, Ohio

1. Basic communication and inclosures (renumbered) forwarded for your information and for such action as you deem necessary.

2. Attention is particularly invited to the report of [redacted] Inclosure No. 2, and to his letter to the District Commanding Officer of Office of Special Investigations, dated 13 December 1943, Inclosure No. 3.

3. The undersigned concurs in the recommendations set forth in Paragraph 4 of Inclosure No. 3; he has locally placed [redacted] of the first and second recommendations enumerated therein.

3 Incls:
1- Rpt of Investigation
21-8 (12 pgs)
2- Incl 1 to Rpt #21-8
(3 pgs)
3- Incl letter fr Dr.
Ltr to CG 17th Dist
OSI dat 13 Dec 43 (2 pgs)

EROLD A. GUNN
Colonel, USAF
Commanding

DOWNGRADED AT 6 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 18 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

13TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION
KIRTLAND AFB, KIRTLAND FIELD, NEW MEXICO

13 December 1950

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomenon)

TO : Commanding Officer
Kirtland Air Force Base
Kirtland Field, New Mexico

1. The attached report is forwarded as a matter of information and whatever action the Commanding Officer may deem advisable.

2. It is recommended that two (2) copies of the enclosed report be forwarded by the most expeditious means to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.

1 Incl:
Rpt of Invest re subj

DOYLE RESS /
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

DOWNGRADED AT 5 YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 10 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

13 Dec 1950
rt

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

~~SECRET~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #225 -- near Vaughn, New Mexico

It is difficult to ascertain whether the objects described in this incident belong to the general group of "New Mexico green flashes," or not. The description here is sufficiently different from the majority to indicate that they do not: the characteristic green color is not mentioned.

It is improbable, however, that the three separate sightings, all occurring at approximately 2200 hours and in the same locality, can be explained as astronomical phenomena. Furthermore, the stated altitude and distance are entirely out of keeping; this fact might be discounted as an illusion, common in the observation of fireballs, if the instance were isolated. The weight of the evidence, however, inclines to the conclusion that the objects were man-made devices and part of some scientific experiments, so common in that section of the country.

UNCLASSIFIED
~~SECRET~~

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, MCIAMS, 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

7-3012-13

3-11-110 ✓

No. 225: No date given. Object sighted within 15 minutes of release time of pilot balloon soundings at Albuquerque at low altitude, 500 feet. Exploded in red spray at 200 feet. This exact phenomena occurred on three different occasions at the same time which would seem to eliminate possibility of burning weather balloon.

INCIDENT SUMMARY SHEET

latter part of 47

Incident No. 225

1. Date and Time of Observation: 3 or 4th Nov 48 - 2130 hours & 23 Nov 48
(All sightings occurred approx 2200 hours)
2. Where Sighted: 10 miles east of Vaughn, N. M. - Highway 60 on 3 or 4th Nov 48
3. Observer's Position: ground - while driving
(i. e., ground, air, control tower, etc.)
4. Name and Address of Observer: Col [REDACTED] Inf., Executive,
New Mexico Military District
5. Occupation and/or hobbies: As above
6. Attention Attracted by: N/S
7. Number of Object(s) Seen: 1
8. Size of Object(s): 1 foot in diameter *slightly larger than football*
9. Color of Object(s): bright white changing to bright fiery red color
as it exploded
10. Shape (Sketch if Possible) ball
11. Nature of Luminosity: "like miniature sun"
(directed beam of light?)
12. Altitude of Object: From 500 ft when first observed to 100-200 ft
(estimated) from ground where it burst in a spray of reddish color
13. Estimated Distance of Object from Observer: 40 to 60 yds on one sighting
and about 400 yds at another
14. Estimated Speed of Object: Slow descent
15. Time in Sight: N/S - Had time to get out of car and watch object which
appeared to explode 40 to 60 yds in front of him at an altitude of 200 ft.
16. Tactics: slow vertical descent
17. Sound Made by Object(s): none - although he was within 40 to 60 yds of obj.
& outside of car. See "Details" at Albuquerque, N.M.
18. Direction of Flight of Object(s) Vertical descent
19. Apparent Construction: fireball
20. Effect on Clouds: N/S - weather clear
21. Exhaust Trail (Color of): N/S
22. Manner of Disappearance: exploded - fragments assuming a fiery red color
which descended toward earth like numerous sparks but extinguished
23. Weather Conditions at Time of Sighting: Clear before reaching
ground
24. Familiarities Noted: Noticed always around 2200 hours -
in the vicinity of Vaughn - Highway 60
25. Summary of Incident: (over)
(See attached page)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED
HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

12-694
17

452.1 AKADB

20 December 1948

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
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, same subject as above, this Headquarters, dated 20 December 1948, is forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Eustis L. Poland

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

1 Incl
As stated

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 6200.10

SENTING 325

UNCLASSIFIED

225

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE 20 December 1948

PREPARING OFFICE

Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

SUBJECT

Unconventional Aircraft

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE:

COMPLETELY RELIABLE A
 USUALLY RELIABLE B
 FAIRLY RELIABLE C
 NOT USUALLY RELIABLE D
 UNRELIABLE E
 RELIABILITY UNKNOWN F

OF INFORMATION:

CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES . . . 1
 PROBABLY TRUE 2
 POSSIBLY TRUE 3
 DOUBTFULLY TRUE 4
 IMPROBABLE 5
 TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED 6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The following information has been received from the Fourth Army Intelligence Liaison Officer, Sandia Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico, dated 6 December 1948:

"Colonel [redacted], Inf., Executive, New Mexico Military District reports as follows:

"On 3 or 4 November 1948 at approximately 2130 hours, I observed a ball of light, reddish white in color, 1 foot in diameter, falling vertically. The ball burst 100-200 feet from the ground in a spray of reddish color which extinguished before reaching the ground. This occurred about 400 yards north of the road on which I was driving. The location was approximately 10 miles east of Vaughn, New Mexico, on Highway 60. (B-2)

"On 23 November 1948 at approximately 2130 hours, I was driving west on Highway 60, about 10 miles west of Vaughn, New Mexico. I observed a ball of light, descending vertically, which burst 100-200 feet from the ground. The conditions and appearance were the same as occurred on 3 - 4 November." (B-2)

"Colonel [redacted] stated that he did not report the incidents as he thought they might have been connected with some Air Force exercises. He further stated that he heard no sound or saw no aircraft during either incident, which is understandable as he was travelling in a closed automobile. Weather conditions were clear." (B-2)

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

ENTR 225

UNCLASSIFIED

225

INT, SAC: BIC, El Paso; File.

WD - AGO FORM 568
1 JUN 47

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-53396-1

Incident: 225

Colonel [redacted] first observed an unusual aerial phenomena during the latter part of 1947. This occurred in the vicinity of Vaughn, N. M. The phenomena appeared approximately 400-500 ft above the ground when first observed and was descending slowly and steadily in a vertical manner toward the earth. It appeared slightly larger than a basketball, bright white in color like a miniature sun. At a point approximately 200 feet above the surface of the earth, the object appeared to explode although no noise was apparent. By this time the Colonel had stopped his automobile and had gotten out to watch the object. The explosion or disintegration appeared to be taking place some 40 to 60 yards distant and still no noise was noticed. At this time the fragments assumed a fiery red color and descended toward earth like numerous sparks being extinguished before touching the ground. At the time Col Hayes was on Highway 60, near a railroad and separated from the vicinity where the fragments were landing by a fence. He did not cross the fence or investigate further.

On 3 or 4 Nov 48 at approximately 2130 hours he observed a ball of light, reddish white in color, 1 foot in diameter, falling vertically. The ball burst 100-200 feet from the ground in a spray of reddish color which extinguished before reaching the ground - this occurred about 400 yards north of the road on which he was driving - 10 miles east of Vaughn, N. M. - Highway 60.

On 23 Nov 1948 at approximately 2130 hours, Col [redacted] was driving west on Highway 60 - approximately 10 miles west of Vaughn, N. M. He again observed a ball of light descending vertically. It burst 100-200 feet from the ground - Conditions and appearance were the same as on 3 and 4th Nov.

Col [redacted]

On the last 2 sightings/saw no aircraft and heard no sound which is understandable since he was traveling in a closed automobile. Weather conditions were clear.

EVALUATION B-2.

See Incident # 223 for details

civilians, Pioneer Flight [redacted], were interviewed by S/A MELVIN R. [redacted]. This interview was conducted at Pioneer Airline Operations, Highland Air Force Base, Highland Field, New Mexico. [redacted] advised that at 2135 hours, 5 December 1957, they were approaching Los Vegas, New Mexico, in a C-47 type airplane at an altitude of 9,000 feet, with a compass heading of 072 degrees. They observed directly ahead and slightly above their altitude, in the vicinity of the Ventana Mission, a phenomenon which first appeared as a bright white flash, then an object came into view which was described as being a spherical, orange color. This object at first appeared to be coming directly toward their airplane, then arched downward and disappeared from sight. This object was in view for only a few seconds and no estimate could be made of the size or distance of the object. Both [redacted] were of the opinion that it would have been impossible for anyone in the passenger compartment to have observed this phenomenon. Miss [redacted] stated that she did not observe this object and added that to the best of her knowledge all of the passengers were asleep.

NOTE: It is to be noted that there is a discrepancy in the color of Capt. VAN LLOYD's initial report and that obtained by interview.

5. On 3 December 1957, Colonel [redacted], Infantry, Civilian Component Affairs Officer, Department Military District, was interviewed in his office, Building 243, Highland Air Force Base, Highland Field, New Mexico. This interview was conducted by S/A JOHN J. SHARR, Jr., S/A MELVIN R. [redacted], and [redacted]. Colonel [redacted] advised that he had first observed an unusual aerial phenomenon during the latter part of 1957. This occurred in the vicinity of Lordsburg, New Mexico. The phenomenon appeared to be approximately four or five hundred feet above the ground when first observed and descended slowly and steadily in a vertical manner toward the earth. The object appeared to be slightly larger than a basketball, bright white in color, like a miniature sun. Upon reaching a point approximately one hundred feet above the surface of the earth, the object appeared to explode although no noise was apparent. Colonel [redacted] got out of his automobile and got out to watch the object. At this time the explosion, or disintegration, appeared to be taking place some forty to sixty yards distant, and still no noise was noticed. At this time the fragments showed a fiery red color and descended toward earth like miniature meteors, being extinguished before touching the ground. Colonel [redacted] stated that he was on Highway 540 at this time, near a railroad and separated from the vicinity where the fragments were landing by a fence. Colonel [redacted] did not cross the fence or investigate further.

6. Colonel [redacted] advised that on [redacted] 1 and 2 November 1957, on a train on 23 November 1957, he observed [redacted] aerial phenomenon. These objects were seen in the [redacted] vicinity of the [redacted] phenomenon on Highway 540 near Lordsburg, New Mexico. All three of these incidents occurred at [redacted] [redacted] [redacted].

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DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10