

RECORDED

Incident #279

ATIC NO. - - -

DATE OF INFO 5 April 1949

AF NO. - - -

LOCATION Utah

REPORT NO. - - -

SOURCE Many Civilians

DATE OF REPORT - - -

DATE IN TO ATIC - - -

TIME OF OCCURRENCE 0950-1000

COLOR Varied

CHARACTER Ballof Fire

SPEED - - -

SIZE - - -

ALTITUDE 10,000' up

COURSE Down

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED - - -

NO. IN GROUP 1

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

SOUND Explosion

MANEUVERS - - -

PHOTOS - - -

SKETCHES - - -

REMARKS: B-29 Bombers were dropping practice bombs during time of reports.

Visual - Meteor

~~29 Bombers~~

Temporary ATIC Form 329  
(2 Jan 52)

RESTRICTED

1. Date of Observation 5 April 1949 Date of Interview 5 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1000 Hours
3. Place of Observation (5 Miles West Corinne) R.F.D. Brigham City, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object. Explosion
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape Not seen (see Trail).
10. Altitude 17,000 ft.
11. Direction from observer South
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor Slight explosion
17. Trail Puff of smoke or vapor, which remained quite awhile.
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer:

██████████, Mantua, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 5 April 1949, ██████████, Mantua, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was about five miles west of Corinner, Utah when he heard an explosion which attracted his attention to a puff of smoke or vapor in the air and an unestimated distance to the south from where he stood. ██████████ indicated that the explosion was felt slightly and that the smoke or vapor apparently generated by it stayed in the air for "quite a while." A small firecracker, according to ██████████, could have left the amount of smoke he observed. He placed the time of his observation at 1000 hours MST and thought the altitude of the smoke to be around 17,000 feet MSL. ██████████ did not see any object other than the smoke or vapor.

INCIDENT NO. 279H

1. Date of Observation 5 April 19 Date of Interview 6 April 19
2. Exact Time (local) 1000 Hours
3. Place of Observation Corinne) R.F.D., Bigham City, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object. Explosion
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape
10. Altitude 15,000-20,000'
11. Direction from observer South
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor Explosion which rattled windows
17. Trail Smoke
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer:

Mr. J. ██████████, Corinne, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

AT CORINNE, UTAH (RFD BRIGHAM CITY, UTAH)

On 6 April 1949, Mr. ██████████ Corinne, Utah was interviewed and stated that about 1000 hours MST he was working on a tractor in the backyard of his home when he heard and felt a terrific explosion in the air overhead. The force of the explosion rattled the windows in his home, causing his wife to run out into the yard in alarm. OWENS stated that he looked up and saw a burst of smoke hanging stationary in the air at about fifteen or twenty thousand feet MSL only slightly south of where he stood. ██████████ home is ██████████ miles west of Corinne, Utah)

1. Date of Observation 5 April 49 Date of Interview 6 April 49
2. Exact Time (local) 1000 Hours
3. Place of Observation Brigham City, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape
10. Altitude
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor Explosion
17. Trail 2 puffs of smoke
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer:

[REDACTED]

Occupation and hobbies:

International Harvester Employee

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

AT BRIGHAM CITY, UTAH

On 6 April 1949, [REDACTED], employee of International Harvester Company, Brigham City, Utah was interviewed and stated that he had heard an explosion and saw two (2) puffs of smoke south of Corinne, Utah at approximately 1000 hours [REDACTED] was definite that he had heard only one explosion. No objects were observed in the air after the explosion.

INCIDENT NO. 279J

1. Date of Observation 5 April 49 Date of Interview 6 April 49
2. Exact Time (local) Few minutes before 1000 Hours
3. Place of Observation Portage, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object Red
9. Shape Ball of Fire
10. Altitude
11. Direction from observer Southwest
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) Descending very rapidly at 45° angle towards west.
14. Time in sight 1/2 Second +
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail Smoke or vapor
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance Large red glow for 1/2 second, followed by trail of smoke then fire again, finally a trail of smoke.
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object- Resembled tracer bullet, except much larger.
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)



Name and address of observer:

[REDACTED]  
Brigham City, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 6 April 1949, [REDACTED], [REDACTED] Brigham City, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was near Portage, Utah headed west when he observed a large ball of fire in the sky in a southwesterly direction from Portage. He said there was a large red glow for about half a second followed by a trail of smoke or vapor, then fire again and finally a trail of smoke. The object, according to [REDACTED], was descending very rapidly at approximately a 45 degree angle towards the west and resembled a tracer bullet with the exception that it was much larger. [REDACTED] placed the time of his observation at a few minutes before 1000 hours MST.

1. Date of Observation 5 April 49 Date of Interview 6 April 49
2. Exact Time (local) 0945 Hours
3. Place of Observation Ogden, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object. Explosion
6. Number of objects
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape See trail
10. Altitude
11. Direction from observer, West and slightly North
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor 2 explosions one two seconds apart which rattled windows similar to 90 or 105 mm gun.
17. Trail Bluish white puff of smoke which expanded
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Occupation and hobbies:  
Guard. USA Qm Depot, Ogden, Utah

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
 THE INSPECTOR GENERAL  
 OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
**REPORT OF INVESTIGATION**

**UNCLASSIFIED** FILE NO. 47-2

DATE  
 15 April 1949

TITLE  
**MISCELLANEOUS  
 (PROJECT "SIGN")**

REPORT MADE BY  
**Special Agent LEO M. CHRISTIANSON**

REPORT MADE AT  
**DO #16, Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah**

PERIOD  
**5-8 April 1949**

OFFICE OF ORIGIN  
**DO #16, Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah**

STATUS  
**CLOSED**

CHARACTER  
**Miscellaneous**

REFERENCE  
**Verbal request of District Commander, 16th OSI (IG) DIST, Hill AFB, Hill Fld, Utah**

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by Captain PELHAM R. BURNETT, District Commander, 16th District, OSI (IG), Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah. Captain BURNETT based his request on a telephone conversation with LEO J. NULTY, Agent in Charge, Salt Lake City Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Salt Lake City, Utah. NULTY reported that a phenomena variously reported as a ball of fire, vapor or smoke bursts, and explosions had been reported to his office by law enforcement agencies in Cache and Weber counties. Investigation substantiated these reports and revealed that the phenomena had been sighted at various places from Salt Lake City, Utah north to the Idaho State line.

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

DISTRIBUTION

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ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

**Commanding General, OOAMA  
 Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah  
 THRU: Inspector General  
 OOAMA  
 Hill AFB, Hill  
 Field, Utah**

APPROVED

*Pelham R. Burnett*  
**PELHAM R. BURNETT**  
 Captain, USAF

District Commander.

FILE STAMP

1. Date of Observation 6 April 1949 Date of Interview 7 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1000 hours
3. Place of Observation (Warren) R.F.D., Ogden, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object. Explosion
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape
10. Altitude
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor Two loud explosions followed by dull rumble
17. Trail Two bursts of smoke high in sky, expanding rapidly.
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer: [REDACTED], R.D. 2, Ogden, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

✓

1. Date of Observation 5 April 49 Date of Interview 8 April 49
2. Exact Time (local)
3. Place of Observation Salt Lake City, Utah
4. Position of observer In airport control tower
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size Large gradually diminishing in size.
8. Color of object Bluish light turning to white
9. Shape Ball of light
10. Altitude Many miles high 60° elevation
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) Thought to be Northwest
14. Time in sight
15. Speed High rate
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Descending
21. Manner of disappearance Disappeared at 325°.
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer: [REDACTED]

Occupation and hobbies:

[REDACTED], CAA Municipal Airport,  
Salt Lake City, UtahChief Airport Traffic Controller  
Ass't Airport Traffic ControllerComments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of  
observer(s):

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

AT SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

On 8 April 1949, [REDACTED], Assistant Airport Controller, CAA, Municipal Airport, Salt Lake City, Utah was interviewed and stated he was on duty in the Control Tower when he saw a very brilliant light at what he estimated to be many miles high in the sky. He described the light as having tremendous brilliance and travelling at a very high rate of speed at an angle toward the horizon of approximately sixty degrees. The bluish light first observed by [REDACTED] turned into a brilliant white ball of light before it disappeared in the air at 325 degrees from the control tower. [REDACTED] further described the object as seeming huge when first observed, gradually diminishing in size in its descent. He was unable to estimate the direction the object was traveling with much accuracy but thought it would be roughly northwest. [REDACTED], Chief Airport Traffic Controller, CAA, Municipal Airport, Salt Lake City, Utah substantiated [REDACTED] description of the phenomena.



1. Date of Observation 5 April 49 Date of Interview 8 April 49
2. Exact Time (local) 1000 Hours
3. Place of Observation Salt Lake City, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground in auto
5. What attracted attention to object. Flashing object
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape
10. Altitude 30° Elevation 25 Miles
11. Direction from observer North
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight 3/4 of Second
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail Short smoke or vapor
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object- Observer believed object to be meteor.
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer: ~~Jardine~~, University of Utah  
Salt Lake City, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

Associate Prof. of Mathematics

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 8 April 1949, ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~, Associate Professor of Mathematics, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was driving north from the south side of Salt Lake City when he observed a flashing object about thirty degrees above the horizon to the north. ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ estimated the object to be traveling at an angle of sixty degrees with the horizon and stated that the object was pouring off a short smoke or vapor trail. He placed the time of his observation as near 1000 hours MST and indicated quite definitely that he believed the phenomena he had witnessed to be a meteor. From reports he had received, ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ estimated that the object was at least twenty-five miles in the air at the time he first observed it. The phenomena lasted no more than three quarters of a second by ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ account.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
UNCLASSIFIED

5D-OSI/JEM/tm

5D 24-213

11 May 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE, Incident, Salt Lake City, Utah  
SPECIAL INQUIRY

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

1. Reference is made to Routing and Record Sheet, your office, Subject: "Request for Investigation," dated 7 April 1949, and pending Report of Investigation of Special Agent JOHN E. MORRILL, DO #5, dated 12 April 1949.

2. Inclosed for your information and necessary action is report of investigation of Special Agent LEO W. CHRISTIANSON, DO #16, Ogden, Utah.

3. The files of the 5th OSI District are being closed in this case.

1 Incl  
R/I dtd 15 Apr 49 (dup)

THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR  
Captain, USAF  
Acting District Commander

Cy to: HQ OSI

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

UNCLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1. Date of Observation 5 April 1949 Date of Interview 5 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 0950
3. Place of Observation Logan, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object. Lamar Bullock
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape See trail
10. Altitude 15,000'
11. Direction from observer Slightly west of south.
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail Puff of smoke or vapor
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer:

Lt ~~REDACTED~~, Logan, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

City Police Dept.

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

AT LOGAN, UTAH

On 5 April 1949, Lt ~~REDACTED~~, Logan City Police Department, was interviewed and stated that he was standing on Main Street in Logan when his attention was directed to an object in the sky by ~~REDACTED~~ of the Cache Valley Electric Company, Logan, Utah. The object, as described by Lt. ~~REDACTED~~, had the appearance of a puff of smoke or vapor and was judged to be approximately 15,000 feet above sea level slightly west of south from Logan. ~~REDACTED~~ estimated the time of his observation at about 0950 hours MST.

1. Date of Observation 5 April 1949 Date of Interview 5 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 0945
3. Place of Observation Logan, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape Brilliant fiery funnel shape
10. Altitude 11,000'
11. Direction from observer SW
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed Faster than plane.
16. Sound and odor explosion heard later from direction of sighting, 10 min. later.
17. Trail Bluish white smoke or vapor trail which lasted 15 min.
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Descending
21. Manner of disappearance Disappeared in bright orange flash.
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object- Object reminded him of tracer bullet.
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

16D 47-2

DETAILS: (Cont'd)

UNCLASSIFIED

7/10/50

degrees from the southwest. [redacted] called his helper's attention to the phenomena and the helper, [redacted], put the time of the observation at exactly 0950 hours MST. [redacted] stated that he had just taken his watch out to see if it wasn't time for a break for coffee at the time. [redacted] substantiated [redacted]'s description of the phenomena. Both [redacted] and [redacted] stated that about two minutes after the object had disappeared they heard two explosions in the direction they had last observed the object. Both men stated that it was definitely two explosions and not one explosion with an accompanying echo. [redacted] and [redacted] stated that the object they had observed disappeared while still several thousand feet in the air above the surrounding terrain, leaving a bluish-white puff of smoke or vapor.

7/10

6. On 5 April 1949, [redacted], employee of Cache Valley Electric Company, Logan, Utah, was interviewed and described the object observed by him as being like a ball of fire moving very rapidly straight down out of the sky and leaving a short stream of smoke or vapor when it disappeared in the air. [redacted] estimated the time at about 1000 hours MST and stated that the object was southwest from Logan when he observed it.

7. On 5 April 1949, Sheriff WESLEY MALMBERG, Cache County, Logan, Utah was interviewed and stated that he had not seen any phenomena but that he had received reports of it from Sheriff LEE HANSEN, Preston, Idaho and Utah State Highway Patrolman JEPPESON of Mantua, Utah. Sheriff MALMBERG and his deputies had gone out into the country south and west of Logan to try to locate any possible plane crash upon receipt of these reports. They found nothing in the areas searched. According to Sheriff LEE HANSEN's report to the Sheriff at Logan, a lady, later determined to be Mrs. [redacted] of Fairview, Idaho, called and reported an explosion and smoke to the south. Mrs. [redacted] told Sheriff HANSEN that two planes must have collided in mid-air. Sheriff MALMBERG stated that the object had been reported to his office by [redacted] Cornish, Utah at about 1000 hours MST.

7/10/50

8. On 5 April 1949, [redacted], 80 West Third North, Logan, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was standing on the steps of the Field House, Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah about 0950 hours MST when he observed an orange-colored object overhead travelling to the south west and leaving a smoke or vapor trail. [redacted] said that the object was approximately thirty (30) degrees above the horizon and traveling at a terrific speed when it disappeared. He could give no estimate of the size or shape of the object.

AT CORNISH, UTAH

9. On 5 April 1949, [redacted], farmer of Cornish, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was just returning from his barn to his home when he observed a bright silvery object coming almost straight down out of the skies to the south of his home. The object, according to [redacted], left a trail of smoke or vapor both above and below a very thin layer of clouds which were present at the

UNCLASSIFIED

Name and address of observer:  
[REDACTED]

Occupation and hobbies:

Flower Shop Proprietor

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:  
AT LOGAN, UTAH

On 5 April 1949, [REDACTED], owner of [REDACTED] Flower Shop, Logan, Utah, was interviewed and stated that he was on the #2 tee at the Logan Golf Course when he happened to observe a very brilliant, fiery object in the sky to the southwest. [REDACTED] stated that the object reminded him of a tracer bullet and that it definitely moved much faster than any plane he had ever seen. The object, as further described by [REDACTED], made no sound in its descent, was funnel-shaped, and disappeared in a bright orange flash at what seemed to be 11,000 feet MSL. SEARS stated that the object left a bluish-white smoke or vapor trail which lasted for approximately fifteen minutes. His observation was made about 0945 hours MST. After walking from the #2 tee of the Logan Golf Course to the club house, [REDACTED], stated, he heard the sound of an explosion in what he estimated to be the same direction from Logan that he had seen the object disappear. The latter occurred at approximately 0955 hours MST according to [REDACTED]. The incidents were reported to the Logan City Police Department by [REDACTED] at 1000 hours MST.



1. Date of Observation 5 April 1949 Date of Interview 5 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 0945-0950
3. Place of Observation Logan, Utah
4. Position of observer
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects
7. Apparent size Base 3 ft., length 6 ft.
8. Color of object Changing blue to purple, orange, yellow, finally to bright green.
9. Shape Triangular
10. Altitude High
11. Direction from observer Slightly west of south.
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor 2 explosions heard 2 minutes after sighting.
17. Trail Bluish white smoke or vapor.
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Descending very rapidly (with base of triangle down) at 45° angle to SW while still several thousand ft. high.
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object- Grew smaller as it descended.
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer:

[REDACTED]

Occupation and hobbies:

Light Dept. employees

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

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

AT LOGAN, UTAH

On 5 April 1949, at 1250 hours MST, [REDACTED], employee of Logan City Corporation Light Department reported to the Chief of Police, Logan, Utah that he, [REDACTED], had seen a very strange sight that morning. When interviewed [REDACTED] stated that he was working with a crew of men in the North West Section of Logan, clearing limbs back from power lines, when he looked up and saw a triangular shaped object very high in the sky to the south and slightly west from Logan. According to [REDACTED] the object was descending very rapidly with the base of the triangle down. He further described the object as changing colors very rapidly from blue to purple, orange, yellow, and finally a very bright green when it disappeared. PETERSEN stated that the object appeared to grow smaller as it descended and estimated the base to have been about three (3) feet and the length about six (6) feet when first observed. The angle of descent was estimated to be about forty-five (45) degrees from the southwest. [REDACTED] called his helper's attention to the phenomena and the helper, [REDACTED], put the time of the observation at exactly 0950 hours MST. [REDACTED] stated that he had just taken his watch out to see if it wasn't time for a break for coffee at the time. [REDACTED] substantiated [REDACTED]'s description of the phenomena. Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated that about two minutes after the object had disappeared they heard two explosions in the direction they had just last observed the object. Both men stated that it was definitely two explosions and not one explosion with an accompanying echo. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated that the object they had observed disappeared while still several thousand feet in the air above the surrounding terrain, leaving a bluish-white puff of smoke or vapor.

INCIDENT NO. ~~2790~~

1. Date of Observation 5 April 1949 Date of Interview 5 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1000
3. Place of Observation SW Logan, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape Ball of fire.
10. Altitude
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) Straight down
14. Time in sight
15. Speed Very rapidly
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail Short stream of smoke or vapor.
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer:

[REDACTED]

Occupation and hobbies:

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 5 April 1949, [REDACTED], employee of Cache Valley Electric Company, Logan, Utah, was interviewed and described the object observed by him as being like a ball of fire moving very rapidly straight down out of the sky and leaving a short stream of smoke or vapor when it disappeared in the air. [REDACTED] estimated the time at about 1000 hours MST and stated that the object was southwest from Logan when he observed it.

INCIDENT NO. 279D

1. Date of Observation 5 April 1949 Date of Interview 5 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 0950
3. Place of Observation Logan, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object Orange colored
9. Shape
10. Altitude 30° above horizon
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) S. West
14. Time in sight
15. Speed Terrific
16. Sound and oder
17. Trail Smoke or vapor
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers ▶
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer:

~~██████████, ██████████~~  
Logan, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 5 April 1949, ~~██████████ D, ██████████~~ Logan, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was standing on the steps of the field house, Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah about 0950 hours MST when he observed an orange-colored object overhead traveling to the south west and leaving a smoke or vapor trail. ~~██████████~~ said that the object was approximately thirty (30) degrees above the horizon and traveling at a terrific speed when it disappeared. He could give no estimate of the size or shape of the object.

INCIDENT NO. ~~2798~~

1. Date of Observation 5 April 1949 Date of Interview 5 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local)
3. Place of Observation **Cornish, Utah**
4. Position of observer **Ground**
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects **1**
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object **Silvery**
9. Shape
10. Altitude
11. Direction from observer **South**
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) **Straight down**
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor **None heard**
17. Trail **Smoke or vapor lasting for 15 minutes.**
18. Luminosity **Reflection or like powerful arc light**
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer:

Occupation and hobbies:

Farmer

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

AT CORNISH, UTAH

on 5 April 1949, [REDACTED], farmer of Cornish, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was just returning from his barn to his home when he observed a bright silvery object coming almost straight down out of the skies to the south of his home. The object, according to [REDACTED] left a trail of smoke or vapor both above and below a very thin layer of clouds which were present at the time. He described the object further as being either a very bright reflection or light such as is made by a powerful arc light. [REDACTED] said that he had had a phobia about falling stars since childhood and for that reason was quite excited by what he had witnessed. [REDACTED] R, [REDACTED] brother, substantiated the fact that [REDACTED] had run over to his, [REDACTED] house and told him what he had seen, pointing out the smoke or vapor left by the object. [REDACTED] reported the incident to the Sheriff's Office at Logan, Utah. The smoke and vapor, according to the two [REDACTED] brothers, was visible for about fifteen minutes. Neither of the brothers heard any sound of an explosion.



1. Date of Observation 5 April 1949 Date of Interview 5 April 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1000
3. Place of Observation (Corinne) R.F.D. Brigham City, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape Not seen. See trail
10. Altitude 11,000-12,000 ft
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed
16. Sound and odor Explosion heard 1 minute after noticing trail
17. Trail 2 trails of vapor or smoke approx. 12 ft long, parallel, bluish-white in color
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

UNCLASSIFIED

## DETAILS:

1. This investigation is predicated upon request by Captain PELHAM R. BURNETT, District Commander, 16th District OSI (IG), Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah. Captain BURNETT's request was based on a telephone conversation between BURNETT and LEO J. NULTY, Agent in Charge, Salt Lake City Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Salt Lake City, Utah at 1130 hours MST, 5 April 1949. NULTY reported that he had received reports from the Sheriff's Office, Cache County, Logan, Utah and Sheriff's Office, Weber County, Ogden, Utah indicating that people in those counties had observed some sort of phenomena in the sky between 0930 hours MST and 1000 hours MST, 5 April 1949.

2. Special Agent ERNEST C. BLASS assisted in this investigation.

AT LOGAN, UTAH

3. On 5 April 1949, Lt. [REDACTED], Logan City Police Department, was interviewed and stated that he was standing on Main Street in Logan when his attention was directed to an object in the sky by [REDACTED] of the Cache Valley Electric Company, Logan, Utah. The object, as described by Lt. [REDACTED], had the appearance of a puff of smoke or vapor and was judged to be approximately 15,000 feet above sea level slightly west of south from Logan. [REDACTED] estimated the time of his observation at about 0950 hours MST.

4. On 5 April 1949, [REDACTED], owner of [REDACTED] Flower Shop, Logan, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was on the #2 tee at the Logan Golf Course when he happened to observe a very brilliant, fiery object in the sky to the southwest. [REDACTED] stated that the object reminded him of a tracer bullet and that it definitely moved much faster than any plane he had ever seen. The object, as further described by [REDACTED], made no sound in its descent, was funnel-shaped, and disappeared in a bright orange flash at what seemed to be 11,000 feet MSL. [REDACTED] stated that the object left a bluish-white smoke or vapor trail which lasted for approximately fifteen minutes. His observation was made about 0945 hours MST. After walking from the #2 tee of the Logan Golf Course to the club house, SEARS, stated, he heard the sound of an explosion in what he estimated to be the same direction from Logan that he had seen the object disappear. The latter occurred at approximately 0955 hours MST according to [REDACTED]. The incidents were reported to the Logan City Police Department by [REDACTED] at 1000 hours MST.

5. On 5 April 1949, at 1250 hours MST, [REDACTED], employee of Logan City Corporation Light Department reported to the Chief of Police, Logan, Utah that he, [REDACTED], had seen a very strange sight that morning. When interviewed [REDACTED] stated that he was working with a crew of men in the North West Section of Logan, clearing limbs back from power lines, when he looked up and saw a triangular shaped object very high in the sky to the south and slightly west from Logan. According to [REDACTED] the object was descending very rapidly with the base of the triangle down. He further described the object as changing colors very rapidly from blue to purple, orange, yellow, and finally a very bright green when it disappeared. [REDACTED] stated that the object appeared to grow smaller as it descended and estimated the base to have been about three (3) feet and the length about six (6) feet when first observed. The angle of descent was estimated to be about forty-five (45)

UNCLASSIFIED

Name and address of observer: [REDACTED]

Occupation and hobbies:  
Utah State Highway Patrol

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 5 April 1949, Patrolman [REDACTED], Utah State Highway Patrol, Mantua, Utah was interviewed and stated that he happened to glance up into the sky and saw two trails of vapor or smoke approximately twelve feet long to the southwest of Mantua. [REDACTED] stated that the smoke or vapor trails were parallel, one above the other, bluish-white in color and approximately 11,000 or 12,000 feet MSL. About one minute after looking up and seeing this phenomena, [REDACTED] said, "I heard and felt a rather strong explosion." [REDACTED] indicated that he thought at the time that the explosion was from blasting in the area but later ascertained that there had been no blasting in that region at the time. [REDACTED] estimated the time of his observation of the smoke trails at 1000 hours MST.

# "FIREBALLS"

## Explode In Midair

Over Wide Utah Area And Searching Parties Look For "Things"—Meteors, Maybe.

Salt Lake City, April 5—(UP)—At least one ball of fire—perhaps as many as six—blazed brilliantly through the clear blue sky over Northern Utah today.

The chief controlman at the Salt Lake City Airport tower said he thought the display came from a meteor.

Some of the hundreds of reports also told of jarring explosions. And police and sheriffs' officers organized searching parties to look for the "things"—man-made or heavenly—that caused them.

The witnesses to the phenomenon were scattered through the 10-mile-wide, 100-mile-long area from Salt Lake City north through Ogden to Logan and the Idaho line. More than three-quarters of Utah's 550,000 residents live in this area.

First reports came from Brigham City, 60 miles north of Salt Lake City, where frightened householders rushed into the streets when they heard—some said they also felt—two explosions.

The Utah Highway Patrol was told the explosions were in midair—one about 10:30 a. m., the other at 11:15 a. m.

Ted Martin, chief controlman at the Salt Lake Airport tower, said he saw a ball of fire high in the heavens about the same time. When it entered the earth's atmosphere, about 20,000 feet up, Martin said, the red-glowing object blazed brightly and became white in color.

At 1:45 p. m., Cliff Nielson, Logan newspaper correspondent, called his Salt Lake City office and said "things" were still coming over.

"Wait and I'll count this batch for you," he told his editor.

"There's one . . . two . . . three," he counted deliberately and continued until he had counted six "things" that he said were speeding out of the Southeast.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

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"There's one . . . two . . . three," he counted deliberately and continued until he had counted six "things" that he said were speeding out of the Southeast.

UNCLASSIFIED

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WIND SPEEDS - KNOTS

0300Z APR 6 1949

1200

1000M



1000

1000



WIND SPEEDS - KNOTS  
0Z APR 6 1949

4000

4

3



WIND SPEEDS - KNOTS  
0300Z APR 6 1949

200 M

2000  
2



WIND SPEEDS IN KNOTS

0300Z APR 6 1949

25000

2000M



5000

20000

30000

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DETAILS: (Cont'd)

UNCLASSIFIED

██████████ was definite that he had heard only one explosion. No objects were observed in the air after the explosion.

14. On 6 April 1949, ██████████, Modern Cleaners, Brigham City, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was near Portage, Utah headed west when he observed a large ball of fire in the sky in a southwesterly direction from Portage. He said there was a large red glow for about half a second followed by a trail of smoke or vapor, then fire again and finally a trail of smoke. The object, according to DORIS, was descending very rapidly at approximately a 45 degree angle towards the west and resembled a tracer bullet with the exception that it was much larger. DORIS placed the time of his observation at a few minutes before 1000 hours MST.

AT OGDEN, UTAH

15. On 6 April 1949, ██████████, Chief Deputy Sheriff, Weber County, Ogden, Utah was interviewed and stated that he began getting reports of an object and explosions at 1000 hours MST. The reports came in from Warren, Utah and the Second Street Arsenal in Ogden, and indicated the explosions to be over the Ogden River near the village of Taylor, Utah.

16. On 6 April 1949, ██████████, Guard, Second Street Quartermaster Depot, U.S. Army, Ogden, Utah was interviewed and stated he heard an explosion and looked up to observe a puff of smoke that was beginning to expand. A second or two later, according to ██████████, there was another explosion in approximately the same position as the first. In each case the smoke was bluish-white in puffs or bursts that expanded rapidly. The force of the explosions caused windows to rattle in the vicinity. ██████████ stated definitely that he thought what he had seen and heard was anti aircraft fire from perhaps a 90 MM or 105 MM gun. He placed the time of his observation as 0945 hours MST and the direction of the bursts as west and slightly north from his position at the Second Street entrance to the Depot. No debris was seen by ██████████ following either explosion.

AT WARREN, UTAH (RFD OGDEN, UTAH)

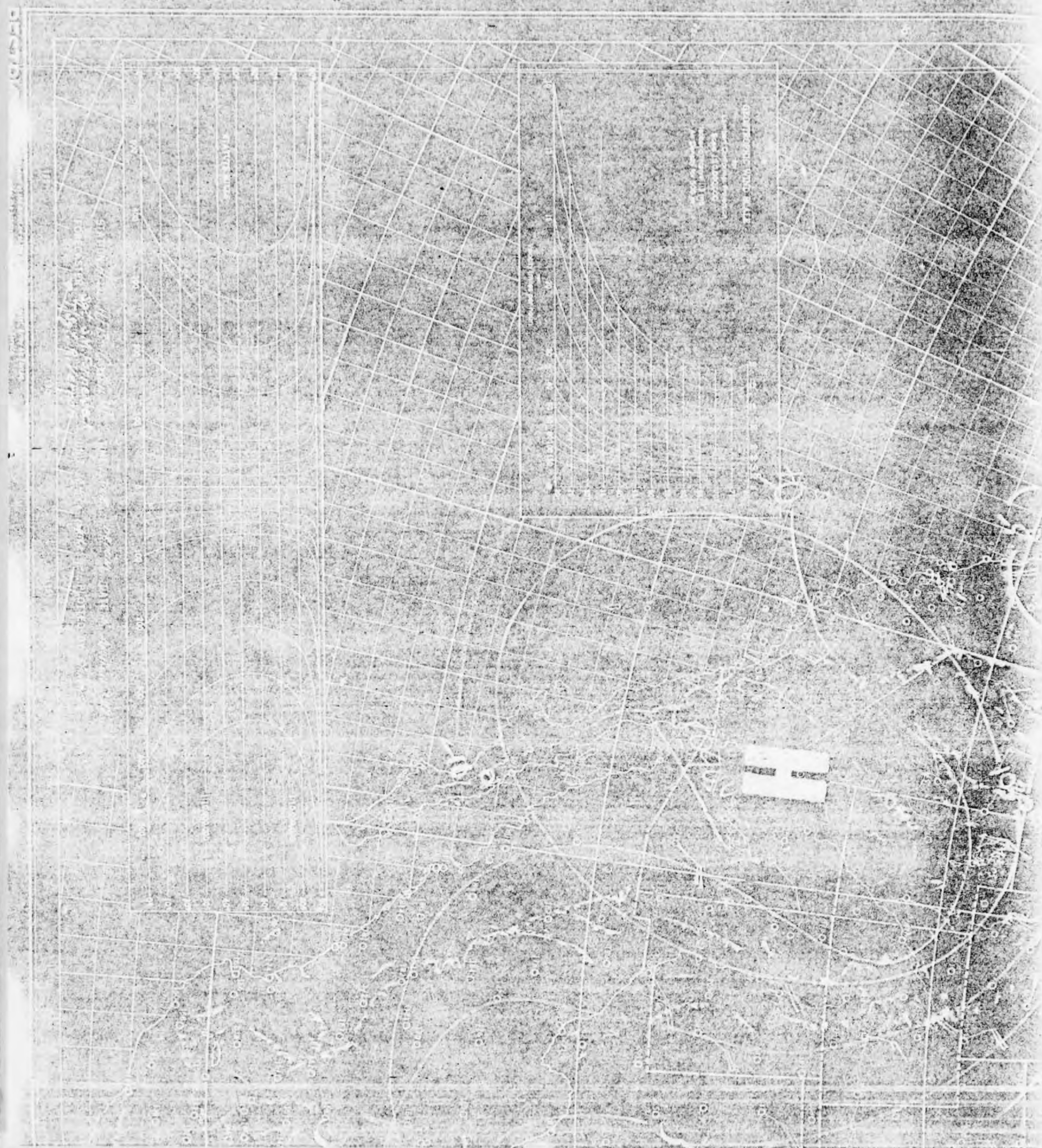
17. On 7 April 1949, ██████████, Route 2, Ogden, Utah was interviewed and stated that he heard two loud explosions at about 1000 hours MST and looked up to see two bursts of smoke quite high in the sky to the west of Warren. The bursts of smoke, according to ██████████ were expanding rapidly and were followed by a dull rumbling noise. No debris was seen by ██████████

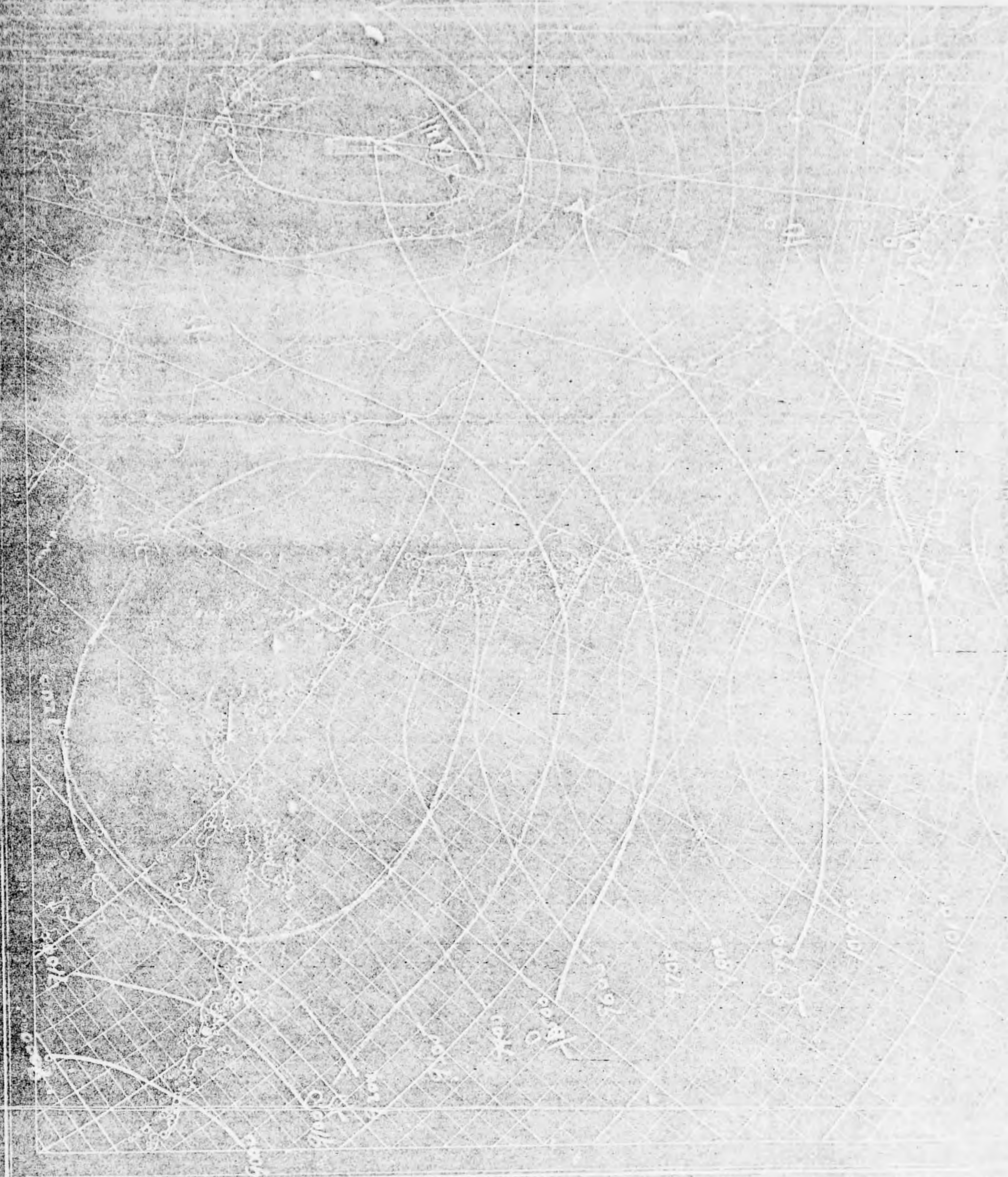
AT SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

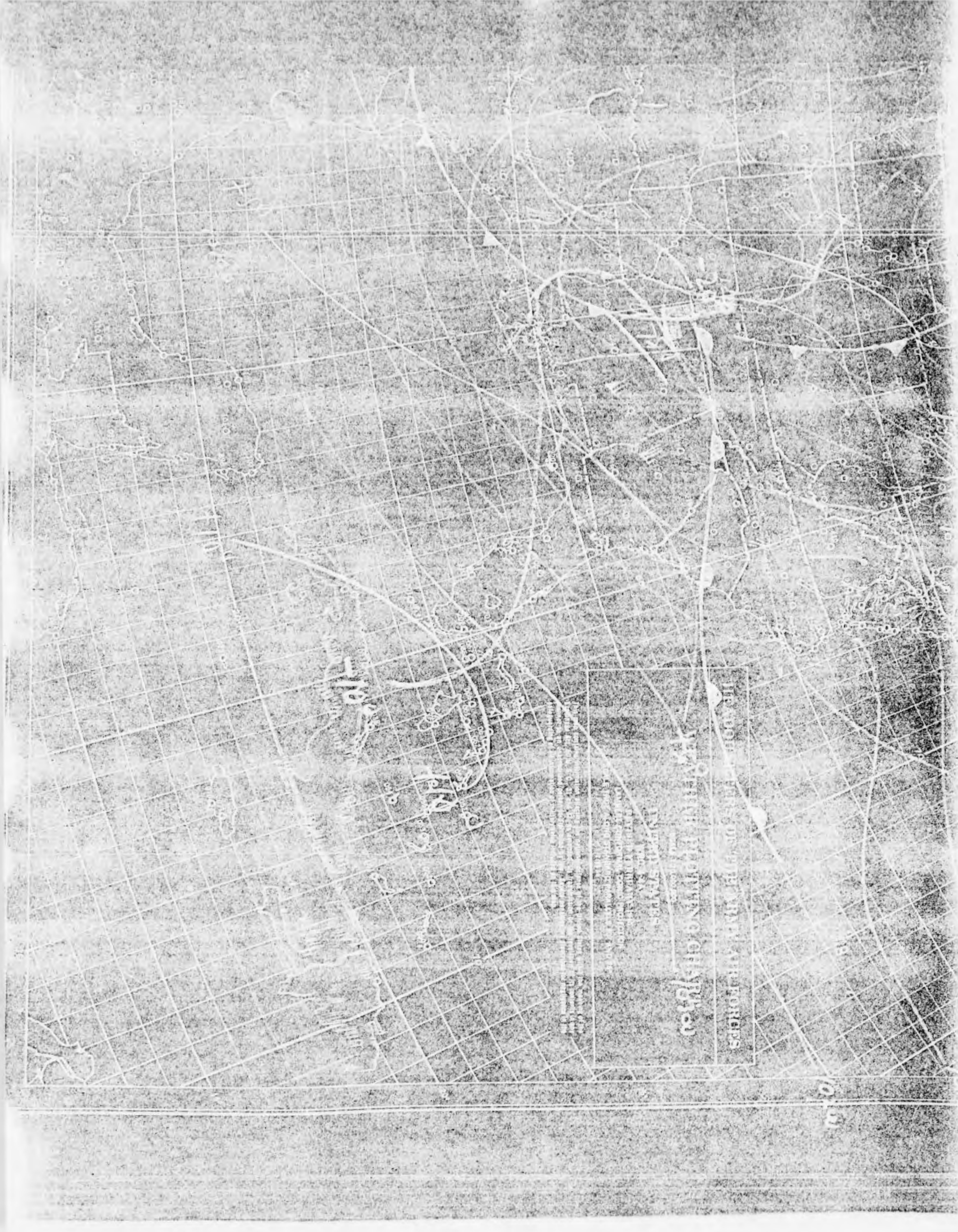
18. On 8 April 1949, ██████████, Assistant Airport Controller, CAA, Municipal Airport, Salt Lake City, Utah was interviewed and stated he was on duty in the Control Tower when he saw a very brilliant light at what he estimated to be many miles high in the sky. He described the light as having tremendous brilliance and travelling at a very high rate of speed at an angle toward the horizon of

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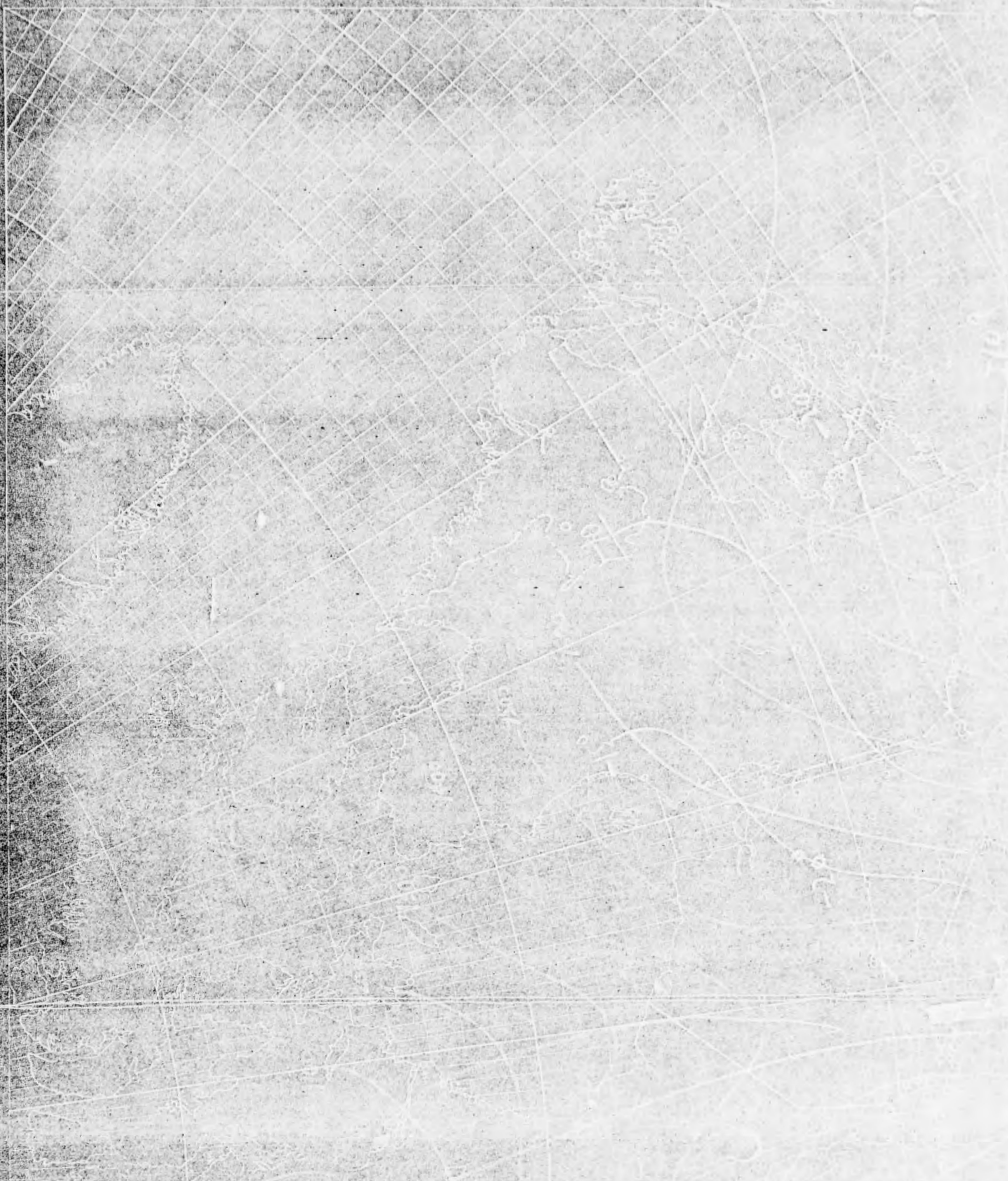


THE  
 UNIVERSITY OF  
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 CHICAGO, ILL. 60637  
 U.S.A.

100



RESTRICTED



1915  
17 APR 5 1919  
10/11

25000

25000 +

WIND SPEEDS - KNOTS

1500Z APR 5 1949

0800M

2

3

2000

27000

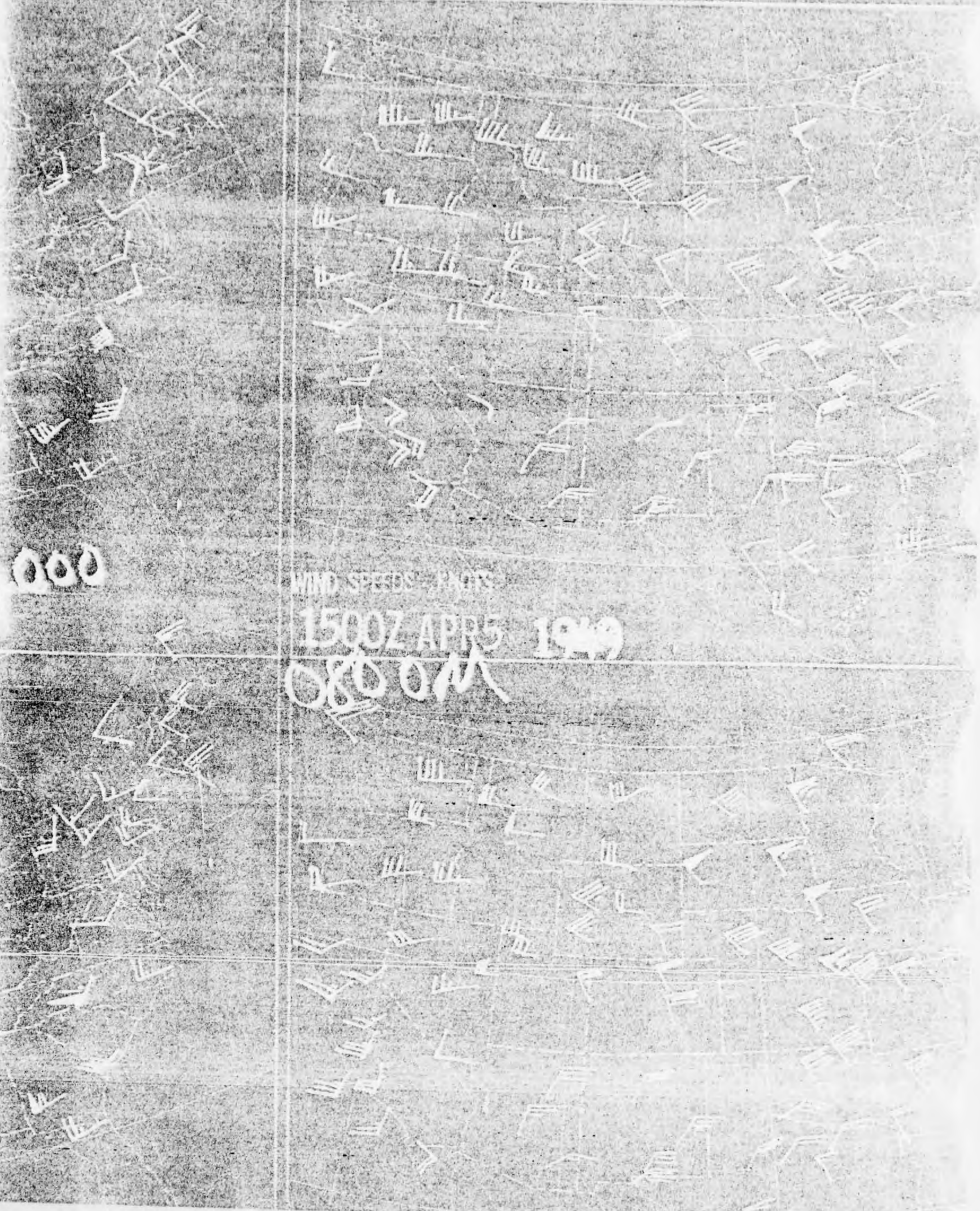
ALOFT CHART



NOTES  
APR 5 1949

12000

U.S. AIR FORCE WEATHER WINDS ALOFT CHART



000

WIND SPEEDS - KNOTS

1500Z APR 5 1949

080 07K



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DETAILS: (Cont'd)

UNCLASSIFIED

time. He described the object further as being either a very bright reflection or light such as is made by a powerful arc light. VAL [redacted] said that he had had a phobia about falling stars since childhood and for that reason was quite excited by what he had witnessed. BRO [redacted], VAL [redacted] brother, substantiated the fact that [redacted] had run over to his, BRO [redacted]'S house and told him what he had seen, pointing out the smoke or vapor left by the object. BRO [redacted] reported the incident to the Sheriff's Office at Logan, Utah. The smoke and vapor, according to the two [redacted] brothers, was visible for about fifteen minutes. Neither of the brothers heard any sound of an explosion.

WV

10. On 5 April 1949, Patrolman [redacted], Utah State Highway Patrol, Mantua, Utah was interviewed and stated that he happened to glance up into the sky and saw two trails of vapor or smoke approximately twelve feet long to the southwest of Mantua. [redacted] stated that the smoke or vapor trails were parallel, one above the other, bluish-white in color and approximately 11,000 or 12,000 feet MSL. About one minute after looking up and seeing this phenomena, [redacted] said, "I heard and felt a rather strong explosion." [redacted] indicated that he thought at the time that the explosion was from blasting in the area but later ascertained that there had been no blasting in that region at the time. [redacted] estimated the time of his observation of the smoke trails at 1000 hours MST.

WV

11. On 5 April 1949, [redacted], Mantua, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was about five miles west of Corinne, Utah when he heard an explosion which attracted his attention to a puff of smoke or vapor in the air and an unestimated distance to the south from where he stood. [redacted] indicated that the explosion was felt slightly and that the smoke or vapor apparently generated by it stayed in the air for "quite a while." A small firecracker, according to [redacted], could have left the amount of smoke he observed. He placed the time of his observation at 1000 hours MST and thought the altitude of the smoke to be around 17,000 feet MSL. [redacted] did not see any object other than the smoke or vapor.

WV

AT CORINNE, UTAH (RFD BRIGHAM CITY, UTAH)

12. On 6 April 1949, Mr. [redacted], Corinne, Utah was interviewed and stated that about 1000 hours MST he was working on a tractor in the backyard of his home when he heard and felt a terrific explosion in the air overhead. The force of the explosion rattled the windows in his home, causing his wife to run out into the yard in alara. [redacted] stated that he looked up and saw a burst of smoke hanging stationary in the air at about fifteen or twenty thousand feet MSL only slightly south of where he stood. ([redacted] home is five (5) miles west of Corinne, Utah)

WV

AT BRIGHAM CITY, UTAH

13. On 6 April 1949, [redacted], employee of International Harvester Company, Brigham City, Utah was interviewed and stated that he had heard an explosion and saw two (2) puffs of smoke south of Corinne, Utah at approximately 1000 hours MST.

WV

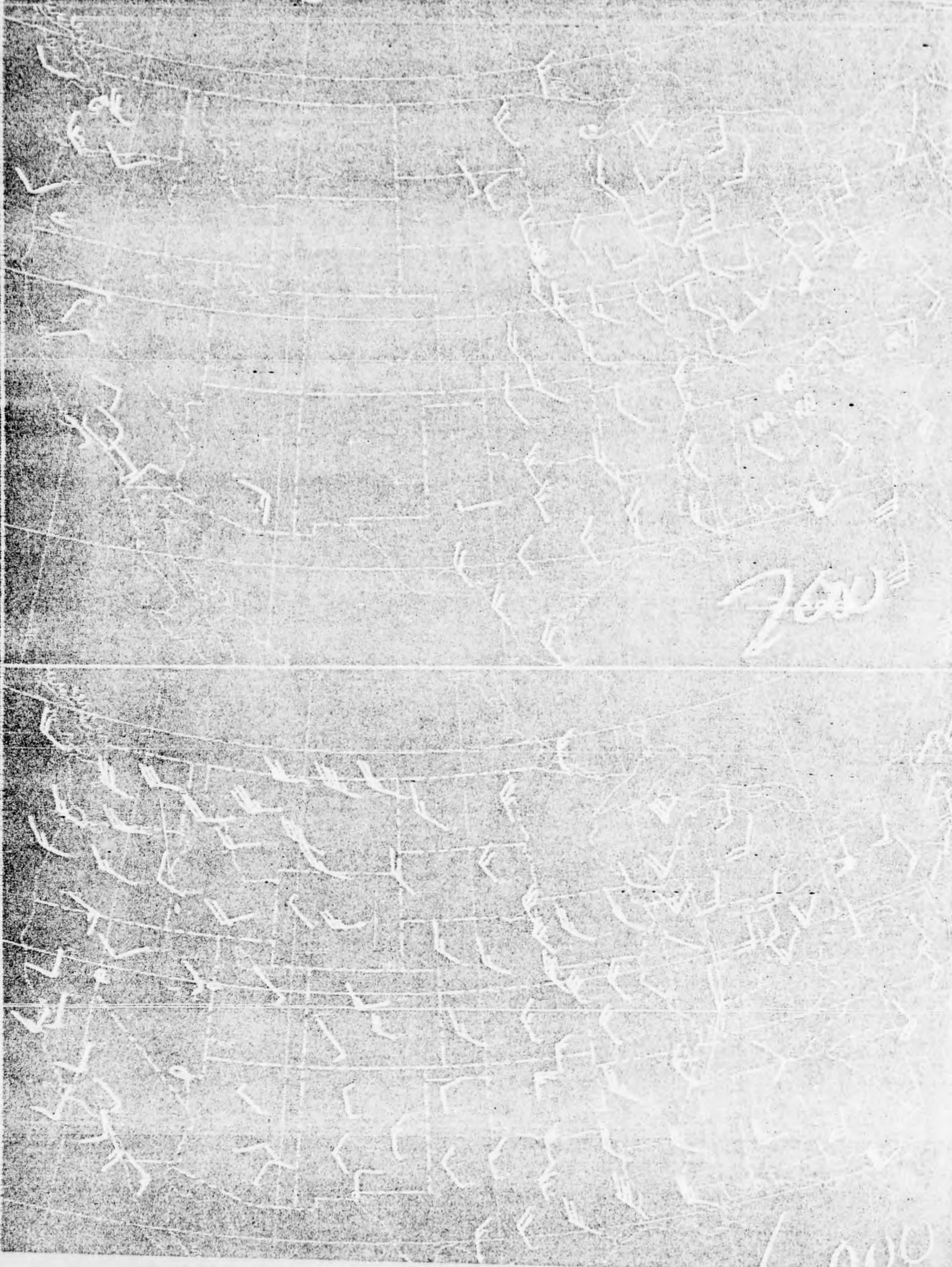
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



Handwritten text in a cursive script, possibly a list or ledger, covering the left and center portions of the page. The text is arranged in approximately 15 horizontal rows. A prominent word, possibly "COPY", is written in the center of the page.

A large, mostly blank rectangular area on the right side of the page, possibly representing a separate section or a redacted area.



700

1000



WIND SPEEDS - KNOTS

1500Z APR 5 1949

440

0800 M



440

Active Bombing Range

225°

315°

180°

SALT LAKE CITY

Los Angeles

Grantsville

Provo

Highway

Highway

Farmington

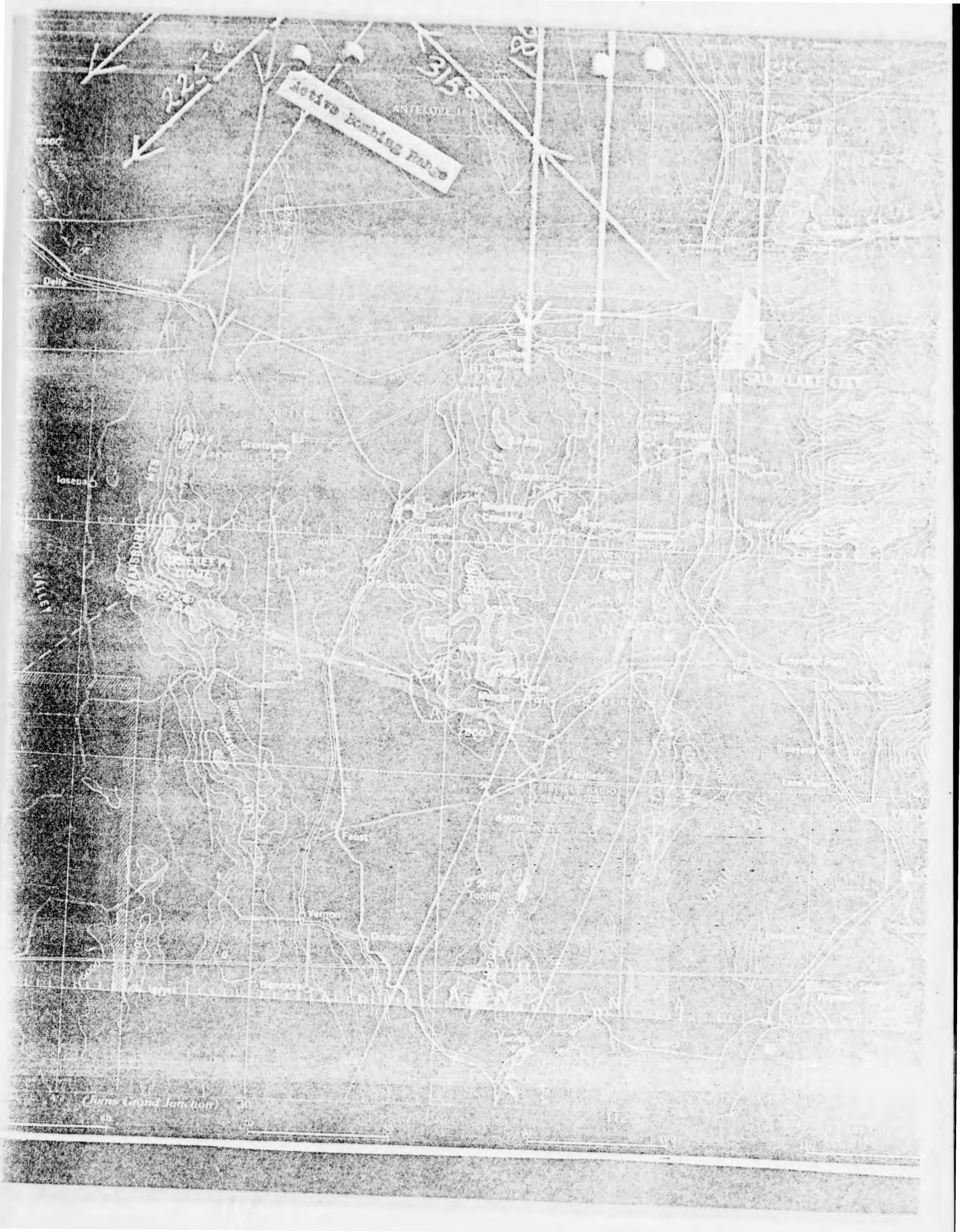
Parfield

Tooling

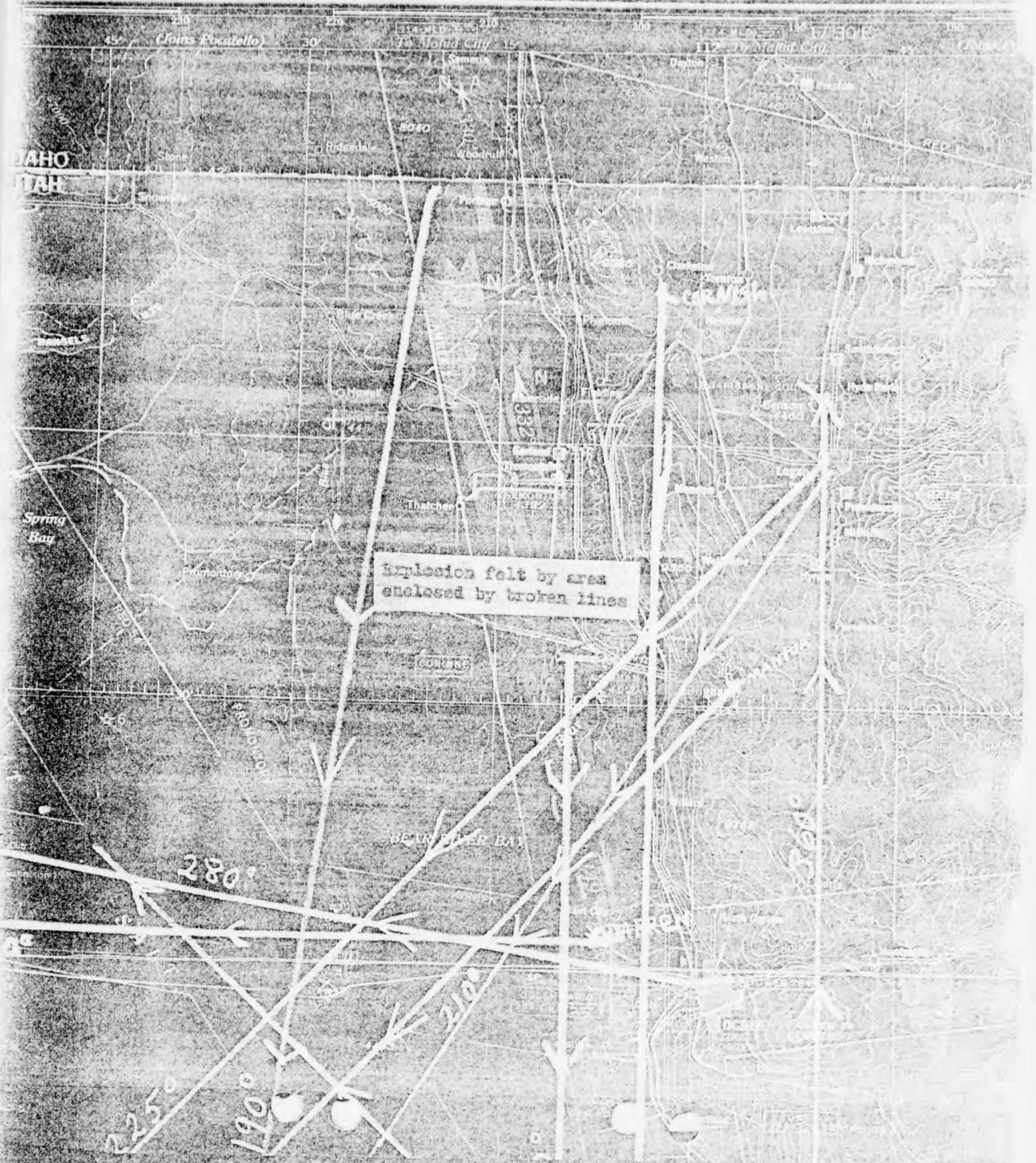
Dunbar

Blount

(Jones Grand Junction)



ELEVATIONS IN FEET



Explosion felt by area enclosed by broken lines

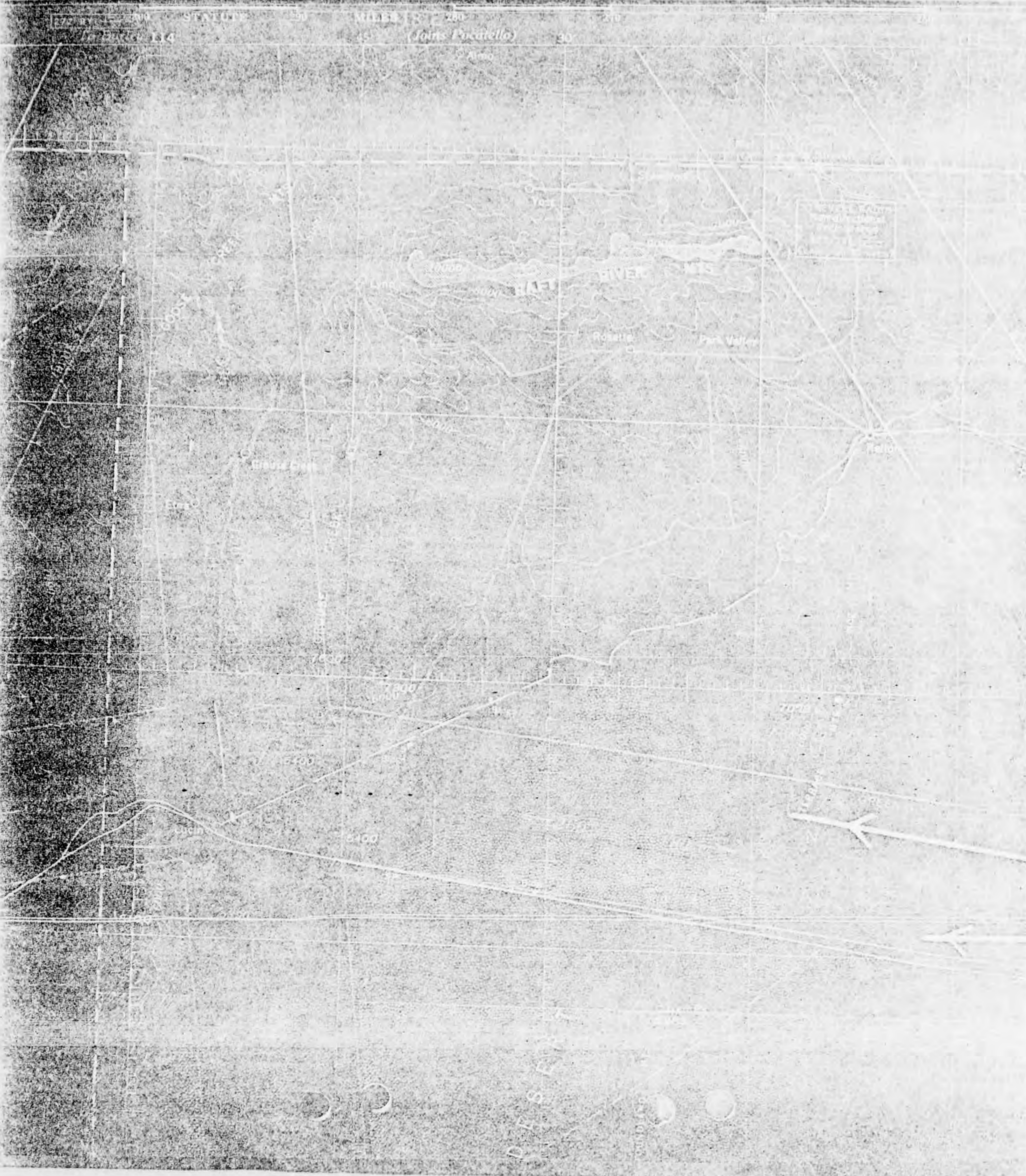
280

2250

1900

2100

# SALT LAKE CITY (U.S.)



DESBERT  
1950

NEVADA

6700

Winnemuccia

5500

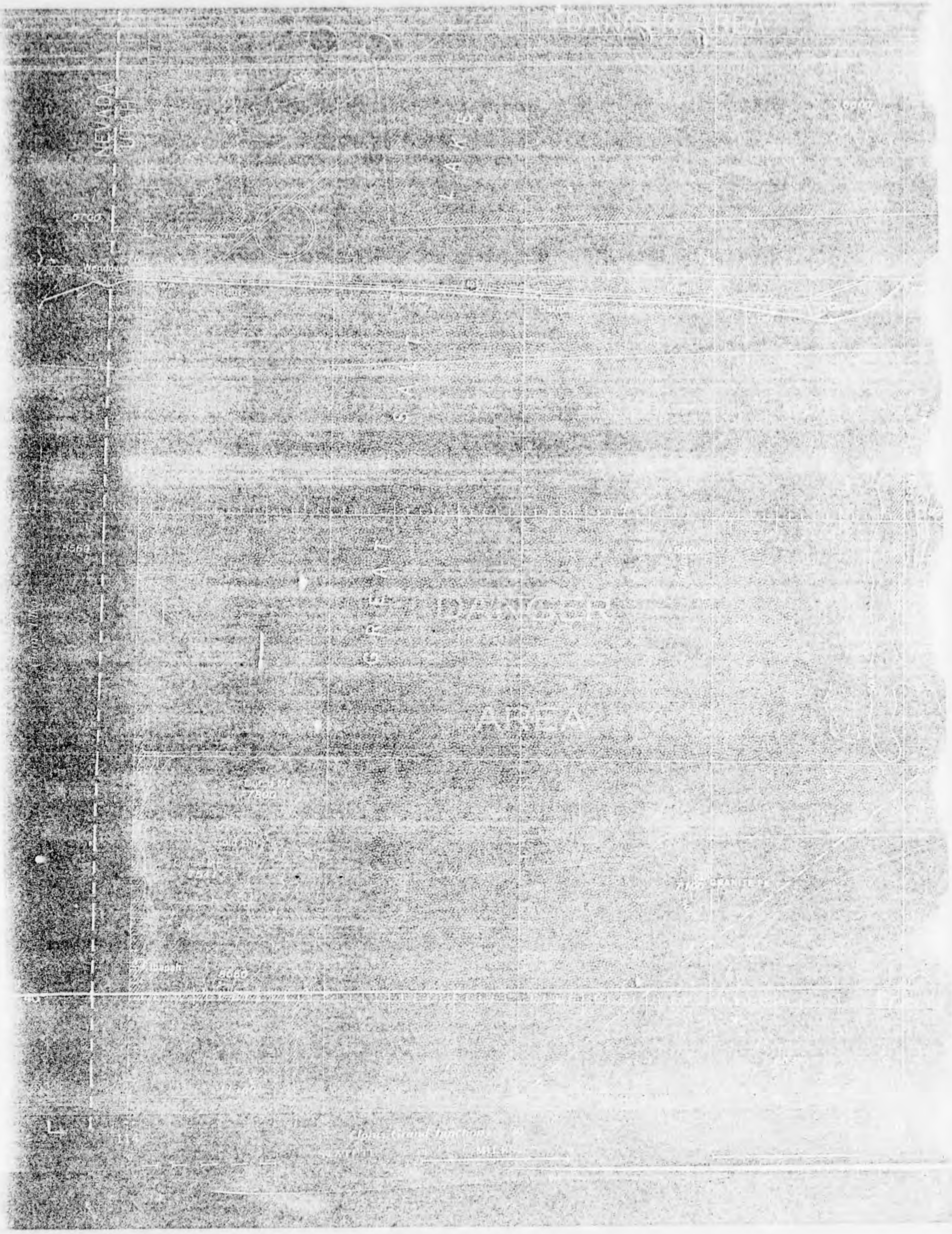
7800

7000

7100

John A. and Company

1880



WIDEWIDE FOR 0900 H to 1200 H 5th APRIL 1949

FOGATKRO: 0900 M- E220-560 217/57/20-220/022  
 1000 M- E220-560 220/58/21-21/021  
 1130 M- E200-560 213/57/25-27/019  
 1230 M- E240-560 217/57/26-26/017

WALTON CITY: 0930 M- E200-560 217/57/33-35/029  
 1030 M- E200-560 217/57/33-35/029  
 1130 M- E200-560 217/57/33-35/029  
 1230 M- E200-560 217/57/33-35/029

OGDEN: 0930 M- E250-520 211/51/32-13/020  
 1030 M- E250-520 217/50/26-10/03  
 1130 M- E250-520 217/59/21-12/025  
 1230 M- E250-520 217/51/27-14/026

SALT LAKE: 0930 M- E200-520 211/57/33-11/028  
 1030 M- E220-520 217/57/33-11/027  
 1130 M- E220-520 217/57/33-11/027  
 1230 M- E220-520 217/57/33-11/027

LUCIN: 0930 M- E220-530 217/56/27-9/028  
 1030 M- E220-530 217/56/31-10/028  
 1130 M- E220-530 217/56/31-10/028  
 1230 M- E220-530 217/56/31-10/028

BURLEY: 0930 M- E200-530 217/55/27-11/027  
 1030 M- E200-530 217/59/21-18/023  
 1130 M- E200-530 217/61/25-28/019  
 1230 M- E200-530 217/61/21-20/019

STREVELL: 0930 M- E200-530 217/58/27-9/027  
 1030 M- E200-530 217/58/30-9/027  
 1130 M- E200-530 217/58/29-16/027  
 1230 M- E200-530 217/58/21-21/026



## INCLOSURES:

UNCLASSIFIED

FOR CG, COAMA, HILL AFB

Photostatic copies of weather sequences, winds aloft charts, 7 milibar map for the area and time involved, and area map with lines drawn in to indicate direction of observation. (Broken lines indicate area in which explosion was felt)

FOR CG, AMC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

Photostatic copies of weather sequences, winds aloft charts, 7 milibar map for the area and time involved, and area map with lines drawn in to indicate direction of observation. (Broken lines indicate area in which explosion was felt)

FOR CG, KIRTLAND AFB

Photostatic copies of weather sequences, winds aloft charts, 7 milibar map for the area and time involved, and area map with lines drawn in to indicate direction of observation. (Broken lines indicate area in which explosion was felt)

FOR HQ OSI

Photostatic copies of weather sequences, winds aloft charts, 7 milibar map for the area and time involved, and area map with lines drawn in to indicate direction of observation. (Broken lines indicate area in which explosion was felt)

FOR DO #16

Photostatic copies of weather sequences, winds aloft charts, 7 milibar map for the area and time involved, and area map with lines drawn in to indicate direction of observation. (Broken lines indicate area in which explosion was felt)

UNCLASSIFIED

DETAILS: (Cont'd)

UNCLASSIFIED

W  
M

approximately sixty degrees. The bluish light first observed by [redacted] turned into a brilliant white ball of light before it disappeared in the air at 325 degrees from the control tower. [redacted] further described the object as seeming huge when first observed, gradually diminishing in size in its descent. He was unable to estimate the direction the object was traveling with much accuracy but thought it would be roughly northwest. [redacted], Chief Airport Traffic Controller, CAA, Municipal Airport, Salt Lake City, Utah substantiated [redacted] description of the phenomena.

W  
M

19. On 3 April 1949, [redacted], Associate Professor of Mathematics, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was driving north from the south side of Salt Lake City when he observed a flashing object about thirty degrees above the horizon to the north. [redacted] estimated the object to be traveling at an angle of sixty degrees with the horizon and stated that the object was pouring off a short smoke or vapor trail. He placed the time of his observation as near 1000 hours MST and indicated quite definitely that he believed the phenomena he had witnessed to be a meteor. From reports he had received, [redacted] estimated that the object was at least twenty-five miles in the air at the time he first observed it. The phenomena lasted no more than three quarters of a second by [redacted]'s account.

AT HILL AIR FORCE BASE, UTAH

20. On 13 April 1949, Captain [redacted], Chief of Maintenance and Communications Service, Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah was interviewed and stated that he was Airdrome Officer at Hill AF Base on 5 April 1949. Captain [redacted] stated that he received a request from the District Commander, 16th District OSI (IG), Hill AFB on 5 April 1949 for him [redacted] to determine if the Carrington Island Bombing Range (in Great Salt Lake) was in use. [redacted] said that he informed the District Commander, 16th District OSI (IG) that three (3) B-29 Bombers from Castle Air Force Base, Merced, California were using practice bombs on the Carrington Island Bombing Range from an altitude of 29,000 feet between 0900 hours MST and 1130 hours MST, 5 April 1949.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Request for Investigation

5D-OSI

MCIAAO-3

7 Apr 49

1.

ATTN: Major Farrell

1. It is requested your office initiate an investigation of the "firegall" sighting near Salt Lake City, Utah referred to in inclosed newspaper articles.
2. All witnesses should be interrogated using inclosed "Guide to Investigation" as an aid in recording necessary information.
3. It is further requested that this investigation be expedited inasmuch as Headquarters, USAF has shown an interest in this case.

2 Incls

1. "Guide to Investigation" (quad)
2. Newspaper clipping of Incident (copy)

A. J. HEMSTREET, JR.  
Lt Colonel, USAF  
Acting Chief  
Tech Intelligence Division  
Intelligence Department

GWT/rm  
6-5310  
P 201 F  
Bldg 233

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

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~~RESTRICTED~~