

ATIC NO. _____

DATE OF INFO 22 Jan 52

AF NO. _____

LOCATION Mitchell AFB, N.Y.

WING NO. _____

SOURCE Navy Pilot

DATE OF REPORT 22 Jan 52

DATE IN TO ATIC 22 Jan 52

TYPE OF UPLG C95C A.T.

COLOR Light, like nylon chute canopy

SHAPE "Pancake" or disc

SPD 300 to 500 knots No ref.

SZ 20' to 30' dia. - 3:1 ratio

ALTITUDE 6,000 No ref.

COLR Varied

LENGTH OF THE CRAFT —

NO. IN GROUP One

• TYPE OF OBSERVATION Visual-air

MOOD None

MANEUVRG Tight turns

APPROX. None SKETCHES None

Was able to get near the object "Cutting" inside on turns.

Supplementary ATIC Form 3(a)

(2 Jan 52)

WEATHER DETACHMENT 1-3
1ST WEATHER SQUADRON
MITCHEL AFB, NY

UNCLASSIFIED

21 January 1952

C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

The undersigned hereby certifies that the following weather was recorded at this station 21 January 1952.

0925E - Record Observation

Sky Clear - Vsby 10 - Sea Level Pres 237 -
Temp 29 - Dew Point 10 - Wind NNE 15 - Gusts reaching 26 Kts
Alt 3022 - Remarks PRESRR

1025E - Record Observation

Sky Clear - Vsby 15 - Sea Level Pres 244 -
Temp 29 - Dew Point 15 - Wind NNE 17 - Alt 3024

William B. Hicks
WILLIAM B. HICKS
Major USAF
Detachment Commander

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

UNCLASSIFIED

| | | |
|--|--|---------------|
| COUNTRY United States | REPORT NO. UNCLASSIFIED | (LEAVE BLANK) |
| AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT | | |
| SUBJECT <u>Report of Unconventional aircraft</u> | | |
| AREA REPORTED ON <u>Near Mitchel Air Force Base, N.Y.</u> | FROM (Agency) <u>Headquarters, 100th Air Force Base, N.Y.</u> | |
| DATE OF REPORT <u>20 January 1952</u> | DATE OF INFORMATION <u>21 January 1952</u> | EVALUATION |
| PREPARED BY (Officer) <u>Major Francis E. Dubishen</u> | SOURCE | |

REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

AFOIN C/C/CACB Dept of the Air Force, 10 AFM Washington, D. C.

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 113—Part II.)

At 0950 EST, Lt J. R. Zeitvogel flying a Navy TBM at 6000 feet, approximately three (3) miles southeast of Mitchel Field noted an unconventional object between his aircraft and Mitchel Field at an altitude appearing to be considerably lower than his. When the object appeared to turn, Lt Zeitvogel gave chase but it seemed to elude him at a high rate of speed and climb, outdistancing him until it disappeared approximately two and one half minutes later.

Significance: The object was in a limited measure comparable to a balloon, a balloon was released at approximately this time, and the motion apparent between two airborne objects is extremely deceptive. In lieu of more precise information, the report remains a mystery.

UNCLASSIFIED

Date JANUARY 21, 1952Tour of Duty 0800 - 1600Senior Controller MR. HARRY J. FOLEYC.O. MAJ. GRABNER S-3 CAPT. PERKINS

AIRCRAFT SIGHTS STRANGE OBJECT IN THE VICINITY OF MITCHEL FIELD.

WX AT 0930 E SKY CLEAR VSBY 10 MILES TEMP 29 DEW PT. 10
WIND NNW 15 GUSTS TO 26 ALTIMETER SET 30.22

0955E V 3894 TBM (BASED AT HEM) REPORTED THAT HE HAD SIGHTED AN OBJECT EAST OF MITCHEL FIELD, AT SEVERAL HUNDRED FT. ALTITUDE, SPEED APPROX 400 KNOTS. THE TOWER PERSONNEL ON DUTY DID NOT SEE THE OBJECT WHICH THE PILOT REFERRED TO.

1008 THE PILOT OF V3894 TBM GAVE A FURTHER DISRIPTION OF THE OBJECT AS FOLLOWS: "ROUND, VERY LIGHT IN COLOR, APPEARED TO BE A PARACHUTE CANOPY, WITH A DARK COLORED object underneath." THE PILOT FIRST OBSERVED THE OBJECT 2 OR 3 MILES EAST OF MITCHEL FIELD, COURSE APPROX 210 DEGREES AND HEADED TO A POINT 2 MILES SOUTH-EAST OF MITCHEL, IT THEN MADE A 260 DEGREE TURN TO THE LEFT AND THEN TO A NORTH-WESTERLY HEADING. AT A POINT APPROX 2 MILES EAST OF MITCHEL FIELD IT MADE A 360 DEGREE TURN AND BACK TO A 210 DEGREE HEADING, CLIMBING VERY RAPIDLY AT A SPEED ATLEAST 400 TO 500 KNOTS. THE OBJECT THEN DISAPPEARED FROM SIGHT.

FORTY-FIVE CITY CONT. TWR OPR,

Forty UNCLASSIFIED

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JOINT MESSAGEFORM

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CO, ATIC

TO: Commanding General
Eastern Air Defense Forces
Newburgh, New YorkR A D N O T EINFO: D/I, HQ USAF, Washington 25, D. C.
R A D N O T E

| | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------|--|
| DATE-TIME GROUP 52000Z Feb 52 | | ROUTINE | |
| PRECEDENCE FOR: | ACTION | INFORMATION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOOK MESSAGE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL MESSAGE | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE ADDRESS | CRYPTOPRECAUTION | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |
| REFERS TO MESSAGE: | | | |
| IDENTIFICATION | | CLASSIFICATION | |

For: Director of Intelligence

Request information as to whether or not any of EADF radar sites observed unidentified object reported by U. S. Navy pilot near Mitchell AFB, New York, on 21 January 1952, at 0950 EST.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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T52-3278-

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

Lt E. J. Rappelt/vs

SYMBOL

ATIAA-2c

TELEP

54261

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

OFFICIAL TITLE

UNCLASSIFIED

C1 PRIORITY
FM CG MITCHELL AFB NY 2400052
TO ADC ENT AFB COLORADO
AMC WPAFB DAYTON OHIO FOR CHIEF AIR TECHNICAL INTEL CENTER
INFO CS USAF WASH DC FOR DIRECTOR OF INTEL DCS-O

1. AT/A
2. AT/A
3. AT
4. Central Files

UNCLASSIFIED

CITE MTL 1-5 BSBO

REF PAR 4D LTR DEPT AF SUBJ REPORTING OF INFO ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS FILE AFOIN-C-CC-2, 19 DEC 51. FOL REPT IS SBMD:
1 DESCRIPTION: A SHAPE CIRCULAR, IN A HOTIZ PLANE PANCAKE SHAPED RR SIMILAR TO A OPEN PRCHT IN THE VERTICEE PLANE. B: SIZE: ESTD 20 TO 30 FT IN DIA, HEIGHT ABOUT 1/3 OF THE DIAM IN THE HORIZ PLANE. C COLOR: VERY LIGHT, AS ASILKORNLYON PRCHT CANOPY ON THE UPPER SURF. DUE TO THE HEIGHT RELATIONSHIP WAS UNABLE TO SEE THE UNDERSIDE VERY WELL HOWEVER HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE UNDERSIDE WAS A DARKER COLOR. D NO: 1. EAST FORMATION: NEGATIVE. F AERODYNAMIC FEATURES: NO APPARENT AERODYNAMIC FEATURES SUCH AS WINGS, TAIL OR ANY MEANS OF CONTROL. G TRAIL OR EXHAUST: NONE APPARENT. H PROPULSION SYSTEM: NONE APPARENT. I SPEED: WHEN FIRST SIGHTED ESTD AT 300 KNOTS, WHEN CIRCLING MITCHEL AFB THE OBJECT SEEMED TO BE SPEEING UP WHEN LAST SIGHTED BELIEVE OBJECT WAS DOING AT LEAST 500 KNOTS. WHILE THE OBJECT CIRCLED MITCHEL I WAS ABLE TO FLY FAIRLY CLOSE BY CUTTING ON THE INSIDE. I WAS DOING 160 KNOTS AND BY COMPARING THE SPEED TO MY OWN, THE ESTD 500 KNOTS SEEKS REASONABLE. J SOUND: NINE APPARENT. K MANUEVERS: TIGHT TURNS, SOUTH OF MITCHEL BEFORE

T52-2425-1.

HE CAME BACK TO MITCHEL. L MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE: THE OBJECT DISAPPEARED ABOUT 7 MILES AWAY AND AFTER REACHING AN ALT GREATER THAN MY OWN 6000 FT. M OTHER PERTINENT FEATURES: WHILE FLYING LEVEL, NEIGTER GAINING OR LOSING ALT THE OBJECT SEEMED TO HAVE A ROCKING OR OSCILLATING MOTION, 2 APROX 0950 EST. 3 VISUAL FR THE AIR. A SPEED: 160 KNOTS. B ALT 6000 FT. C TYPE ACFT: NAVY TBM-3W. 4 ABOUT 4 MILES DUE SOUTHEAST OF MITCHEL. 5 LT JR R XEITVOGEL, 304268 USN, NAVAL AVIATOR, ATTACHED TO AVY SPECIAL DEVICES CENTER PORT WASHINGTON NY. FLYING EXPERIENCE 8 YEARS FLYING IN NAVY WITH TOTAL TIME APRX 1600 HOURS. WEA MITCHEL AFB 0925 EST SKY CLEAR VISIBILITY 10 SEA LEVEL PRESSURE 237 TEMP 29 DEW .10 WIND NORTH NORTH WEST AT 50 KNOTS GUSTS REACHING 26 KNOTS ALTIMETER SETTING 30.22 REMARKS PRESSURE RISING RAPIDLY. 7 NEGATIVE. 8 NEGATIVE. 9 NEG

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CO, ATIC

TO: CO, Mitchell AFB, Hempstead, N. Y.
RADNOTEINFO: D/I, Eq USAF, Washington 25, D. C.
RADNOTERAAF, Stewart AFB, N. Y.
RADNOTE

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| DATE-TIME GROUP 231500Z Jan 52 | | ROUTINE |
| PRECEDENCE FOR: | ACTION | INFORMATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOOK MESSAGE | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL MESSAGE | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE ADDRESS | <input type="checkbox"/> CRYPTOPRECAUTION | <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |
| REFERS TO MESSAGE | | |
| IDENTIFICATION | | CLASSIFICATION |

(CONT'D.)

Airmail to Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Attn: ATIAA-2c, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, as soon as possible. Above requests can be incorporated into AF Form 112. Please advise earliest possible date this can be expected.

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T52-2281

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

| | | |
|--|--|----------------|
| DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required) Lt E. J. Ruppelt/rw | RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE CHARLES F. COOK, Capt, USAF Joint Air Adjutant General | |
| SYMBOL ATIAA-2c | TELEPHONE 54261 | OFFICIAL TITLE |

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CO, ATIC

TO: Commanding Officer
 Mitchell Air Force Base
 Hempstead, New York
RADNOTE

INFO: D/I, Hq USAF, Washington 25, D. C.
RADNOTE

Eastern Air Defense Force
 Stewart AFB, New York
 Attn: Director of Intelligence
RADNOTE

For: Base Intelligence Officer

Cite your message MEL 1-3 BSBO dated 22 Jan 52. Additional information is requested on sighting of unidentified aerial object. Request that date of sighting be confirmed. In addition, request the following information be forwarded as soon as possible:

1. Length of time object observed.
2. Flight path of aircraft and object plotted on local area chart giving positions at approximately 30 second intervals.
3. Type of transient aircraft that departed Mitchell AFB at 0943 E, name of pilot and home station.
4. Exact time of launch of any balloons from Mitchell AFB.

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 T52-2287
 DOD DIR. 5200.10

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| | | | |
|--|--------|--|--|
| DATE-TIME GROUP | | ROUTINE | |
| 231500Z Jan 52 | | | |
| PRECEDENCE FOR: | ACTION | INFORMATION | |
| Routine | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BOOK MESSAGE | | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL MESSAGE | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MULTIPLE ADDRESS | | CRYPTOPRECAUTION | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> YES | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO |
| REFERS TO MESSAGE | | | |
| IDENTIFICATION | | CLASSIFICATION | |
| | | | |

UNCLASSIFIED

ATIC NO. -----

DATE OF INFO 22 Jan 52 *21*

AFT NO. -----

LOCATION Mitchell AFB, N.Y.

REPORT NO. -----

SOURCE Navy Pilot

DATE OF REPORT 22 Jan 52

DATE IN TO ATIC 22 Jan 52

TIME OF STANDING 0950 EST

COLOR Light, like nylon chute canopy

Estimated

SHAPE "Pancake" or disc

SPEED 300 to 500 knots Measured

Estimated

SIZ 20' to 30' dia. - 3:1 ratio

ALTITUDE 6,000 Measured

COURSE Varied

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED -----

NO. IN GROUP One

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Visual-air

WORLD

None

MANEUVERS Tight turns

PHOTO

None SKETCHES None

Was able to get near the object "Cutting" inside on turns.

Supplementary ATIC Form 329

(2 Jan 52)

21 January 1952 Mitchell AFB, New York

UNCLASSIFIED



— LEGEND —

— PATH OF OBJECT —

— PATH OF AIRCRAFT —

X APPROX. POSITION OF OBJECT AT
INITIAL SIGHTING.

X APPROX. POSITION OF AIRCRAFT AT
INITIAL SIGHTING.

A 1 — POSITION OF OBJECT 30 SECONDS AFTER SIGHTING.
2 — POSITION OF OBJECT 60 SECONDS AFTER SIGHTING.
(EACH ADDITIONAL NUMERAL IN RED = 30 SECONDS.)

UNCLASSIFIED

— POSITION OF AIRCRAFT 30 SECONDS AFTER SIGHTING
(EACH ADDITIONAL NUMERAL IN BLACK = 30 SECONDS)

ALTITUDE CONVERSION SCALE

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

UNCLASSIFIED

1. ATIAA (+ Rupel +)
2. ATI A
3. ATI
4. Central Africa

RECEIVED BY AIR MAIL. SEE CAVP10-00.

C-1 [REDACTED] PRIORITY
FM MITCHEL AFB HEMPSTEAD LI NY [REDACTED]
TO CG AMC WPAFB DAYTON OHIO ATTN MCIS

PROPERTY

INFO EASTERN AIR DEFENSE FORCE STEWART AFB NY ATTN DIR OF INTELL
CG CONAC

CITE MTL 1-3 BSBO

REF PAR 5 CONAC LTR 200-1, FOL REPT IS SBMD: A DESCRIPTION
1 SHAPE: CIRCULAR, INAHORIX PLANE PANCAKE SHAPE OR SIMILAR
TO A OPEN PRCHT IN THEVERT PLANE. 2: SIZE: ESTIMATED 20 TO 30 FEET
IN DIAMETER, HEIGHT ABOUT ONE THIRD OF THE DIAMTER IN THE
HORIX PLANE. 3 COLOR: VERY LIGHT, AS A SILK OR NYLON PRCHT
CANOPY ON THE UPPER SURF. DUE TO THE EIGHT RELATIONSHIP WAS UNABLE
TO SEE THE UNDERSIDE VERY WELL HOWEVER HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT
THE UNDERSIDE WAS A DARKER COLOR. 4 NO: 1. 5 FORMATION: NEGATIVE.
6 AERODYNAMIC FEATURES: NO APPARENT AERODYNAMIC FEATURES SUCH AS
WINGS, TAIL OR ANY MEANS OF CONTROL. 7 TRAIL OR EXHAUST: NONE
APPARENT. 8 PROPULSION SYSTEM: NONE APPARENT. 9 SPEED: WHEN FIRST
SIGHTED ESTD AT 300 KNOTS, WHEN CIRCLING MITCHEL AFB THE OBJECT
SEEMED TO BE SPEEDING UP WHEN LAST SIGHTED BELIVE OBJECT WAS
DOING AT LEAST 500 KNOTS. WHILE THE OBJECT CIRCLED MITCHEL IT WAS
WAS ABLE TO FLY FAIRLY CLOSE BY CUTTING ON THE INSIDE. I WAS DOING
160 KNOTS AND BY COMPARING THE SPEED TO MY OWN, THE ESTIMATED
500 KNOTS SEEMS REASONABLE. 10 SOUND: NONE APPARENT. 11 MANUEVERS:
TIGHT TURNS, SCUTH OF MITCHEL BEFORE HE CAME BACK TO MITCHEL.
12 MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE: THE OBJECT DISAPPEARED ABOUT 7 MILES
AWAY AND AFTER REACHING AN ALTITUDE GREATER THAN MY OWN 6000 FEET.
13 OTHER PERTINENT FEATURES: WHILE FLYING LEVERL, NEITHER GAINING
OR LOSING ALT THE OBJECT SEEMED TO HAVE A ROCKING OR OSCILLATING
MOTION. B APRX 0950 EST. C VISUAL FROM THE AIR. 1 SPEED:
160 KNOTS. 2 ALT 6000 FEET. 3 TYPE ACFT: NAVY TBM-3W. D ABOUT
4 MILES DUE SOUTHEAST OF MITCHEL. E LT J R XEITVOGEL, 304268
USN, NAVAL AVIATOR. ATTACHED TO NAVY SPECIAL DEVICES CENTER PORT
WASHINGTON NY. FLYING EXPERIENCE 3 YEARS FLYING IN NAVY WITH
TOTAL TIME APRX 1600 HOURS. WEATHER MITCHEL AFB 0925 EST SKY CLEAR
VISIBILITY 10 SEA LEVEL PRESSURE 297 TEMP 29 DEW POINT 10 WIND
NORTH NORTH WEST AT 50 KNOTS GUSTS REACHING 26 KNOTS ALTIMETER
SETTING 30.22 REMARKS PRESSURE RISING RAPIDLY. G NEGATIVE. H NONE.
I CONTROL TOWER AND BASE OPERATIONS WAS INFORMED OF AVAILABLE
INFORMATION. J NONE OTHER THAN NAVY TBM-3W ON LOCAL FLIGHT PLAN
K TRANSIENT DEPARTURE AT 0943

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS,
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

| | | | | |
|--|------------|--------------|--|-------------------|
| FROM (Agency) | REPORT NO. | UNCLASSIFIED | | PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES |
| Headquarters Mitchel Air Force Base, N.Y. | | | | |
| <p>1. Description:</p> <p>a. Shape: circular shape, in a horizontal plane, pancake shaped or similar to an open parachute in the vertical plane.</p> <p>b. Size: Estimated twenty to thirty foot in diameter, height about one-third of the diameter in the horizontal plane.</p> <p>c. Color: Very light, as a silk or nylon parachute canopy on the upper surface. Due to the height relation with Lt Zeitvogel was unable to observe underside very well. However, he had the impression that the underside was a darker color.</p> <p>d. Number: One - no formation.</p> <p>e. No apparent aerodynamic features such as wings, tail or any means of control.</p> <p>f. Trail or exhaust - none apparent.</p> <p>g. Propulsion system - none apparent.</p> <p>h. Exhaust: None apparent.</p> <p>i. Speed: When first sighted, estimated at 300 knots, when circling Mitchel AFB the object seemed to be speeding up. When last sighted believed object was doing at least 500 knots. While the object circled Mitchel, Lt Zeitvogel was able to fly fairly close by cutting in the inside. He was doing 160 knots and by comparing the speed to his own, the estimated 500 Knots seemed reasonable to him.</p> <p>j. Sound: None.</p> <p>k. Manoevers: Tight turns, south of Mitchel before he came back to Mitchel.</p> <p>l. Manner of disappearance: The object disappeared about seven miles away and after reaching an altitude greater than the pilot, then at 6000 feet.</p> <p>m. Other pertinent features: While flying level, neither gaining or losing altitude, the object seemed to have a rocking or oscillating motion.</p> <p>n. Time sighted: Approximately 0057 PDT.</p> <p>o. Length of time observed: Two and one half minutes (approx).</p> <p>p. Number of observations: Visual from the air. Speed: 160 Knots, Altitude 6000 ft</p> <p>Type of aircraft: Trainer TBM-3W Naval Torpedo Bomber.</p> <p>q. Location of observer during sightings: About 1000' above a residential area.</p> <p>Location of object and its relative movement above observer - Exhibit "A".</p> <p>r. Information on observer: Lt (JG) Roger Zeitvogel 800386 UNR, Naval Aviator, attached to Navy Special Devices Center, Port Washington, N.Y. Flying experience eight years flying in Navy. Total pilot time approximately 1600 hours. No other witnesses. Lt Zeitvogel seems rational, intelligent and reliable.</p> <p>s. Weather and wind conditions: At 0025H observation - sky clear - visby 10 - sea level pres 23.7 - temp 29 - dew point 10 - Wind NW 25 - gusts reaching 25 knots alt 3022 - remains HESHE. (See Exhibit "B").</p> <p style="text-align: right;">DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS DOD DIR 5200.1D</p> <p>UNCLASSIFIED</p> | | | | |

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)

Headquarters
Mitchel Air Force Base, N.Y.

REPORT NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

7. Exact time of balloon launching at Mitchel AFB: AT 0950E. (See Exhibit "C")
A T-11 aircraft took off from Mitchel Field for Wheeler-Sack Airport at 0948
pilot Major J. C. Dunbar, AO-653103, 314th MSG Group, Mitchel Air Force Base
New York. No other transient or local aircraft in area.
8. No physical evidence available.
9. Interception action taken: Pilot attempted to overtake and further identify
object (see exhibit "D" - Pilot's statement and exhibit "A" where paths of
aircraft and object are drawn.)

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

STATEMENT

[REDACTED]

21 January 1952

The following is a statement made by Lt James R. Zeitvogel, USN, 304268, made in connection with the sighting of an unidentified flying object.

"At about 0950, 21 January 1952, while flying at 3000 feet, approximately three (3) miles southeast of Mitchel Air Force Base, I sighted an unknown object about one and a half ($1\frac{1}{2}$) miles from the end of runway 30. (This was almost directly between my aircraft and Mitchel Air Force Base.)

At time of sighting, the object was on a heading of southwest (about 210°), speed about 300 knots.

The object as seen from above and from the side appeared to be oval in shape, very much like an open parachute canopy. Estimated diameter 20 to 30 feet. The object appeared to be near the ground possibly, 200 or 300 feet altitude. After reaching a point about 3 or 4 miles south of Mitchel AFB, the object commenced a turn to port and appeared to increase speed. After completing his turn to a heading of north, the object proceeded to circle Mitchel, in a counter clock wise direction, staying approximately two (2) miles away from the field perimeter and remaining at a constant altitude. Upon reaching a point two (2) or three (3) miles northwest of Mitchel the object straightened out on a heading of approximately 210° and climbed rapidly. No estimate of its rate of climb was possible however his flight path seemed to be taking him up at an angle of about 10° above the horizontal. Last seen the object was on this course and at an altitude of between 5,000 and 10,000 feet at a point approximately six (6) or seven (7) miles southwest of Mitchel Air Force Base.

James R. Zeitvogel
JAMES R. ZEITVOGEL
Lt USN
304268

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

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

60-14616-12

WEATHER DETACHMENT I-8
1ST WEATHER SQUADRON
MITCHEL AFB, NY

UNCLASSIFIED

25 January 1952

STATEMENT

On 21 January 1952 a weather balloon was released at 0950E from the Santini Area of Mitchel AFB, New York. This balloon is an M/L391C, white in color with an approximate diameter of three (3) feet at release time. Balloon would be approximately four and one half feet ($4\frac{1}{2}$) in diameter at eight thousand feet (8000). Attached to this balloon was an aluminum paper radar target two and one half feet ($2\frac{1}{2}$) square.

Winds observed from above release are as follows:
SFC 330/17, 2000 Ft 320/20, 4000 Ft 340/36, 6000 Ft 340/45,
8000 Ft 330/48, 10000 Ft 030/54.

William B. Hicks
WILLIAM B HICKS
Maj., USAF
Detachment Commander

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

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Exhibit C