

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
PROJECT 10073 RECONWARD

16/2300Z

ATIC NO. --- DATE OF INFO 16 Sept 1950
AF NO. --- LOCATION Nashville, Tenn.
REPORT NO. --- SOURCE Newspaper Article
DATE OF REPORT --- DATE IN TO ATIC ---
TIME OF SIGHTING Betw. 1700 & 1800 COLOR Orange
SHAPE Parallel Lines SPEED slow Estimated
SIZE --- ALTITUDE high Measured
COURSE SW LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED ---
NO. IN GROUP 2 TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground
NOTED --- MANEUVERS ---
PHOTO --- SKETCHES ---

REMARKS: Two orange hued parallel lines of light moved slowly across sky. Some observers feel that lines were jet trails while some called them balls of fire.

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

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(CONTRAILS)

MCI 217 [redacted]

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UNCLASSIFIED
HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY
FORT McPHERSON, GEORGIA

AJACI-3 360.33

19 September 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 are newspaper clippings from the NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN, Nashville, Tennessee, 18 September, and the COMMERCIAL APPEAL, Memphis, Tennessee, 18 September, re mysterious objects in the sky.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

[Handwritten Signature]
JOHN MEADE
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

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As stated above

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Streaks in Sky Mystify Middle Tennessee Observers

Middle Tennesseans had their peaceful Sunday mildly disrupted yesterday with the late afternoon appearance of an elongated species of "flying saucer."

From Cookeville, Livingston, and Buffalo Valley, all the way to Nashville, farm and town folk craned their necks and speculated upon two odd streaks of light that appeared in the sky shortly before 6 p.m., moving to the Southwest.

Some said the flame colored streaks were rockets. Others thought they marked the trail of a pair of jet-planes. The more imaginative spoke of "flying saucers" and such. Skeptics said the sky was just playing tricks, that it was the reflection of the sun on cumulus cloud formations.

At any rate it wasn't an optical illusion. Hundreds of people stood in the streets at Cookeville

and neighboring towns to watch. Among them was Everett Derryberry, president of Tennessee Polytechnic institute, who was stumped like the rest.

Uniformly the heavenly phenomenon was described as follows:

Two orange-hued parallel lines of light, moving slowly (or maybe so high it just seemed slow) in a southwesterly direction.

Berry field weathermen could offer no precise explanation, but they weren't excited. "Probably reflection," they said.

Witnesses at THE NASHVILLE TENNESSEAN said the streaks were at a great height and at a great distance. They settled on the jet-plane explanation.

Among those who saw the show, one sentiment seemed to prevail—"In this day and time, b-c'ther, anything might happen."

Fire Balls Are Seen In Tennessee Skies

NASHVILLE, Sept. 17.—(UP)—Residents here and at Cookeville more than 50 miles to the east reported seeing "bright orange streaks" or "balls of fire" in the sky shortly before dark Sunday night.

Joe Mabry, manager of Radio Station WHUB at Cookeville, said he saw two parallel streaks traveling slowly southwestward and visible for about 10 minutes.

Mabry said more than a dozen persons telephoned his station to report seeing the streaks and to inquire about them. Among the callers, he said, was Everette Derryberry, president of Tennessee Tech.

