

PROJECT 10073 RECORD Incident #253

ATIC NO. _____

DATE OF INFO 6 Feb 49 /

AP NO. _____

LOCATION: 12° 30' N - 81° 10' W Caribbean

REPORT NO. _____

SOURCE Ship's crew

DATE OF REPORT _____

DATE IN TO ATIC _____

TIME OF SIGHTING 1630 to 1700 Local

COLOR Silver to yellow to red

SHAPE Sphere

SPEED _____
Estimated

SIZE 12" - 14" Diameter

ALTITUDE _____
Measured

COURSE 310° - N/S - 201°

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED _____

NO. IN GROUP 3 Separate

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Visual - Sea

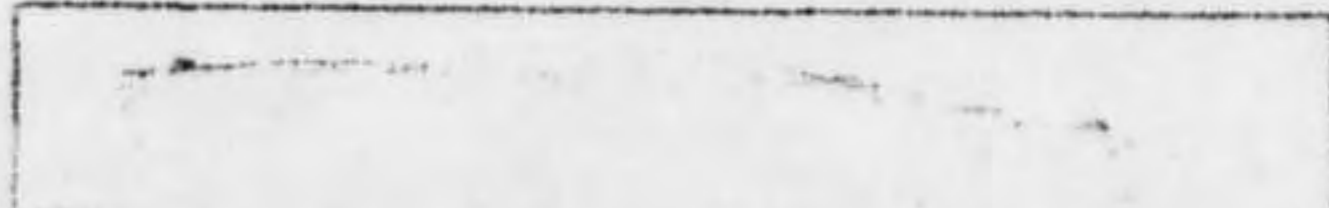
NOISE None

MANEUVERS S and L

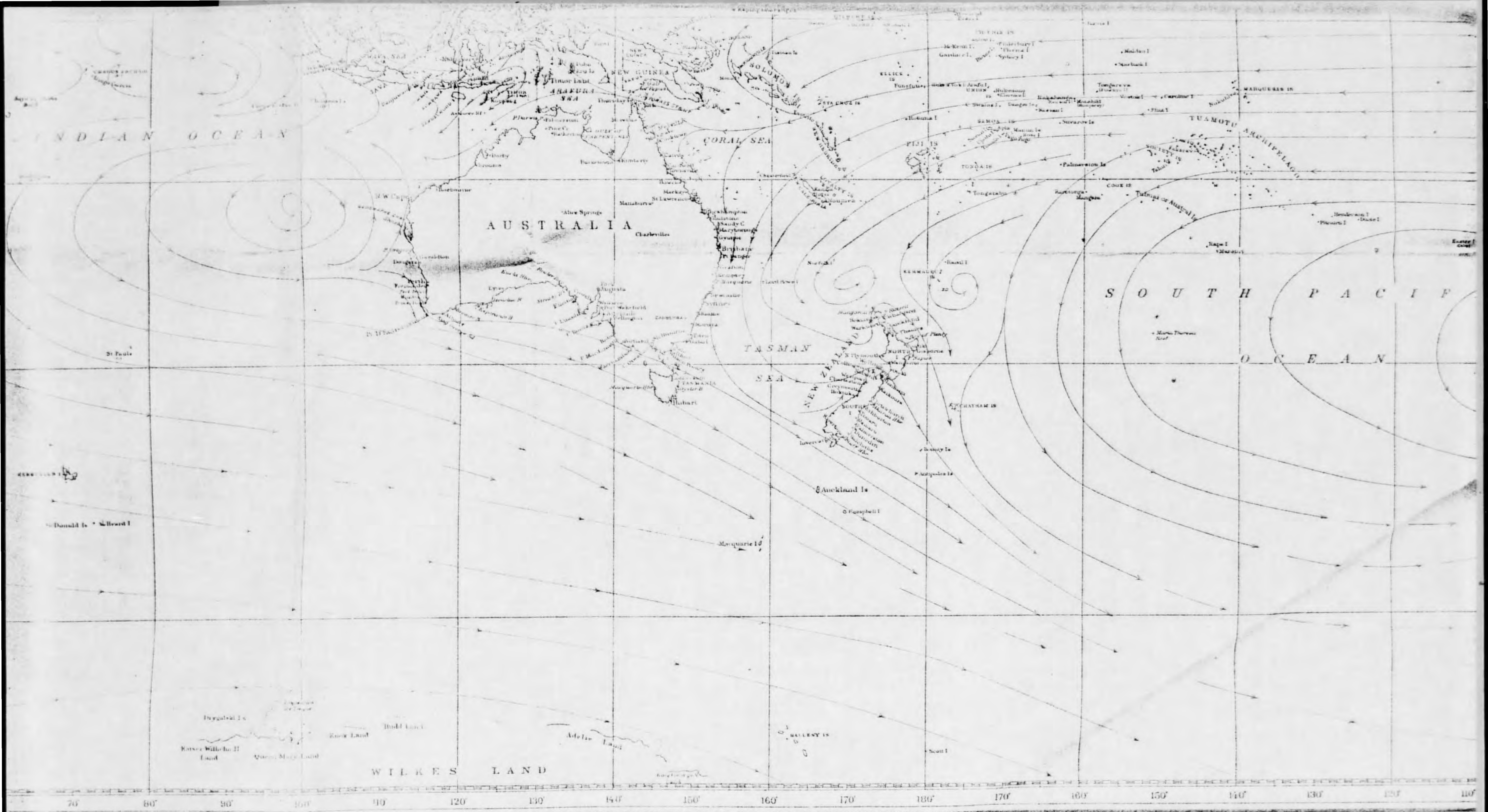
PHOTOS _____ SKETCHES _____

Remarks: Could have been balloons from two Soviet ships in area.

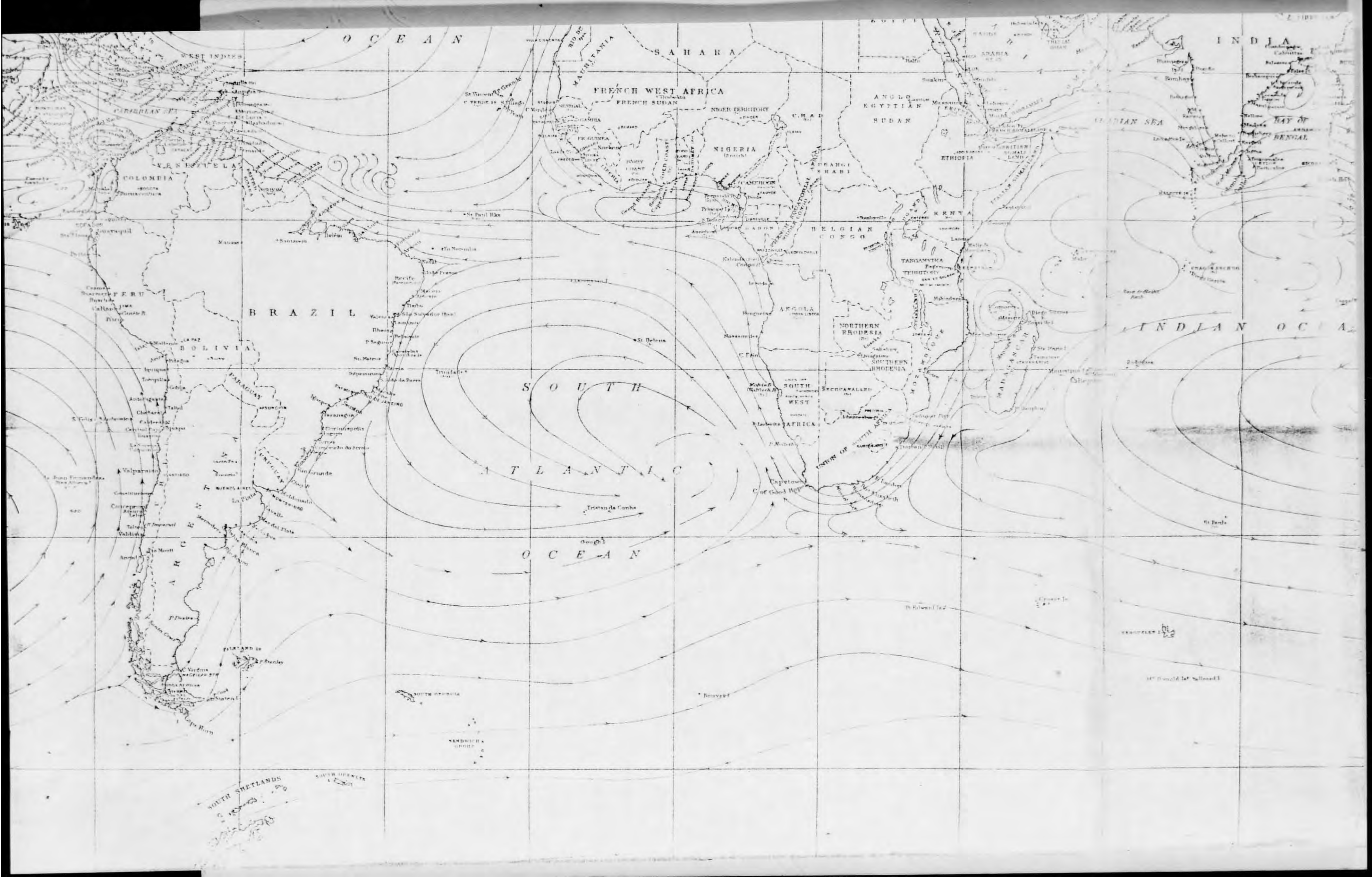
Standard ATIC Form 329
(1 Jan 52)



Balloons



BASED ON ALL CURRENT
BY THE HYDROGRAPH



UNCLASSIFIED

253

HEADQUARTERS CARIBBEAN AIR COMMAND
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL

D-21

IN REPLY

REFER TO: 373.2

ALBROOK AIR FORCE BASE, C.Z.

14 FEB 1949

SUBJECT: Unidentified Aerial Objects Vicinity of San Andres Islands,
Caribbean Sea

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

1. In accordance with Restricted letter, Hq USAF, subject, "Reporting of Information on 'Flying Discs'", 26 February 1948, the following report is submitted.

2. At 2030 hours on 8 February 1949, Captain [redacted] of the S. S. Antigua, a United Fruit vessel, berthed at Cristobal Pier area, Canal Zone, was interviewed regarding three aerial objects sighted by officers of his ship on voyage to Canal Zone from New Orleans, Louisiana.

3. Captain [redacted] stated that the first object, which appeared to be a disc, was sighted at 1630 on 6 February 1949 at 12 degrees 30 minutes north latitude, 81 degrees 10 minutes west longitude, in the close vicinity of the San Andres Islands. The S. S. Antigua's course was 152 degrees at 16 knots. When sighted, the object was at an altitude of 60 degrees from the horizon as determined by the ship's sextant in the direction of 129 degrees. As it passed directly over the ship, several officers described it as a round, silver-colored sphere. Although [redacted] had difficulty in determining its height, he estimated the diameter as 12 to 14 inches. As it passed overhead, bearing 310 degrees, it changed in color from silver to yellow to red and went out of sight in the dusk at an altitude of 22 degrees. The wind at the time was estimated at force four, approximately 29.

4. At 1700 hours on the same date two more objects were sighted, one off the port bow at an altitude between 50 and 60 degrees, and the other off the starboard bow bearing 201 degrees at an altitude of 47 degrees. Both disappeared abeam in the dusk. None showed any luminosity or motivating power.

5. The circumstances described suggest a strong possibility that these objects are some type of weather balloons. However, it is improbable that any weather balloons released from the Canal Zone could float to this position due to the prevailing wind currents of this area. The

UNCLASSIFIED

DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVAL
NOW DECLASSIFIED AFTER 15 YEARS
DECLASSIFIED DIR 5200.10 F 1
NOV 1964

1-3712-15

UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr, Hq CAirC, Albrook AFB, C.Z., dtd 9 Feb 49, subj, "Unidentified Aerial Objects Vicinity of San Andres Islands, Caribbean Sea"


changing colors of the object can probably be attributed to the reflection of the setting sun.

6. On 7 February 1948 two Russian 300-ton sloops (Omar and Blesk) arrived at Colon, Republic of Panama, from St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, en-route to Vladivostok via Honolulu, Hawaii. The backtrack computation of wind and course and point of sighting lead a possibility that the objects were in free flight after release from these two ships which followed a direct course from St. Thomas to Colon. These two vessels are presently awaiting repairs at Colon, and two others of the same type are presently in St. Thomas undergoing repairs. Any further developments will be promptly reported.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incl
Navigational Chart

Info cys to:
D/I, USAF
D/I, CC
DIO, 15th ND


LADSON G. ESKRIDGE, JR.
COLONEL, USAF
ASST CHIEF OF STAFF

UNCLASSIFIED

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

UNCLASSIFIED

INCIDENT NO. 253

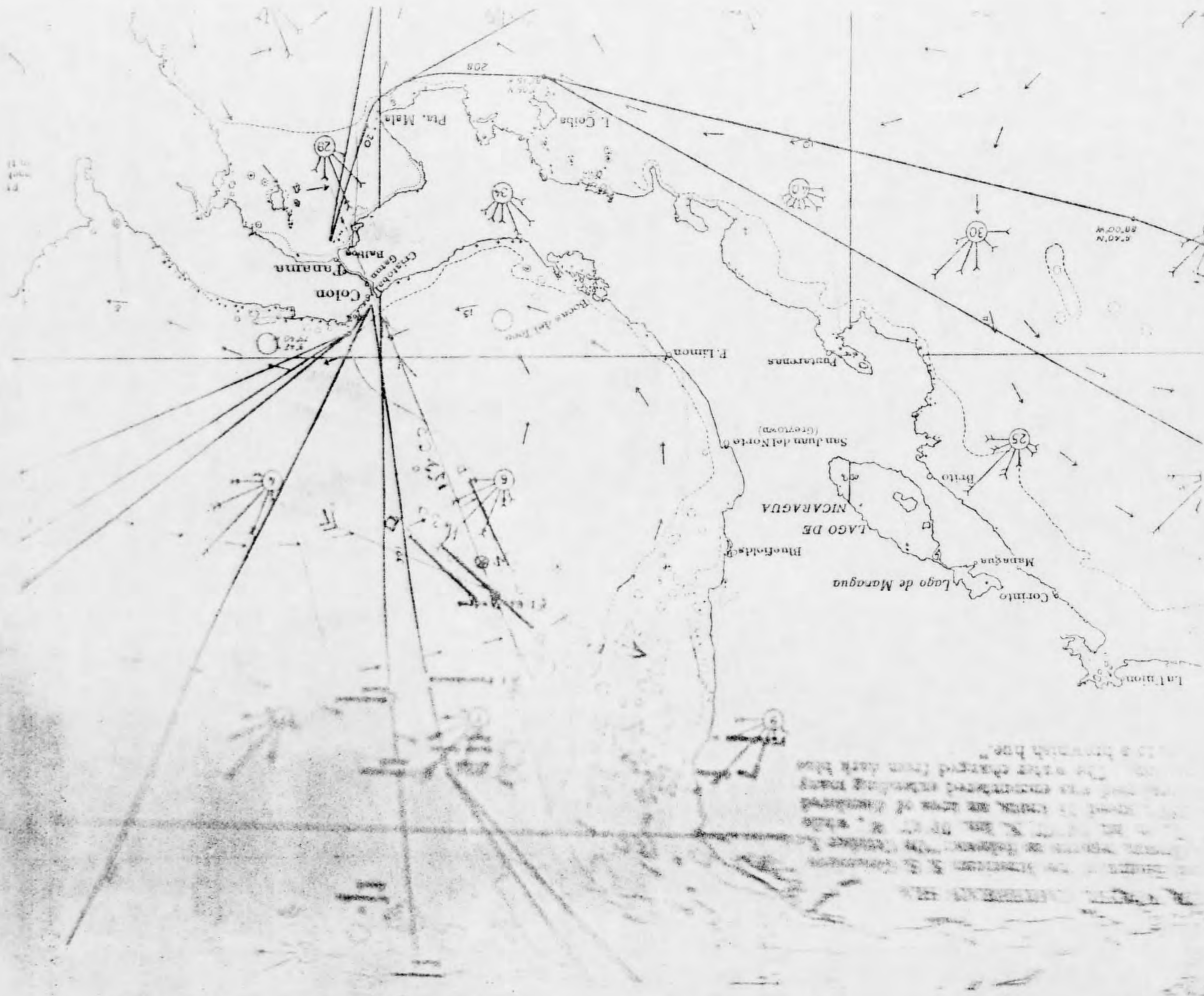
1. Date of Observation 6 Feb 49 Date of Interview 8 Feb 49
2. Exact time (local) 1630 to 1700
3. Place of Observation 12° 30' N 81° 10' W
Vicinity of San Andres Islands, Caribbean Sea
4. Position of observer At sea f/S. S. Antigua
5. What attracted attention to object :-
6. Number of objects 3
7. Apparent size 12 to 14 inches in diameter
8. Color of object silver changing to yellow to red
9. Shape Sphere
10. Altitude 1st: 60° f/horizon; 2d: Between 50 and 60°; 3d: 47°
(to 22°)
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) 1st: 310°; 2d: N/S 3d: 201°
~~312°~~
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail
18. Luminosity None
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance Disappeared in the dusk
22. Effect on clouds
23. Additional information concerning object Thought to be some type of balloon
released f/two Russian 300-ton sloops (Omar & Blesk)
24. Weather conditions

(over)

UNCLASSIFIED

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

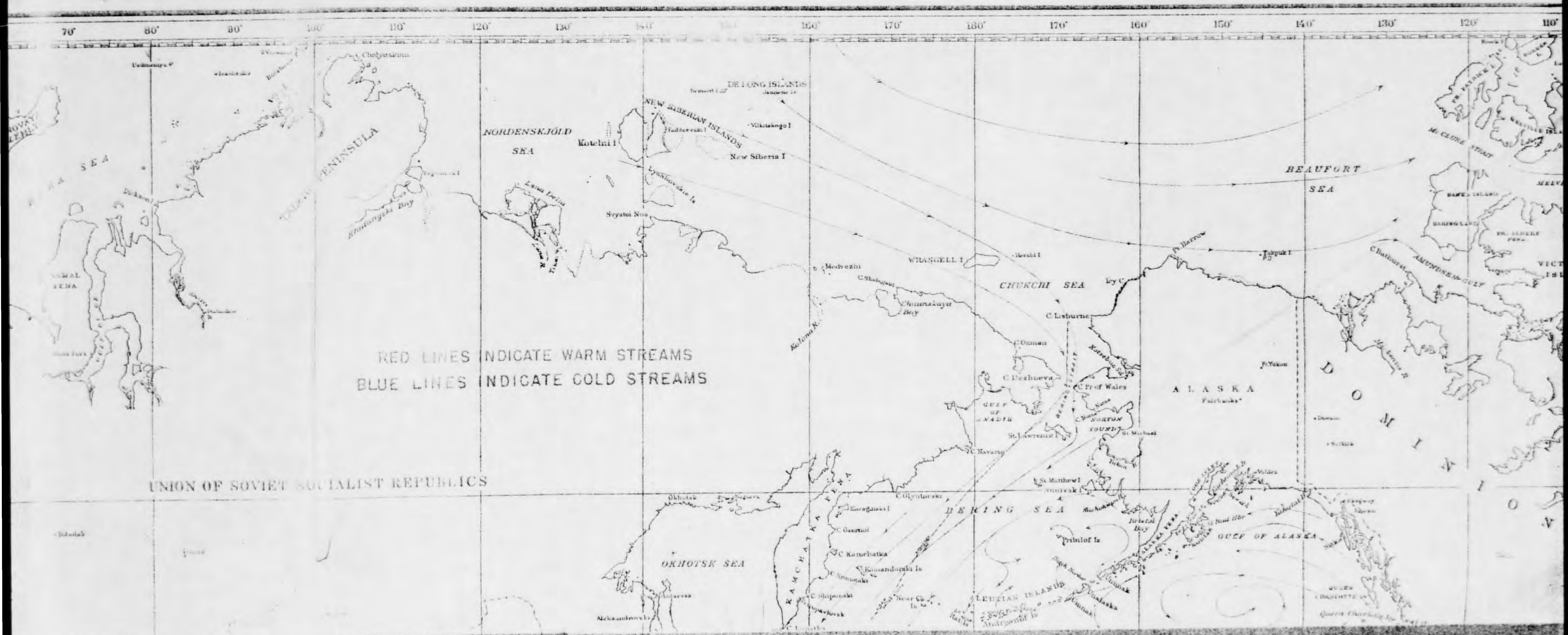
This case includes
DNE (1) Negative of
CARIBBEAN SEA 8"X10"



The water changed from dark blue
 to a brownish hue.
 The water changed from dark blue
 to a brownish hue.
 The water changed from dark blue
 to a brownish hue.
 The water changed from dark blue
 to a brownish hue.



STREAM DRIFT



RED LINES INDICATE WARM STREAMS
BLUE LINES INDICATE COLD STREAMS

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

ALASKA
Fairbanks

OF THE WORLD

