

Incident # 276

NAME John W. ...

APPROX. ALT. -----

REFUGEE ALT. -----

DATA OF OBSERVATION -----

TIME OF OCCURRENCE 1835

DIR. -----

TYPE -----

COLOUR SS and Downward

NO. 16 G. ID. 1

VELOCITY -----

PERIOD ----- SKETCHES -----

Non-Sacred ATIC Form 389
(2 Jan 52)

DATE OF INFO 8 Mar 1949

LOCATION Los Alamos, New Mexico

SOURCE Guard Stations

DATA IN TO ATIC -----

COLOR Blue-white, Greenish-white
Slower than meteor

SPED Lazy manner

ALTITUDE Cloud layer

LENGTH OF TIME OF FLIGHT 2-4 sec.

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

MANEUVERS Horizontal and gliding down at
60° angle

Astro Comm.

INCIDENT NO. 276

1. Date of Observation 8 March 49 Date of Interview 8 March 49
2. Exact Time (local) 1836
3. Place of Observation Los Alamos, AEC area, New Mexico, $35^{\circ} 53' 09''$ North
 $106^{\circ} 14' 54''$ West
4. Position of observer Ground in observation tower
5. What attracted attention to object. Light
6. Number of objects One
7. Apparent size 1/4 size of Sun
8. Color of object Intense white light with slight green tint
Elliptical, pointed at ends, similar to fuselage of ME 109 (German).
9. Shape 12,000 - 15,000'
10. Altitude First Position 275° Last Position 289° .
11. Direction from observer Apparently one-half mile.
12. Distance from observer South to North descending at 45° angle.
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
1 to 2 seconds.
14. Time in sight Approx. that of twin engine plane - drifting toward earth.
15. Speed None
16. Sound and odor Object appeared to be flaming.
17. Trail Self-luminous, Appeared to be flaming.
18. Luminosity
19. Projections Level flight and descent at even 45° .
20. Maneuvers Disappeared into clouds.
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds Central part seemed to be solid
23. Additional Information Concerning Object colored fuselage, with a flame or glow surrounding it.
overcast at 8,000' Object seen in open space in cloud
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Astro (meteors)

Name and address of observer: W. E. Patterson
AESS, Los Alamos, New Mexico.

Occupation and hobbies: Inspector Atomic Energy Security Service.

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

Complete investigation relative to Intelligence and stability made as a requisite for employment.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

This inspector was extremely startled by this object as the first impression was that it was a plane on fire and about to crash nearby. As the eyes became adjusted to the distance this Inspector had the distinct impression of seeing a silver or aluminum covered body inside the flame or glow that resembled that part of a fuselage of a war-time German type plane from behind the wing to just in front of the tail assembly. This inspector further had the impression that the object was actually flaming and that the flames were quite visible. The overall shape of the object including the flame or light was much like the accompanying sketch. The object appeared less than 1/mile from the observer and the outlines were very distinct.

NOTE: Sketch referenced above not received.

GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

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Incident No. _____

1. Date of Observation 3 Mar 1949 Date of Interview 3 Mar 49
2. Exact time of observation (local) 1536 hours
3. Place of Observation: 35 deg 52 min 33 sec N
(Map Coordinates) 106 deg 16 min 40 sec W
4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location of - give details):
Station 106, Los Alamos, New Mexico; inside.
5. What attracted attention to object: Light.
6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping:
One
7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length):
1/3
8. Color of object: Bright white with slight greenish tinge.
9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object):
2/3
10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead);
Just above horizon; about level with tops of peaks.
11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north):
Start at 275 deg; end at 289 deg.
12. Distance from observer (Distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be):
2/3
13. Direction of flight of object (s):
South to North
14. Time in sight: 1 to 2 seconds
15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance):
Estimated at 800 MPH
16. Sound and odor: None

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17. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)

N/S

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescent, other - degree of brilliance):

Self-luminous

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.):

N/S

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path):

N/S

21. Manner of disappearance:

Either went out or disappeared behind cloud cover.

22. Effect on clouds:

N/S

23. Additional information concerning object:

Appeared to parallel the mountain range.

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:

Overcast at 6,000 feet.

Name and address of observer: **Inspector Leonard Lang, AESS, Los Alamos,
New Mexico**

Occupation and hobbies:

Atomic Energy Security Service Inspector (Guard)

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer
(Check neighbors, police dept., FBI records, employer, etc.):

CBI requisite for employment; intelligence and stability required.

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting,
or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?

**Saw at first through glass window; went out and saw with no
obstruction just as disappearance.**

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TO: Lt. E. D. Hightower, Protective Force Headquarters
FROM: Inspector Leonard Lang
TIME: 1836
DATE: March 8, 1949
DIRECTION: South to North (F 275° - True - L 289° True)
SPEED: 800 Miles per hour
COLOR: Bright White with a slight greenish tint
ALTITUDE: 12000 to 15000 ft.
POINT OF OBSERVATION: Station 106 (106° 16' 40" W - 35° 52' 33" N)
SOUND: None
OBSERVER: Inspector Leonard Lang

DURATION OF OBSERVATION: 1 to 2 seconds

STATEMENT OF OBSERVER: I was sitting in the tower at my station, and glanced out the northwest window just as a bright white object went by on the western horizon. I jumped up and ran outside just in time to see the object either go out or disappear into the cloud cover. I checked the time which was 1836 hrs. The object was traveling from south to north, roughly parallel to the range of mountains and at approximately the same height as the top of the peaks.

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

452.1 AKADB

UNCLASSIFIED

15 March 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

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

1. Reference letter Intelligence Division, GSUSA, CSGID 452.1, 25 March 1948, subj, "Unconventional Aircraft," and to Control No. A-1917.

2. Inclosed Summary of Information, this office, subject and file as above, 15 March 1949, re unidentified flying light observed in New Mexico on 8 March 1949 at 1835 hours, 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 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

-5-47
N-1760

Basic Ltr to AMC fr Hq Fourth Army, dtd 15 Mar 49, "Unconventional Aircraft"

1st Ind

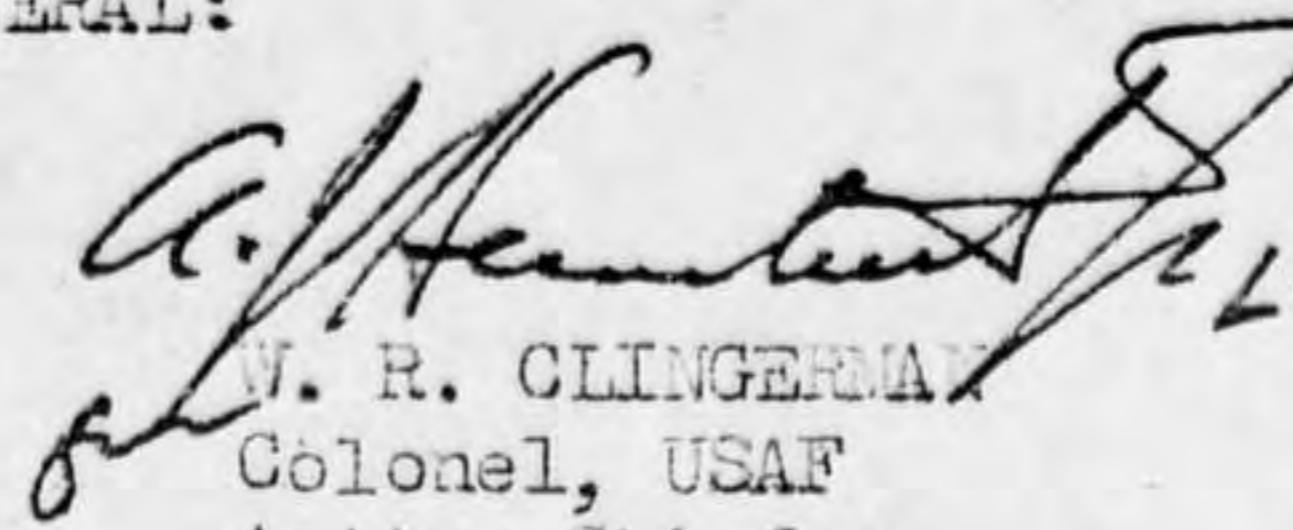
DCIAKO-3/HIS/rm

Hq AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio MAR 25 1949

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

1. It is requested that source of report in basic communication be contacted for further information.
2. In this and future reports concerning unidentified flying objects, as much of the information outlined in inclosed Guide to Investigation as is available, should be included.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:



W. R. CLINGERMAN
Colonel, USAF
Acting Chief
Intelligence Department

1 Incl

"Guide to
Investigation"
(dup)

452.1 AKADB

2nd Ind

Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, 2 May 1949

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

Guide to Investigation is forwarded as requested.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

2 Incls

1-S/I, subj, "Unidentified Flying Light Phenomena,"
9 Mar 49

2-Guide to Investigation re observation 8 Mar 49, Los Alamos, N.M., w/3 incls

EUSTIS L. POLAND

Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

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DATE

9 March 1949

PREPARING OFFICE

Fourth Army Intelligence Liaison Officer, Sandia Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico

SUBJECT

Unidentified Flying Light Phenomena

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

1. An unidentified flying light was observed in New Mexico on 8 March, 1949 at 1835 hours. Observations are reported from:

Kirtland AFB control tower
Los Alamos, AEC Project.

2. (a) Kirtland AFB reports luminous object, blue white in color in northwest horizon. Descent vertical, exploding before reaching earth. No sound indicated.

(b) Los Alamos guard station #106 reports luminous object, greenish white in color, west of southwest. Direction of flight southeast on horizontal plane. Altitude at or below partial cloud cover. Duration of sighting 2 to 4 seconds. Speed slower than meteor or falling star. No noise heard.

(c) Los Alamos guard station #103 reports luminous object, greenish white with billowy white flaming tail. Seen west of southwest by observer, gliding in a 60° downward angle. Was at altitude of cloud layer. Speed undetermined but described as floating or lazy manner. Observed for 2 to 4 seconds. No noise heard.

11-21-L-6-1
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DISTRIBUTION

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE

15 March 1949

PREPARING OFFICE

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

SUBJECT

Unconventional Aircraft
452.1 AKADB

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 was submitted to this headquarters on 9 March 1949.

"An unidentified flying light was observed in New Mexico on 8 March, 1949 at 1835 hours. Observations are reported from:

Kirtland AFB control tower
Los Alamos, AEC Project.

"Kirtland AFB reports luminous object, blue white in color in northwest horizon. Descent vertical, exploding before reaching earth. No sound indicated.

"Los Alamos guard station #106 reports luminous object, greenish white in color, west of southwest. Direction of flight southeast on horizontal plane. Altitude at or below partial cloud cover. Duration of sighting 2 to 4 seconds. Speed slower than meteor or falling star. No noise heard."

"Los Alamos guard station #103 reports luminous object, greenish white with billowy white flaming tail. Seen west of southwest by observer, gliding in a 60 degree downward angle. Was at altitude of cloud layer. Speed undetermined but described as floating or lazy manner. Observed for 2 to 4 seconds. No noise heard."

DECLASSIFIED
12 Years
DOD DIR 6000.10

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DI, CSUSA; CG, AMC, Wright Patterson AFB; File

GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

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Incident No. _____

1. Date of Observation 8 Mar 1949 Date of Interview 8 Mar 1949
2. Exact time of observation (local) 1835 hours
3. Place of Observation: 35 deg 53 min 09 sec N
(Map Coordinates) 106 deg 14 min 54 sec W
4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location of - give details):
Outside; at security guard post, Los Alamos, New Mexico
5. What attracted attention to object: Light
6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping:
One
7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length):
N/S
8. Color of object: Intense white light
9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object):
Elliptical, pointed at ends; similar to fuselage of ME 109
10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead): Appeared to be below clouds (approx 11,000 feet above sea level, 4,000 feet above terrain)
11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north):
First position - 259 deg; last position - 263 deg.
12. Distance from observer (Distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Apparently one-half mile.
13. Direction of flight of object (s): South to North, descending at 45 degree angle.
14. Time in sight: Very short
15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance):
Slower than twin engine plane - angular speed not available
16. Sound and odor: None

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17. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)
None

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescent, other - degree of
brilliance):

Self-luminous; appeared to be flaming.

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.):
Doubtful, but possible as in sketch;

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path):
Descent at even 45 degree angle.

21. Manner of disappearance: **Disappeared behind trees**

22. Effect on clouds: **N/S**

23. Additional information concerning object:
**Central part seemed to be solid silver colored fuselage, with a
flame or glow surrounding it.**

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:
Overcast at 6,000 feet; object seen in open space in clouds.

Name and address of observer: **Inspector W. E. Patterson, AESS, Los Alamos,
New Mexico**

Occupation and hobbies:
Atomic Energy Security Inspector (Guard)

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer
(Check neighbors, police dept., FBI records, employer, etc.):

**Complete background investigation conducted on all AESS personnel.
Intelligence and stability major requirements for employment.**

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting,
or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?

N/S

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TO: Lt. E. D. Hightower, Protective Force Headquarters

FROM: Inspector, W. E. Patterson, Section III

TIME: 1835

DATE: 8 March 1949

DIRECTION: Appeared to be over installation traveling North and approaching the earth at about a 45 degree angle.

SPEED: Seemed to be drifting toward the earth at less than flying speed of a modern twin engine plane.

COLOR: Intense white light.

ALTITUDE: Lower than the clouds obscuring the peaks to the West of the installation.

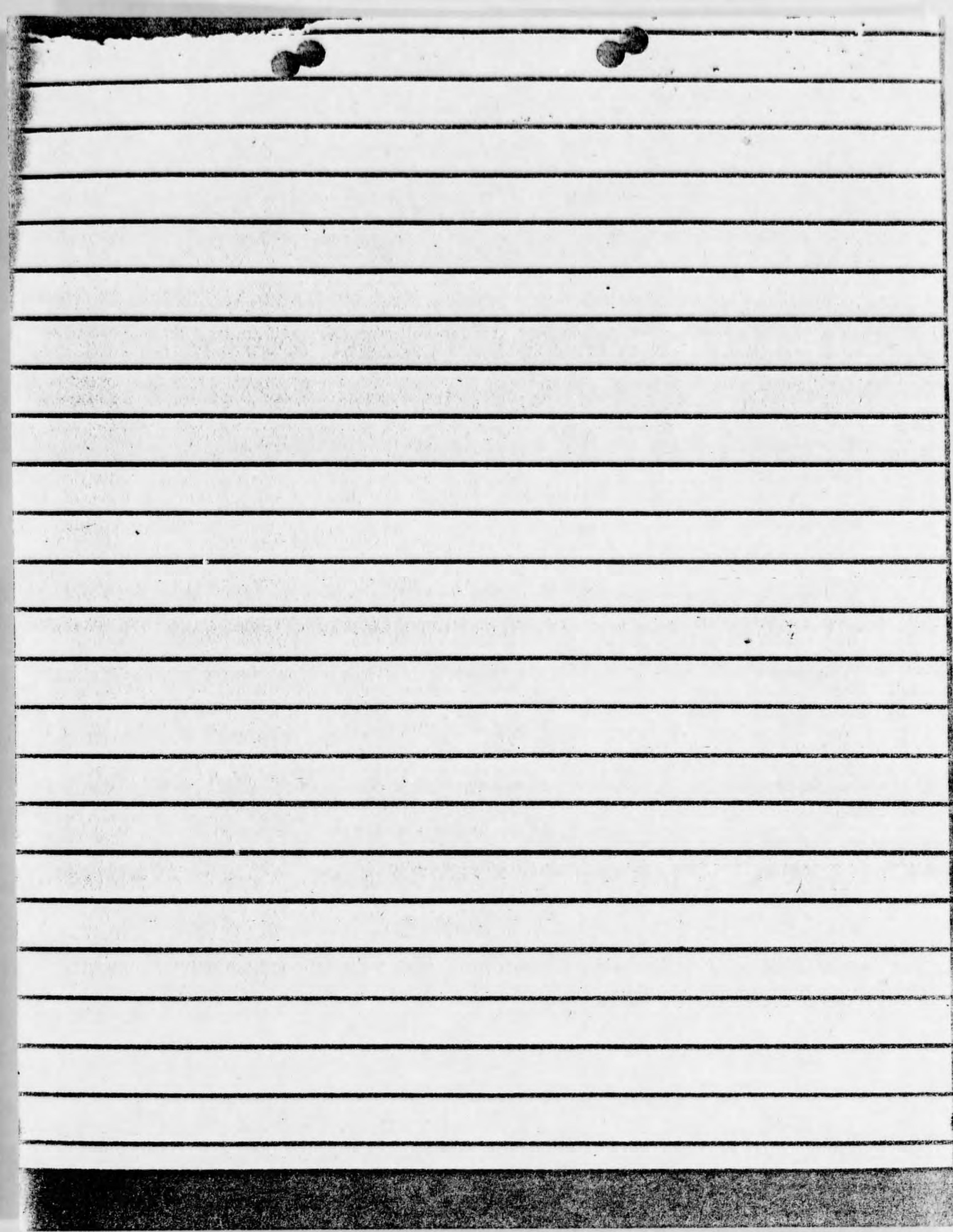
POINT OF OBSERVATION: From Station 103 in Bayo Canyon
(106° 14' 54" W - 35° 53' 09" N)

SOUND: None heard.

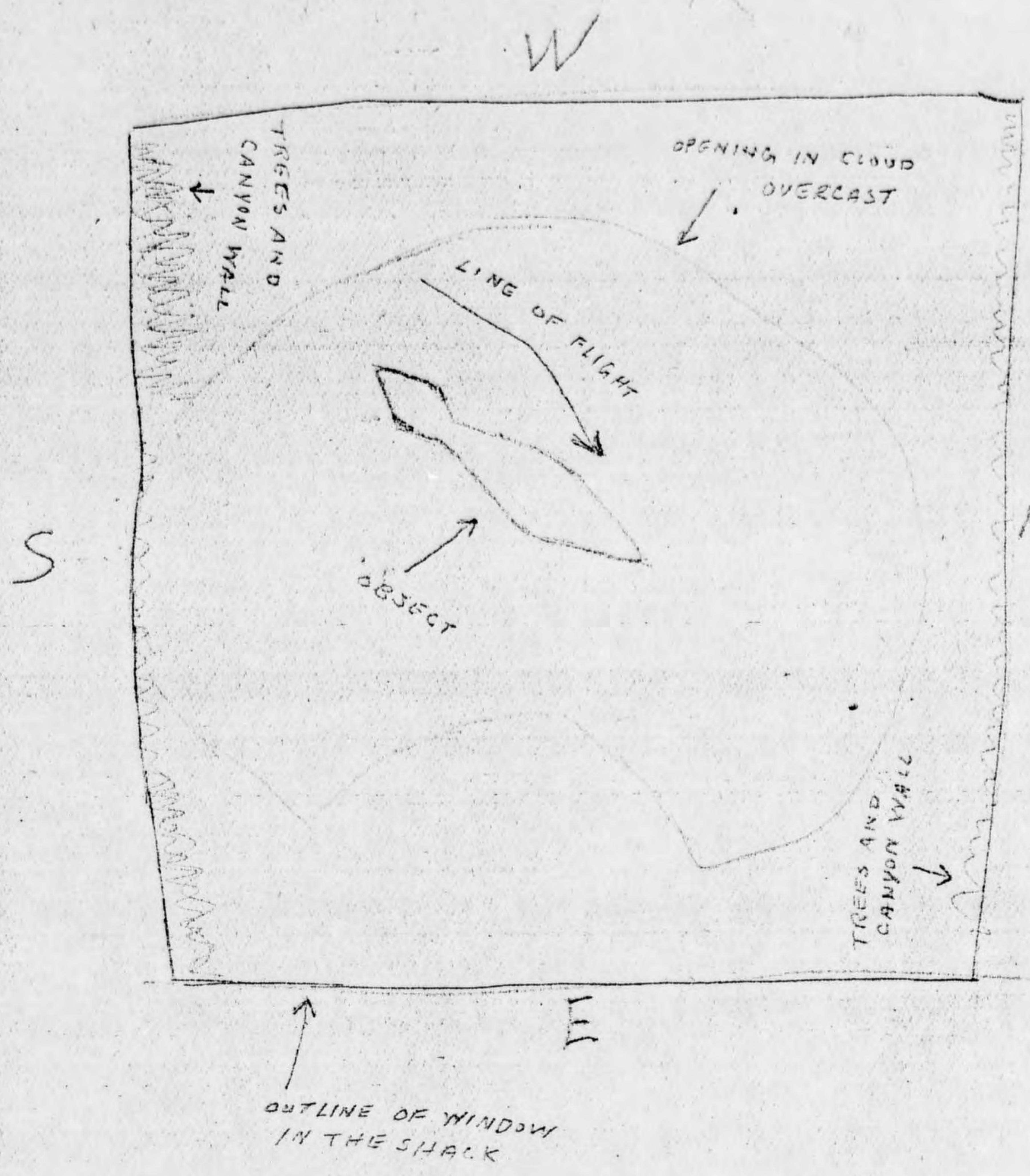
OBSERVER: W. E. Patterson

STATEMENT BY OBSERVER: This Inspector was extremely startled by this object as the first impression was that it was a plane on fire and about to crash nearby. As the eyes became adjusted to the distance this Inspector had the distinct impression of seeing a silver or aluminum colored body inside the flame or glow that resembled that part of the fuselage of a war-time German type plane from just behind the wing to just in front of the tail assembly. This Inspector further had the impression that the object was actually flaming and that the flames were quite visible. The overall shape of the object including the flame or light was much like the accompanying sketch. The object appeared less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the observer and the outlines were very distinct.

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(A)



SKETCH - by Inspector Patterson.

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S T A T E M E N T

This Inspector was extremely startled by this object as the first impression was that it was a plane on fire and about to crash nearby. As the eyes became adjusted to the distance this Inspector had the distinct impression of seeing a silver or aluminum covered body inside the flame or glow that resembled that part of the fuselage of a war-time German type plane from just behind the wing to just in front of the tail assembly. This Inspector further had the impression that the object was actually flaming and that the flames were quite visible. The over-all shape of the object including the flame or light was much like the accompanying sketch. The object appeared less than $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the observer and the outlines were very distinct.

W. E. Patterson

W.E. PATTERSON,
Security Inspector,
806 Quartz Street,
Los Alamos, New Mexico

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

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