

Incident 282
Reported to AFIC, Denver, Colorado

AIRC NO. 777 DATE OF UDG 6 April 1949
AF NO. 777 LOCATION Denver, Colorado
WFOUR NO. 777 SOURCE Civilian couple
DATE OF REPORT 777 DATE IN TO AFIC 777
TIME OF THE UDG 2000 COLOR Blue-white light
SHAPE Round SPEED High PROB. Non-astr
DIR. 777 ALTITUDE 15,000'-25,000' approx.
DIRECTION W LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 777
NO. IN GROUP 1 TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground
DIR. 777 MANEUVERS Gained altitude
PROB. 777 SKETCHES REMARKS: Object identified as a black
weather balloon.

Temporary AFIC Form 329
(1 Jan 52)

Balloon

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
LOWRY AIR FORCE BASE
AND
341ST TECHNICAL TRAINING WING
DENVER, COLORADO

WAN/mp

GB 000.9

11 April 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft - "Flying Disc"

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

1A X 5

1. In reference to TT LUGB 2102 from this Headquarters, 7 April 1949, relative to report of unconventional aircraft which was identified as U. S. Weather balloon, inclosed is final Report No. LAFB 000.9-2 from this Headquarters. Case inquiry closed at this base. This report is in compliance with Air Intelligence Requirements Memorandum No. 4, DAF, 15 February 1949, Subject: Unconventional Aircraft.

Wm. A. Wilberger

1 Incl:

Report No. LAFB 000.9-2
(single)

WM. A. WILBERGER

Major, USAF
Wing Intelligence Officer

DECLASSIFIED
BY: [Signature]
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
3 YEARS

UNCLASSIFIED

282

4-18

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U.S.C. §§ 31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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16-55570-1 U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING
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(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

FROM (AGENCY) REPORT NO.
Hq 3415th TT Wing, Lowry
AFB, Denver, Colorado LAFB 000.9-2 PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGES

- (3) Radar observations with APQ 13 were not made at any time on 6 April 1949.
- b. Activities of U. S. Weather Bureau Station at Stapleton Field, Denver, Colorado:
- (1) Surface observations (teletype sequences) indicate clear skys, visibility unlimited.
 - (2) Upper air observation consisting of tracking of a weather balloon through optical means was conducted from 2003MT to 2029MT. (This activity is firmly believed to be the cause for reporting of object observed by FBI Agent and witnesses).
- c. Analysis of weather by Lowry AFB Weather Officer for 2000MT hours, 6 April 1949 is: Sky condition clear, visibility 40 miles or more, winds aloft 15 thousand feet West Northwest, 25 knots becoming North Northwest 40 knots at 25 thousand feet. (See attached Weather Officer's Report).
3. Local flight schedules of commercial private and military aircraft flying in vicinity at the time: Information pertinent to this matter, negative.
4. Release of testing devices in vicinity sent aloft by various organizations: Negative information except for items reported above.
- 5, 6, & 7: Negative.
8. See OSI Report.
- 9 & 10: Negative.

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U.S.C. §§31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. THE TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF THE CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (AGENCY) Hq 3415th TT Wing, Lowry AFB, Denver, Colorado REPORT NO. LAFB 000.9-2 PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

20. Manner of Disappearance: Faded from sight.

Relative to the Observer

1. Mr. ~~E. C. Johnson~~, Special Agent, FBI, Denver Office. (See OSI Report for further details of observer including names, addresses and statements of witnesses.)

Relative to Radar Sightings

1. Radars operating on ground: a. Det. A, 3903 D, Radar Bomb Scoring Squadron, attached to Lowry AFB, was operating for a 12 hour period, commencing at 1800 hours MT. This unit was operating a ground radar set SCR 584 on a combination search and tracking basis. Set operated in "S" Band at approximately 3000 megacycles. No unusual objects noted in scope. No form of interference encountered.
- b. Activities of Air National Guard and Naval Weather Section at Buckley Field, Colorado: None.
- c. No other active units determined.
- d. Rocky Mountain Arsenal not firing on targets in evening.
- e. 1910 AACB Squadron attached to Lowry AFB reported negative information on their instruments during time involved. (See attached report).

General

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions: (For Lowry AFB and U.S. Weather Station, Stapleton Airfield, Denver, Colorado, attached to report of Lowry AFB Weather Officer.)
2. Winds aloft report: a. Activities of Det. 19-3, 19th Weather Squadron attached to Lowry AFB, is as follows:
 - (1) Surface observations (teletype sequences) indicate clear skys, visibility unlimited. Copy of weather report attached.
 - (2) Upper Air Observation consisting of radio set SCR 653 tracking transmitter attached to large balloon was conducted from 1809M to 1850M when balloon burst. Set turned off at 1855M. Set operated on 403 megacycles with no evidence of interference. Copy of upper wind report (RAWIN) attached to Weather Officer's Report.

TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF
THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U.S.C.
--31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS
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AF FORM 112--PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------|
| FROM (Agency) Hq 3415th TT Wing, Lowry AFB, Denver, Colorado | REPORT NO. LAFB 000.9-2 | PAGE . 1 OF 3 PAGES |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------|

PART II - REQUIREMENTS

General

1. Date of sighting: Wednesday, 6 April 1949.
2. Time of sighting: 2000 hours MT, plus or minus 10 minutes.
3. Where sighted (observer's position): From parking area at Stapleton Airport, (Municipal Airport), Denver, Colorado. Observer with his wife dismounted from automobile to make observations and collected several witnesses from other motorists. Coordinates for Stapleton Airfield are approximately $39^{\circ} 45' 30''$ North, $104^{\circ} 53'$ West.
4. Number of objects: One - which was round shaped.
5. Observable celestial phenomena: Lowry Air Force Base Weather Officer reports survey of astronomical phenomena reveals no outstanding or prominent celestial phenomena.
6. Distance of object from observer: Estimated 4 miles, altitude 15,000 to 25,000 feet.
7. Time in sight: About 15 minutes.
8. Appearance of object: Object dark colored, with a small bluish, yellow light trailing. Description of object by observer reasonably coincides with description of U. S. Weather Station balloon sent up from Stapleton Field. Weather balloon used was black, 100 gram size, with two standard flash light batteries wired together with an ordinary flashlight bulb suspended underneath. Lowry AFB Weather Officer estimates size of balloon to be approximately $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter when released on the ground, about 6 feet in diameter at 20,000 feet, and 8 feet in diameter at 30,000 feet, at which altitude it broke. Visibility by the naked eye could not be much beyond 20,000 feet.
9. Direction of flight: Approximately an eastward direction and gaining altitude with jerky short leaps.
- 10, 11, & 12: Negative.
13. Lights: A small light burning continuously. See Item 8.
14. Thru 19: Negative.

4. OSI conducted identification test by observer under identical conditions. Positive identification U. S. Weather balloon made 8 April 1949. Case closed. TICLS.

4 Incls

- Incl 1 - 14th Dist CSI Report
Incl 2 - 1910th AACCS Sq. Report
Incl 3 - Station Weather Officer's Report
Incl 4 - Base Operations Officer's Report

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

- ✓1. AMC Wright-Patterson Field 1. TD AFRC Scott AFB, Illinois
1. Director Intelligence, HQ. USAF 1. 14th Dist. OSI, Lowry AFB
1. AFRC Barksdale AFB, La. 1. Intell. Office File

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE SPY SPIONAGE ACT, 50 U.S.C.--31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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(CLASIFICATION)

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AF FORM 112--PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1945

(CLASSIFICATION)

COUNTRY REPORT NO. (LEAVE BLANK)
U.S.A. LAFB 000.9-2

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT:

Unconventional Aircraft - "Flying Disc"

AREA REPORTED ON FROM (Agency)
Denver, Colorado Hq. 3415th TT Wing, Lowry AFB, Denver, Colo.

DATE OF REPORT DATE OF INFORMATION EVALUATION
8 April 1949 7 April 1949 A-1

PREPARED BY (Officer) SOURCE
J. A. WILBERGER, Major, USAF, Wing Intell.O. 14th District OSI

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)
TT LUGB 2102, Hq 3415th TT Wing, Lowry AFB, Denver, Colorado, 7 April 1949

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112--Part II.)

1. The 14th District OSI, Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colorado, received report 7 April 1949 from FBI Agent, [REDACTED] that at about 2000 hours, 6 April 1949, [REDACTED] had sighted a round object in the vicinity of Stapleton Field (Municipal Airport), Denver, Colorado, which he thought might be a flying disc, observation being made from parking area at Stapleton Field. He collected several witnesses to observe object. Object was reported at altitude of 15,000 to 25,000 feet, travelling eastward and gaining altitude, finally fading from view. OSI investigated all witnesses and other related matters.

2. Wing Intelligence Office ascertained from various agencies that this Base's ground radar set SCR-584 operated continuously for 12 hour period commencing 1800 MT on combination search and tracking basis. Set operated on "S" band, approximately 3000 megacycles. No unusual objects noted in scope. No form of interference encountered. Weather analysis at 2000 MT: sky condition clear, visibility 40 miles or more, winds aloft 15,000 feet West Northwest 25 knots, becoming North Northwest 40 knots 25,000 feet.

3. U. S. Weather Bureau Station, Stapleton Field, reported upper air observation consisted of tracking of weather balloon through optical means conducted from 2003 to 3029 hours MT. Large black weather balloon with small battery and light was used. Reporting witness descriptions reasonably coincide with description and activity of this balloon. Test of witness identification under similar conditions will be conducted.

~~REF ID: A6510~~
HEADQUARTERS
LOWRY AIR FORCE BASE
AND
3415TH TECHNICAL TRAINING WING
DENVER, COLORADO

UNCLASSIFIED

LRY 333.1

7 April 1949

SUBJECT: Investigation of Meteorological Activities in Vicinity of Denver, Colorado, on Evening of 6 April 1949

TO: Commanding General
Lowry Air Force Base
Denver, Colorado
ATTN: Wing Intelligence Officer

1. An investigation of all upper air and radar activities of weather agencies at or adjacent to Lowry Air Force Base, Denver, Colorado, was conducted by the undersigned on this date. Results by organization follow:

a. Activities of Det 19-3, 19th Weather Squadron:

- (1) Surface observations (teletype sequences) indicate clear skys, visibility unlimited. Copy of weather report attached.
- (2) Upper Air Observation consisting of radio set SCR 658 tracking transmitter attached to large balloon was conducted from 1809M to 1850M when balloon burst. Set turned off at 1855M. Set operated on 403 megacycles with no evidence of interference. Copy of upper wind report (RAWIN) attached.
- (3) Radar observations with APQ 13 were not made at any time on 6 April 1949.

b. Activities of U. S. Weather Bureau weather station at Stapleton Field, Denver, Colorado:

- (1) Surface observations (teletype sequences) indicate clear skys, visibility unlimited. Copy of reports attached.
- (2) Upper air observation consisting of tracking of a weather balloon through optical means was conducted from 2003M to 2029M. (A black 100 gram balloon with attached battery and light was used). Copy of report attached.

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

REF ID: A65124
UNCLASSIFIED

| | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION | | FILE NO. 24-25 | DATE 13 April 1949 |
| | | REPORT MADE BY ROBERT C. LANE, 3/A | (1) |
| TITLE Investigation of Unidentified Aerial Object (Stapleton Airport, 6 April 1949) | | REPORT MADE AT DO #14, LOWRY AFB | |
| | | PERIOD 7, 8 April 1949 | |
| | | OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #14, LOWRY AFB | |
| | | STATUS CLOSED | |

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRYREFERENCE
None - This is an Initial Report

SYNOPSIS

On 7 April 1949, the District Commander, 14th CSI District, Lowry AF Base, received a telephonic report from [REDACTED], a Special Agent of the FBI, Denver District Office, that he and his wife had sighted a mysterious lighted aerial object, the previous night, while parked at the parking area, Stapleton Airport, Denver, Colorado. The above FBI Agent stated that he did not believe the object he observed was any known aircraft as it traveled extremely fast and erratic. FBI Agent [REDACTED] further stated that a Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Denver, Colorado, who were parked in an automobile next to him, had observed the same aerial object or phenomena. Investigation disclosed that the U. S. Weather Bureau, Weather Station, at Stapleton Field, Denver, had released a 100 gram weather balloon, with a light attached, at approximately the same time that Agent [REDACTED] and Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] had sighted the above-mentioned object.

On 8 April 1949 at 2000 hours, Agent [REDACTED] and wife accompanied the writer to the U. S. Weather Station at Stapleton Airport, and watched another weather balloon, with light, released. Agents [REDACTED] then definitely identified the weather balloon as the object he had seen the previous night.

| | | |
|--|---|------------|
| DISTRIBUTION HQ, Lowry AFB (info cys) HQ, CSI DO #5 FILE | ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO Director of Special Investigations Office of the Inspector General, USAF Washington 25, D. C. | FILE STAMP |
| | APPROVED  Robert C. Lane 14th CSI DISTRICT Inspector General District Commander | 7-3712-17 |

Mr. [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

LRY 333.1

SUBJECT: Investigation of Meteorological Activities in Vicinity of Denver, Colorado, on Evening of 6 April 1949

UNCLASSIFIED

7 April 1949

c. Activities of Radar Bomb Scoring Unit:

- (1) Ground Radar set SCR 584 operated continuously during 12 hour period commencing 1800M on combination search and tracking basis. Set operated in "S" band at approximately 3000 megacycles. No unusual objects noted in scope. No form of interference encountered.

d. Activities of Air National Guard at Buckley Field, Colorado: None.

e. Activities of Naval Weather Section at Buckley Field, Colorado: None.

f. Activities of other units: None determined.

2. Analysis of weather at 2000M is: sky condition clear, visibility 40 miles or more, winds aloft 15 thousand feet West Northwest, 25 knots becoming North Northwest 40 knots at 25 thousand feet.

3. Survey of astronomical phenomena reveals no outstanding or prominent celestial phenomena.

1 Incl:
As Stated

Leslie W. Cowan
LESLIE W. COWAN
Captain, USAF
Station Weather Officer

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~~RESTRICTED~~

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LOWRY AIR FORCE BASE, DENVER COLORADO, 6 APRIL 1949

1930M LRY O40 135/59/17-8/000/RAREP PPINE // /
2030M LRY O40 142/57/150/003 308 24836 // /

STAPLETON AIRFIELD, DENVER COLORADO, 6 APRIL 1949

1930M DEN O50 142/54/21-8/004 QAGEN
2030M DEN O50 146/52/20-5/007/ 317 24916 QAGEN

LOWRY AIR FORCE BASE, DENVER COLORADO, 6 APRIL 1949

2000M RAWIN LRY 03 RAWIN 03206 63317 3319 83319 3117 03008
23015 42911 63224 83229 03246 23236 43243

STAPLETON AIRFIELD, DENVER COLORADO, 6 APRIL 1949

PB 32 070510Z
DEN 03 03010 62921 2823 82922 3018 03015 23011 42513 62515
83115 03328 53236 03235

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sec. 1

OFFICE OF THE BASE OPERATIONS OFFICER
3415th Technical Training Wing
and
Lowry Air Force Base
Denver, Colorado

CC/vph

UNCLASSIFIED 11 April 1949

SUBJECT: Report of Aircraft

TO: Commanding Officer
Lowry Air Force Base
Denver, Colorado
ATTN: Wing Intelligence Officer

1. The following report of aircraft other than those based at Lowry Air Force Base which were flying in the vicinity of Denver between the hours of 1836 MST and approximately 2300 MST (exact time not determined) 6 April 1949 was obtained from Mr Ted Holmes, CAA Controller at Stapleton Airport:

| <u>1836 MST</u> | <u>2019 MST</u> | <u>Western 110</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| CAA - 207 | Continental 63 | United 617 |
| Navion 10K | | --- 97B |
| Continental 622 | | CAA 207 |
| <u>1841 MST</u> | <u>2026 MST</u> | Continental 40 |
| U 108 | Monarch 134 | United 108 |
| Western 52 | Luscombe 88V | Monarch 134 |
| Cessna 097 | Piper 75N | Continental 62 |
| Cessna 097 | | Challenger 6 |
| United 629 | | Braniff 46 |
| <u>1911 MST</u> | <u>2055 MST</u> | Air Force 4096 |
| Continental 24 | Stinson 570 | Vultee 390 |
| Western 52 | Continental 62 | ----- 358 |
| Cessna 097 | | Cessna 96V |
| Monarch 124 | | Cessna 17V |
| Continental 27 | | Vultee 390 |
| Continental 69 | | Cessna 33N |
| Piper 75N | Braniff 46 | Beech 359 |
| Luscombe 88V | Stinson 076 | Cessna 33N |
| Cessna 097 | Braniff 54 | |
| <u>2102 MST</u> | | |

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- 2015 MST AF 4078 B-29 over DEN 26000 feet
* 2022 MST AF 6355 B-29 over DEN 26000
2043 MST AF 4084 B-29 over DEN 26000
2045 MST AF 4094 B-29 over DEN 26000
2057 MST AF 6303 B-29 over DEN 26000

The above aircraft based at either Rapid City or Merced, California.

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B/L Office of the Base Operations Officer, 3415th Tech Tng Wg & Lowry AFB -
11 April 1949. Subj: Report of Aircraft

2. The following is a report of pilots flying scheduled flights in
the vicinity of Denver between the hours of 1800 MST and 2200 MST on
6 April 1949 in aircraft based at Lowry Air Force Base:

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------|-----------|-----------------------|
| Klinger, Garfield A. | Capt | C-47-6314 | 3415th Tng Sq (Photo) |
| Zalinsky, W. | 2nd Lt | C-47-6314 | Student |
| Varley, H. B. | 1st Lt | C-47-6534 | |
| Farmer, G. G. | 1st Lt | C-47-6534 | Student Intell |
| Smith, C. R. | 2nd Lt | T-6-5049 | Student Intell |
| Spangler, H. E. | 1st Lt | T-6-5049 | Student Supply |
| Rice, L. | 1st Lt | C-47-6722 | Student Supply |
| Stager, J. A. | 1st Lt | C-47-6722 | Student Supply |
| Whitmore, F. W. | 1st Lt | C-47-2073 | Student Supply |
| Larkin, J. W. | 1st Lt | C-47-2073 | Student Supply |
| Darnold, V. W. | 1st Lt | C-47-9956 | Student Intell |
| Pederson, J. A. | 1st Lt | C-47-9956 | Student Supply |
| Linder, M. E. | 1st Lt | T-6-4549 | Student Supply |
| Brulinski, S. M. | Capt | T-6-4549 | Student Supply |
| Diehl, R. A. | 1st Lt | T-6-5056 | Student Arm |
| Elliott, H. | Capt | T-6-5056 | Student Intell |
| Eads, R. H. | 1st Lt | C-47-6354 | Student Intell |
| Stulting, E. R. | 1st Lt | C-47-6355 | Student Supply |
| Thompson, G. E. | Capt | C-45-7747 | Student Arm |
| Slocum, M. G. | 1st Lt | C-45-7747 | Student Arm |
| Czekaj, W. A. | 1st Lt | C-47-6223 | Student Arm |
| Forester, Z. T. | 1st Lt | C-47-6223 | Student Arm |
| Marsh, D. H. | 1st Lt | C-47-6206 | |
| Cox, J. H. | 1st Lt | C-47-6206 | Student Supply |

Mark V. Wilson
MARK V. WILSON
Captain, USAF
Base Operations Officer

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM CG ATC DENVER COLORADO 080700Z
TO CG AND WRIGHT PATTERSON ATTN: MCRAKES-3
INFO TO DIR OF INTELL USAF WASH D C
CG ATC BARKSDALE LA ATTN: INTELL OFF
OR TD ATC SCOTT AFB IL ATTN: INTELL OFF UNCLASSIFIED

LUGB2102
LOCAL FBI AGENT REPORTED FLYING DISC OVER STAPLETON AIR FIELD, DENVER ABOUT 2000 HOURS MT 6 APRIL 1949. OBSERVATIONS MADE FROM GROUND ON NEARBY HIGHWAY AND WITNESSES COLLECTED. 1 ROUND SHAPED OBJECT, ALTITUDE 15000 TO 25000 FT, TRAVELLING EAST AND GAINING ALTITUDE, FADING FROM VIEW. THIS HQ GROUND RADAR SET SCR-584 OPERATED CONTINUOUSLY 12 HOUR PERIOD COMMENCING 1800 MT ON COMBINATION SEARCH AND TRACKING BASIS. SET OPERATED ON QUOTE SUGAR UNQUOTE BAND APPROXIMATELY 3000 MEGACYCLES. NO UNUSUAL OBJECTS NOTED IN SCOPE, NO FORM OF INTERFERENCE ENCOUNTERED. WEATHER ANALYSIS AT 2000 MT, SKY CONDITIONS CLEAR, VISIBILITY 40 MILES OR MORE, WIND ALOFT 15000 FT NW 25 KNOTS BE COMING NW 40 KNOTS AT 25000 FT. US WEATHER BUREAU STATION STAPLETON AIRFIELD REPORT UPPER AIR OBSERVATION CONSISTING OF TRACKING OF WEATHER BALLOON THRU OPTICAL MEANS CONDUCTED FROM 2003 TO 2029 HOURS MT.

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WAN/mp

HEADQUARTERS
LOWRY AIR FORCE BASE
AND
3415TH TECHNICAL TRAINING WING
DENVER, COLORADO

GB 000.9

13 April 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft - "Flying Disc"

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

/AXS

1. Reference is made to TT LUGB 2102 from this Headquarters, 7 April 1949, relative to report of unconventional aircraft. Case referred to has been officially closed, but this office is waiting for the final written report from another agency, which is expected within a few days, before completed Report No. LAFB 000.9-2 on AF Form 112 is submitted.

2. The unconventional aircraft - "Flying Disc" reported by an FBI Agent observer has been definitely identified as a U. S. Weather Station black weather balloon, launched from Stapleton Airfield, Denver, Colorado, at 2003 hours MST, 6 April 1949. Identification made by observer from observations of an identical balloon, under the same circumstances, time and place, on 9 April 1949.

Info Copy:

Chief, Intelligence Section
A-3 Division
Hq. Tech Div.
Air Training Command
Scott AFB, Illinois

Wm. A. Wiltberger

WM. A. WILTBURGER
Major, USAF
Wing Intelligence Officer

DECLASSIFY AND REMOVE FROM RECORDS
IN 10 YEARS.

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237.

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4-18

Name and address of observer: Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED]
Mr. & Mrs. [REDACTED]

Occupation and hobbies:

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

Determined to have been Black Weather Balloon.

UNCLASSIFIED

INCIDENT NO. 232

1. Date of Observation 6 Apr 49 Date of Interview _____
2. Exact time (local) 2000
3. Place of Observation Stapleton Municipal Airport, Denver Colorado
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object to - Other people watching sky
6. Number of objects One
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object Bluish-white light
9. Shape Round
10. Altitude 15,000 - 25,000
11. Direction from observer NW
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) West
14. Time in sight 12-15 min.
15. Speed High rate
16. sound and/or
17. Trail
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Gaining altitude erratically
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather conditions

UNCLASSIFIED

(over)

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DETAILS (cont'd)

at 2000 hours (MST), 8 April 1949, as reported by U. S. Weather Bureau, Weather Station. Sky conditions clear, visibility forty (40) miles or more, winds alight, fifteen thousand (15,000) feet, west northwest, twenty-five (25) knots becoming north northwest forty (40) knots at twenty-five thousand (25,000) feet.

C. On 8 April 1949, Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED], accompanied this Agent to Stapleton Airport and at 2000 hours (MST), watched a balloon identical to that referred to in paragraph 4 above, released by the U. S. Weather Bureau Station. After observing the flight of the weather balloon, both Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] positively identified it as the same type object they had observed the night of 6 April 1949.

CLOSED

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DETAILS:

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

1. This investigation was requested by the District Commander, 14th OSI District, Lowry AF Base, who at 1100 hours (MST), 7 April 1949, was telephonically informed by [REDACTED], Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Denver District Office, that on the previous night, 6 April 1949, at approximately 1950 hours (MST), while parked at Stapleton Airport, Denver, Colorado, he had sighted an unidentified aerial object which pursued an extremely fast and erratic flight.

AT DENVER, COLORADO

2. Mr. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] St., Denver, a Special Agent of the FBI, Denver District Office, was interviewed and stated that he and his wife had been sitting in a parked automobile at approximately 1950 hours (MST), 6 April 1949, in the parking lot at Stapleton Airport, watching commercial aircraft landing and taking off. Mr. [REDACTED] said that he observed a rather brilliant, bluish, white light coming from the Northwest at a high rate of speed, at approximately fifteen thousand (15,000) feet altitude. Mr. [REDACTED] said that the light traveled in an erratic, jerky flight and gained altitude as it passed over the airport, rising to about twenty-five thousand (25,000) feet altitude, at which point it seemed to pick up additional speed. Mr. [REDACTED] further stated that the light seemed to flicker at times and he continued to watch it as it traveled due east for approximately twelve (12) or fifteen (15) more minutes, at which time it disappeared from view. Mr. [REDACTED] said that a Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] who were sitting in an adjacent car, had observed the same object, and all had concluded that it could not have been an airplane.

3. On 7 April 1949, Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] St., Denver, were interviewed and stated substantially the following: They had been sitting in their automobile parked in the parking lot at Stapleton Airport at approximately 2000 hours (MST), 6 April 1949, when Mr. [REDACTED] noticed a bright bluish-white light, coming from the northwest and traveling in an erratic, jerky path at a high rate of speed. Mr. [REDACTED] stated that the object traveled in a due east direction directly over the airport, gaining altitude as it went. Mr. [REDACTED] further stated that the object seemed to climb much faster than an airplane and he observed it for approximately twelve (12) to fifteen (15) minutes before it was lost to sight. Mr. [REDACTED] said that he could not estimate the altitude of the object observed, but he did not believe it was an airplane or a star.

AT STAPLETON AIRPORT

4. Investigation and inquiries made at U. S. Weather Bureau, Weather Station, revealed that a one hundred (100) gram weather balloon with a small light suspended therefrom, was released at approximately 2003 hours (MST), 6 April 1949. This balloon was tracked by optical means, to 2029 hours (MST), at which time the balloon burst or was lost to sight. Weather conditions on 6 April 1949 indicated clear skies with unlimited visibility. Weather conditions

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

SD 24-21

13 April 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT CHIDGE
Incident, Denver, Colorado, 6 April 1949
SPECIAL INQUIRY

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

1. Inclosed for your information and any action deemed essential are two copies of report of investigation of Special Agent ROBERT C. LANE, OSI District Office No. 14, Lowry AFB, Denver, Colorado.

2. Your attention is invited to the fact that observers subsequently identified the phenomena as an aerial weather balloon.

3. No further investigative action is contemplated by this office regarding this incident.

1 Enc
Rpt of Inv dtd 13 Apr 49
(in dup)

JEROME M. BRAUN
Acting District Commander

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AIRWAYS AND AIR COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE
HEADQUARTERS 1910th AACCS SQUADRON
Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado

7 April 1949

SUBJECT: Confidential Report

TO: Commanding Officer
3415th Technical Training Wing
Lowry Air Force Base
Denver, Colorado
ATTN: Wing Intelligence Officer

1. Reference our conversation at approximately 1100R hours this date, a negative report is forwarded for time specified during conversation.

2. Additional information which is authentic in nature but doubtful as to value follows:

a. Control Tower reported loud squeal on Very High Frequency radio from 2230 to 2240R hours 6 April 1949. Also there was unusual high noise level noticed on low frequency receivers at approximately the same time.

b. Ground/Air reported trouble contacting aircraft at 2235R hours, 6 April 1949, due to high noise level on "C" "Charlie" channel of Very High Frequency equipment.

3. Both of the above mentioned happenings are characteristic of the equipment involved and could not necessarily be construed to be an unusual occurrence of any one particular nature.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

William J. Olsen
WILLIAM J. OLSEN
1st Lt., USAF
Intelligence Officer

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

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229-49128

UNCL⁹
CLASSIFIED

MCIAKS

14 April 1949

Subject: Request for Investigation - Project "Grudge"

GB 000.9

1st Ind.

WAN/mp

Headquarters, 3415th Technical Training Wing, Lowry Air Force Base,
Denver, Colorado, 18 April 1949

TO: Commanding General, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attn: MCIAKO-3.

1. AF Form 112 on the above project was compiled by this office on 11 April 1949, but waiting on the copy of the 14th District OSI Report, the completed report with OSI Investigation Report was not forwarded your office until 13 April 1949. Due to the delay in receiving the OSI Report, a letter was forwarded to your command dated 13 April 1949, with information that the case was completed and positive identification made of alleged unconventional aircraft. Object was identified as being the U. S. weather balloon released at the U. S. Weather Station, Stapleton Airport, at 2003 hours MST, 6 April 1949. Our incident number is LAFB 000.9-2.

2. Due to the fact that your inclosed form is a duplication of AF Form 112, which has been forwarded, we are extracting your special form as an information copy for this office. If after reviewing our completed form 112, it is still desired to have us compile your special form, please advise us.

1-Incl: w/d

WM. A. WILTBERGER
Major, USAF
Wing Intelligence Officer

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

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