

9/2315-Z

ATIC NO. ---  
 AF NO. ---  
 REPORT NO. Army Letter  
 DATE OF REPORT 15 March 1950  
 TIME OF OCCURRENCE 1805 to 1825 EST  
 CHARACTER Contrail  
 SIZE Very small  
 COLOR West  
 NO. IN GROUP 1  
 NUMBER ---  
 HEIGHT ---  
 DISTANCE ---

DATE OF INFO 9 March 1950  
 LOCATION JANEGULL, S. C.  
 SOURCE Several  
 DATE IN TO ATIC ---  
 COLOR White  
 HEIGHT Same as high a/c  
 ALTITUDE Very high  
 LENGTH OF THE OBSERVED ---  
 TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground  
 MANEUVERS ---

Incident was observed by army investigator very probably was contrail from high flying aircraft.

Temporary ATIC Form 329  
 (1 Jan 52)



ASTRO: METEOR



2  
mnc

36

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY  
FORT McPHERSON, GEORGIA

AJACI-3 360.33

14 March 1950

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

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

Attention: MCI (Control No. A-1917)

Inclosed herewith is summary of information re sighting of  
supposed flying saucer over Orangeburg, South Carolina.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*J.M. Meade*  
for JOHN MEADE  
Colonel, GSC  
AC of S, G-2

1 Incl:  
S/I dtd 14 Mar 50

503.13  
~~XXXX~~  
card!

*3370-10001 DUB AND INCLUDES RECORDS  
OF TRAIL*

ANALYSIS DIVISION FILE	
FILE NUMBER	
<i>JJR</i>	<i>3.21</i>
INITIALS	DATE

7-3712-28



**SUMMARY OF INFORMATION**

DATE  
14 March 1950

PREPARING OFFICE

G-2, Hq Third Army, Fort McPherson, Georgia

SUBJECT

UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT CITED OVER  
ORANGEBURG, SOUTH CAROLINA

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 ATLANTA JOURNAL, 10 March 1950, carried the following article:

"ORANGEBURG, S. C., March 10 - Scores of Orangeburg residents added to the growing number of flying saucer reports with the description of a disk which hovered over the city for 15 minutes, then disappeared leaving a vapor trail.

"Six members of the staff of the ORANGEBURG TIMES and DEMOCRAT said they saw the disk Thursday night after Mrs. Donald Law, wife of the city editor, told them about it. They said it was about the size and color of a new moon, 'only brighter.'

"Publisher [redacted] said the disk appeared to turn slowly in the air, from vertical to parallel with the horizon and then vertical again, before disappearing in the western sky. [redacted], a composing room employee, said he and four other persons saw the disk while driving on a highway 15 miles out of Orangeburg.

"Another flying saucer was reported Thursday by residents of Van Nuys, Calif, who told police they saw a bright disk flying about 400 feet in the air. All witnesses said they were sure it was not an aircraft of any known variety.

"Composer [redacted] and actor [redacted] and his wife said they studied the disk through a telescope. [redacted] said it appeared to be 50 feet in diameter.

"At the same time Mexican and U. S. Government officials in Mexico City denied a report that a flying saucer had crashed near the capital with a 23-inch man aboard.

"However, the Mexican government newspaper, EL NACIONAL, quoted 'a famous and reputable astronomer' as saying the numerous disks reported over Mexico 'carry visitors from Mars.'

"The unidentified Mexican scientist wrote that the manner of flight and proportions of the disks 'make it obvious that they carry beings from another world.' He said his claim would be confirmed in the near future 'when one of the disks is chased to earth by some military plane.'"

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVAL  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

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lcc - File

DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED



*Alc. mci AXA*

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY  
FORT MCPHERSON, GEORGIA

AJACI-3 360.33

15 March 1950

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

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

Attention: MCI (Control No. A-1917)

Inclosed herewith is newspaper clipping re sighting of supposed flying saucer over Columbia, South Carolina.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

*J. H. Meade*  
for JOHN MEADE  
Colonel, GSC  
AC of S, G-2

1 Incl:  
Clipping dtd 10 Mar 50

*503-13*  
~~*44\**~~  
*and*

ANALYSIS SECTION FILE	
FILE NUMBER	
<i>MR</i>	<i>3-24</i>
INDEXED	FILE



# Flying Saucers Back! Seen Over Columbia

By CHARLES SANDERS

Flying saucers made a vigorous new bid today for the news spotlight in America. One even came equipped with a midget pilot.

In South Carolina, more and more citizens from various sections reported spotting the bright, silvery object floating across the sky about 6:30 p. m. yesterday.

In Columbia, Mrs. John C. Brown of 305 North Trenholm road, said she, her husband and daughter saw the object while they were en route to Columbia from Dentonville. Mrs. Brown said the object appeared like a silver sunset, with a wide

streak, a section like a fine thread, and another wide streak.

Sam Oliver and Bob Gates, two residents of the Forest Hills area, also reported seeing the "saucers." The pair said the disc appeared to be over the Fair Grounds about 6:15 p. m. They described it thusly: "The tail end was wide and narrowed down to a point."

"I don't know how many miles long it was," Mr. Oliver said. "I thought it was a plane sky-writing, but it didn't move."

R. T. Easterling of 517 Deerwood

(Continued On Page Ten)

This Agent witnessed the above phenomenon and it appeared as follows: The object, presumably a very high flying aircraft, was traveling in a westerly direction. At first it appeared to be a sky writer but did not make any figures. The object was probably going on a straight course, but the vapor trail which it left appeared to be slightly arched. The center of the vapor trail was quite thin and dissipated very soon, leaving what appeared to be two separate trails. The wind was blowing from West to East, which made it appear like the two trails were not moving very fast. The two trails of vapor hung in the air long after the object was gone. The craft was so high and going almost directly into the sun, which made it impossible for this Agent to observe anything but the vapor trail. This was first observed at approximately 1805 and the dissipating trails were still able to be observed at 1825 hours. To this observer, this phenomenon appeared to be nothing but the regular vapor trail from a very high flying aircraft.

9 March 1950.

## FLYING

(Continued From Page One)

drive, a former air corps gunner, believes the object was a new type of aircraft. Easterling, who saw the vapor trail while en route to the city from the Lower Richland section, said he thought at first it was a jet plane exploding. However, he explained, it took 12 minutes to get out of sight. A jet would have been gone much sooner, he said. While he discarded the "man from Mars" theories, Easterling said he definitely thought the disc was an aircraft, but was not one known to the public at this time.

Seen In Orangeburg

In Orangeburg, 43 miles from here, scores of residents added their observations to the growing number of flying disc reports.

Six members of The Times and Democrat staff there said they saw the disc after Mrs. Donald Law, wife of the managing editor, told them about it. They said it was about the size and color of a new moon, "only brighter." Publisher J. L. Sims said the object appeared to turn slowly in the air, from vertical to parallel with the horizon, and then vertical again, before disappearing in the western sky.

"Tremendous Object"

At Florence, farmer J. W. Wallace saw "a tremendous object" something like an airplane and followed by a long tail. "It was the 'foolest-looking' thing I ever saw," Wallace said. "I called some of the helpers to watch so no one would think I'm crazy."

Residents of Salley, too, added confirmation to the story of the phenomenon.

And in Los Angeles, Calif., Ray L. Dimmick, a dynamite salesman, returned from a trip to Mexico and gave rise to a story about a space ship 46 feet in diameter, 90 inches thick at the center, built of a metal harder than aluminum, powered by two motors—and manned by a cretin-type little man only 23 inches tall.

The air force, who heard Dimmick's story, declared it "absolutely unsubstantiated" and said there has been no word from the Mexican government about such a strange interloper.

However, the Mexican government, El Nacional, quoted "a famous and reputable astronomer" as saying the numerous discs reported over Mexico recently "carry visitors from Mars."

AC FAO #13  
Columbia, S.C.