

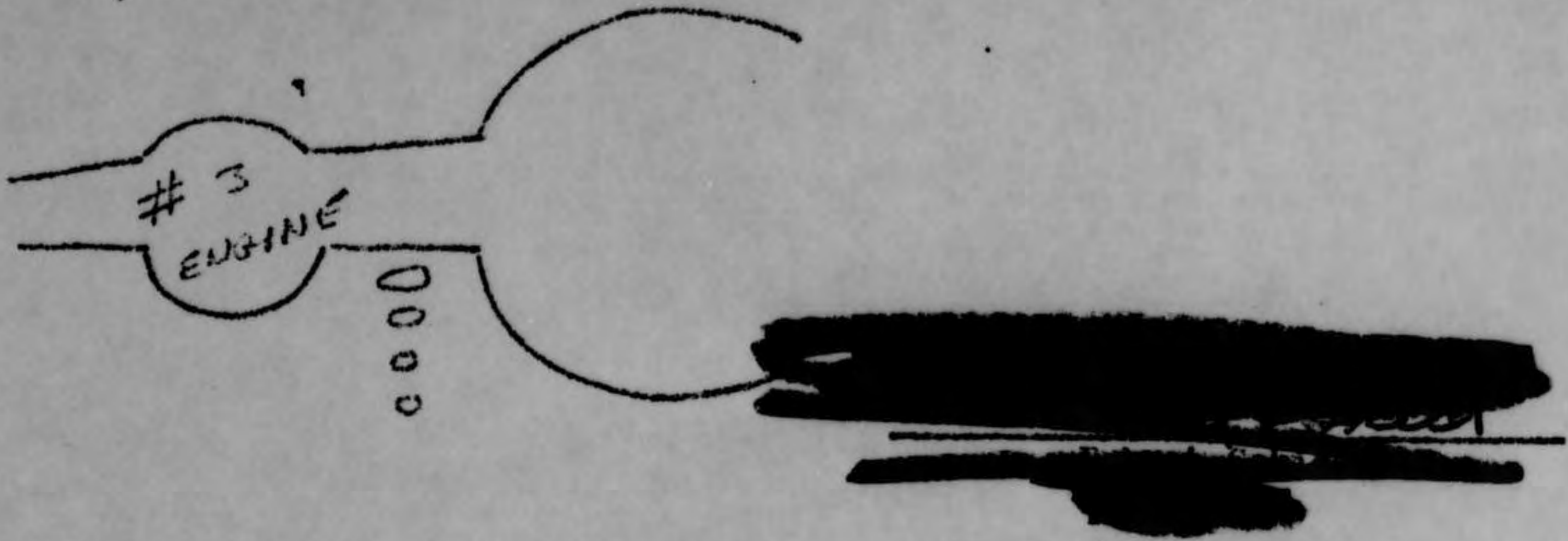
PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 19 May 1952	2. LOCATION 30°37' N to 100°47' <u>San Angelo, Texas</u>		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT <u>0148-GCT</u>	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Binoculars</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar		
5. PHOTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE B-36 Crew		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 15-20 Min	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 7	9. COURSE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Color : White Shape : Doughnut		11. COMMENTS Stacked in a vertical column"	

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT
UNCLASSIFIED

We were flying along when over the interphone came the question what was that in front of us. Our present altitude was 18,000 ft. I was flying right scanner and c couldn't see anything. The left scanner gave a report of what he saw. I left my position and looked thru the left blister and saw four gleaming balls in a straight line. The wing stopped me from seeing more of them. Then I returned to my position. That is all I saw. I had no idea of their altitude or how far from us they were. I have never seen anything like this in my life.



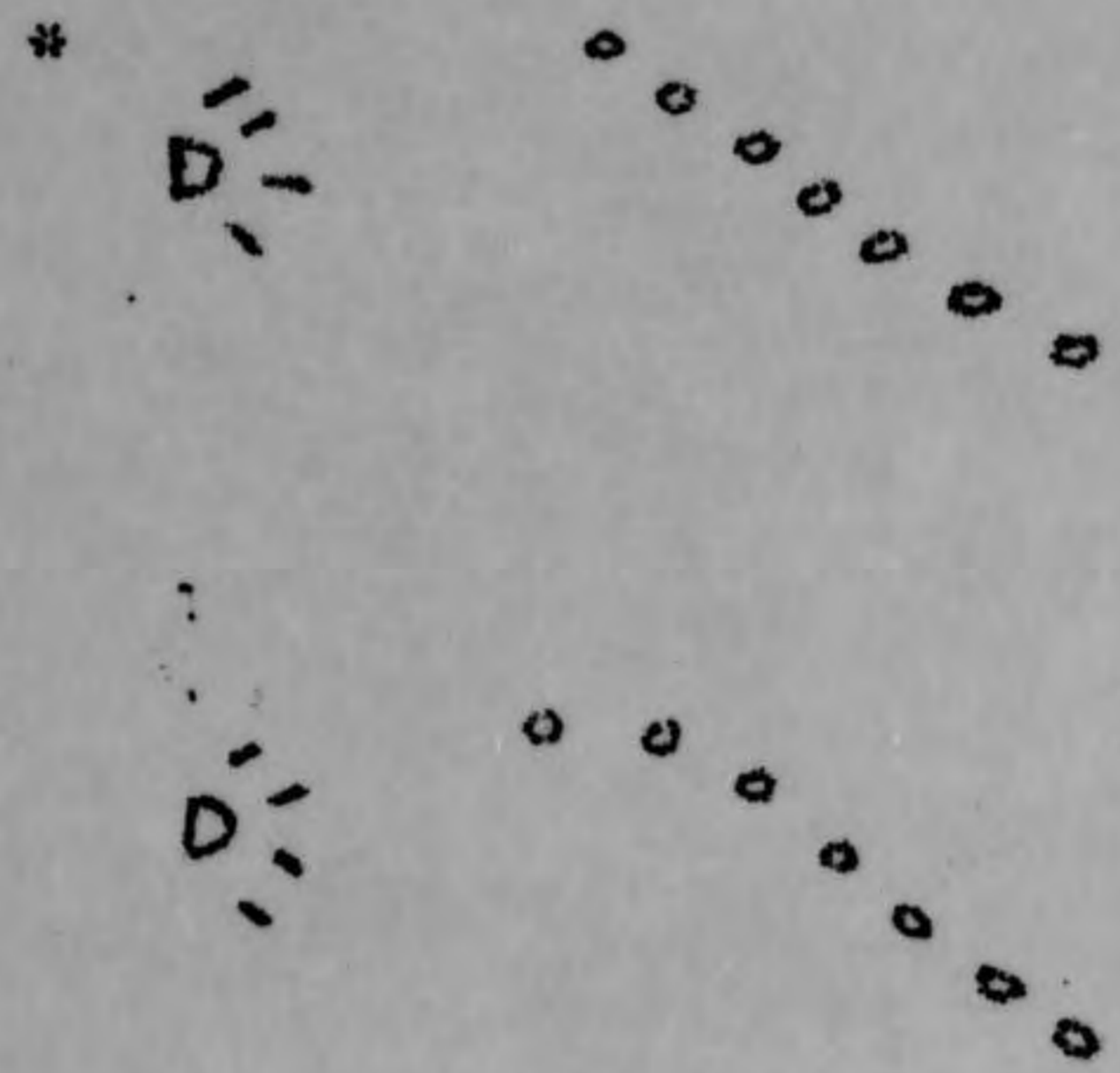
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

6-52W668

While flying southwest of San Angelo at 2005G 19 May 1952 at 18,000 seven bright lights appeared in the west in trail.* The height and distance could not be determined. The lights appeared to be circular for about 30 minutes and then seemed to spread or trail out like a vapor trail. It appeared from the beginning as if it could have been small cloud or vapor formations with the setting sun reflecting off a lower deck cloud formation or haze layer. They were visible until dark. As we flew along we did not seem to get closer. I reported this to the San Angelo Radio and the operator observed this incident from the ground.



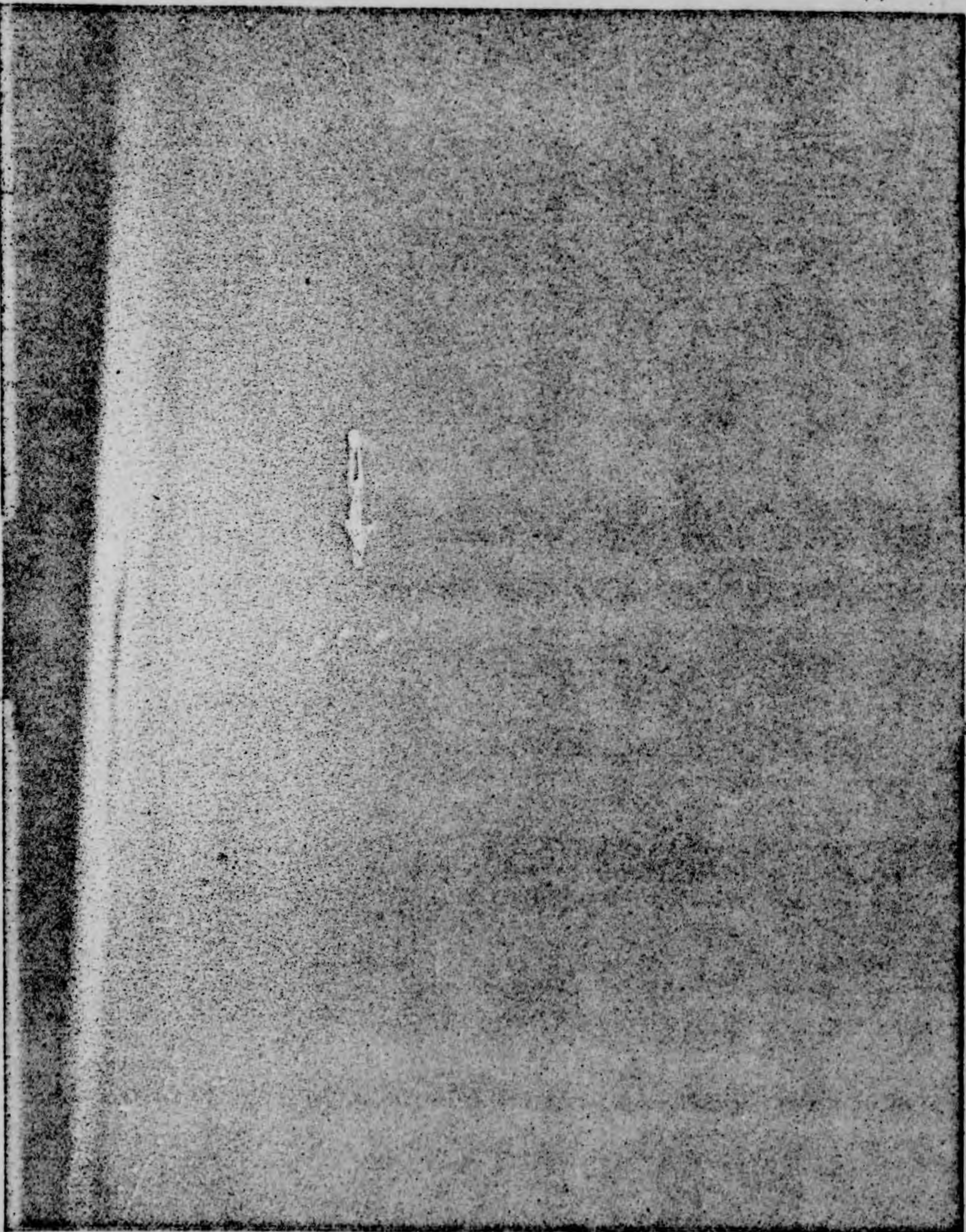
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED



6-52W668

this case includes
one (1) 8x10 photo and
one (1) MAP

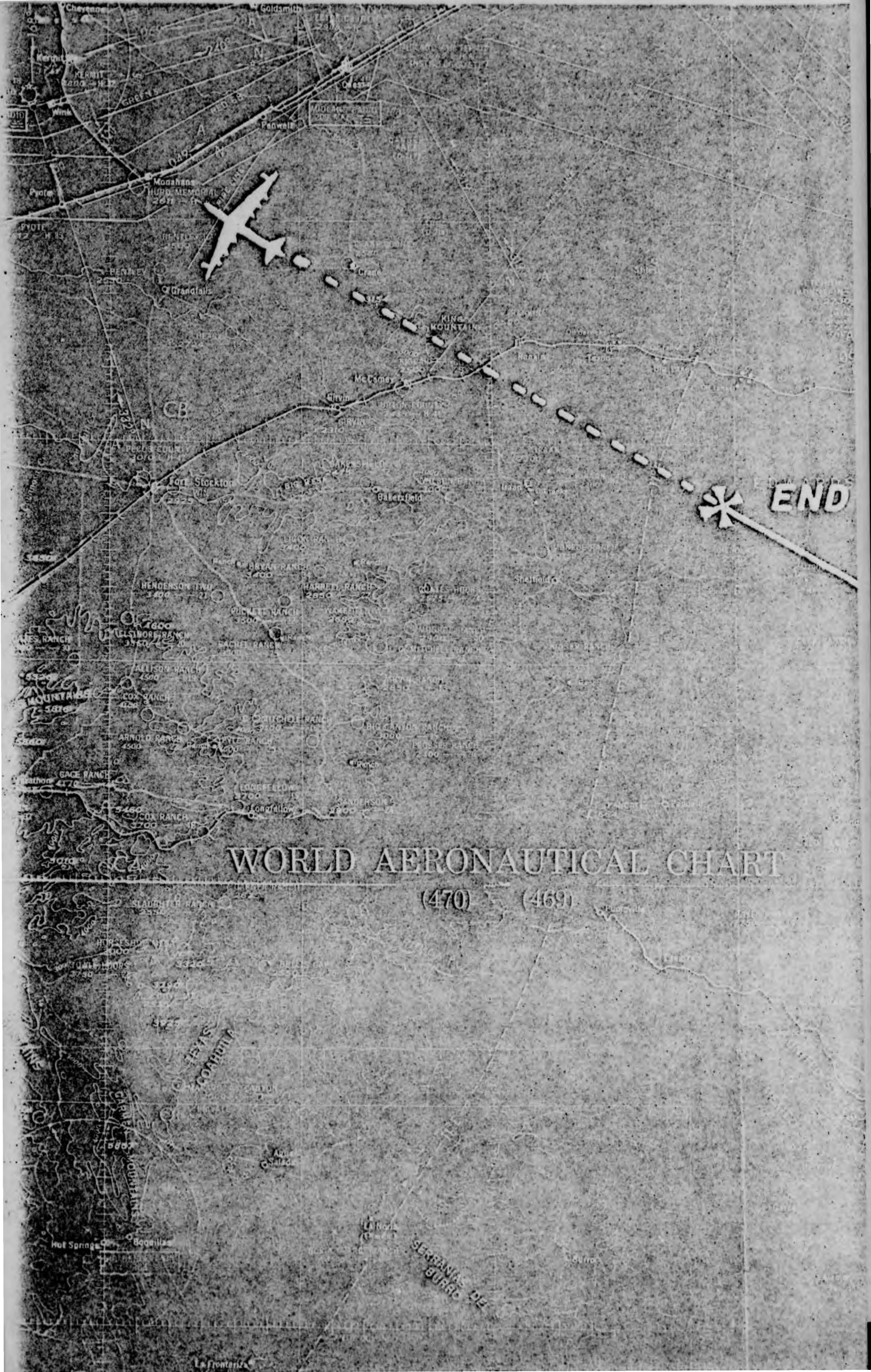


142-11541

6-521:638

142-11541

6-521:638



WORLD AERONAUTICAL CHART

(470) (469)

HITTING



TRUE HEADING 301
IAS-189
TAS-214

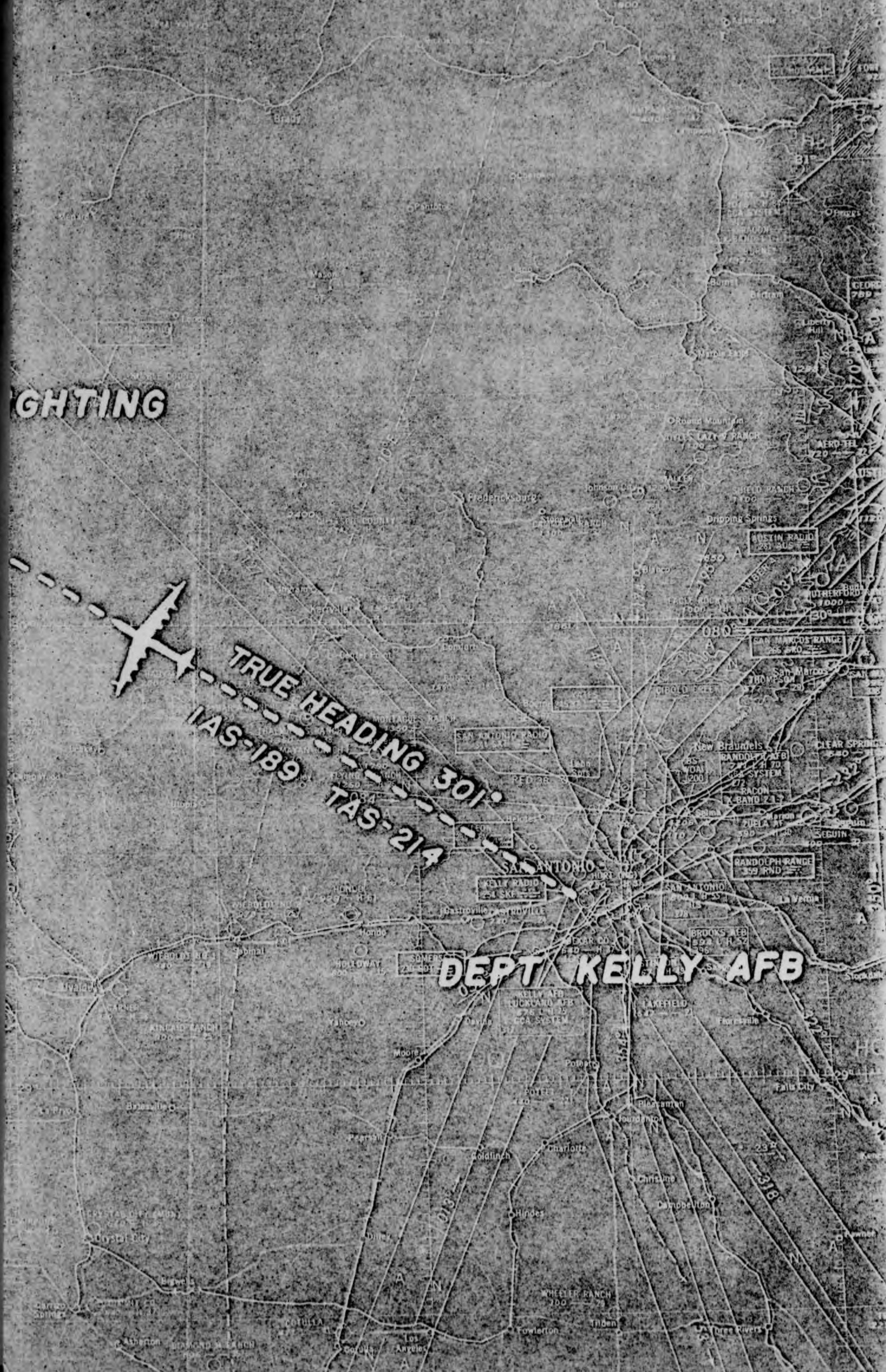
DEPT KELLY AFB

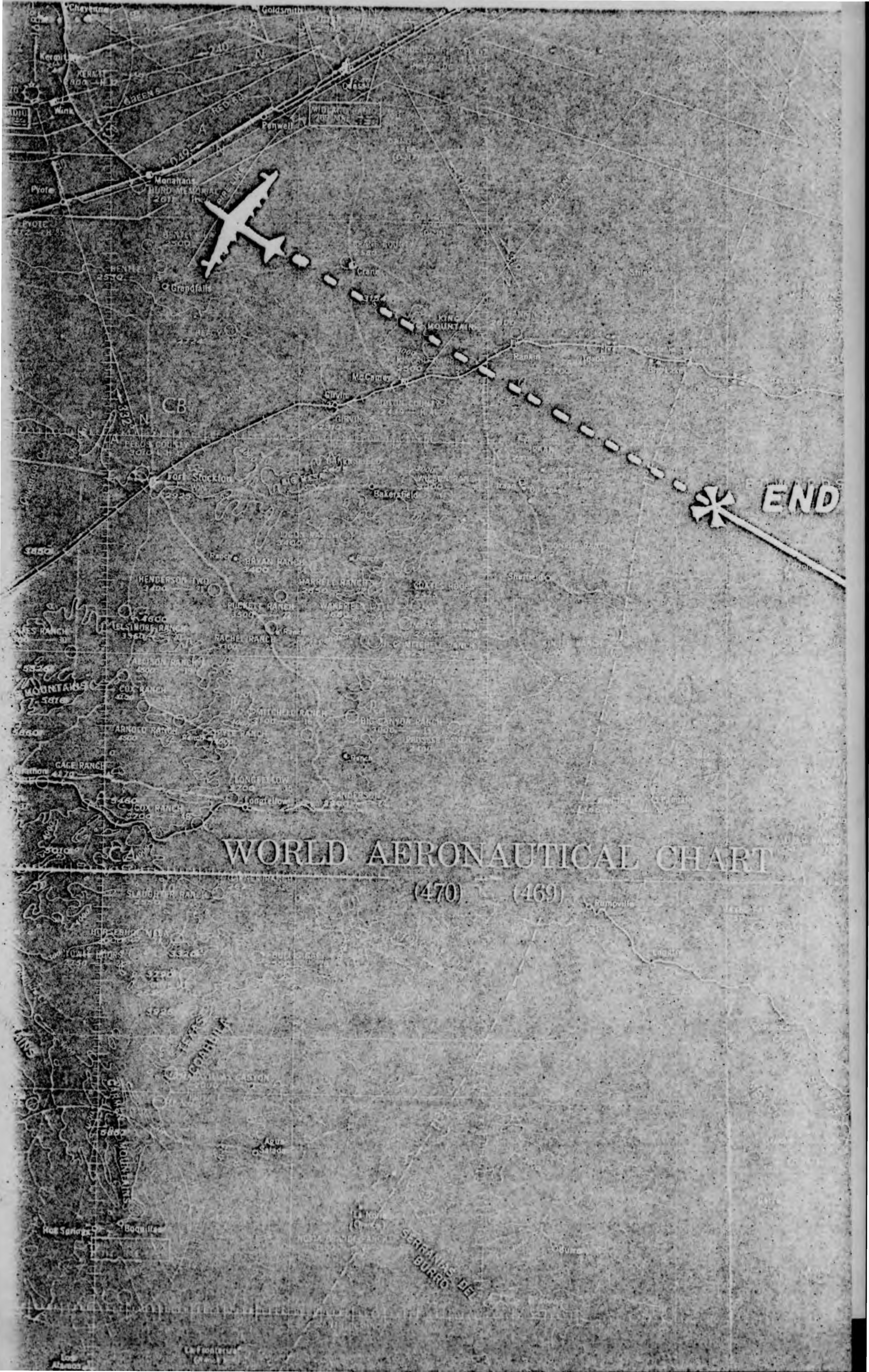
FIGHTING



TRUE HEADING 301°
IAS-189
TAS-214

DEPT KELLY AFB





WORLD AERONAUTICAL CHART

(470) (469)

END



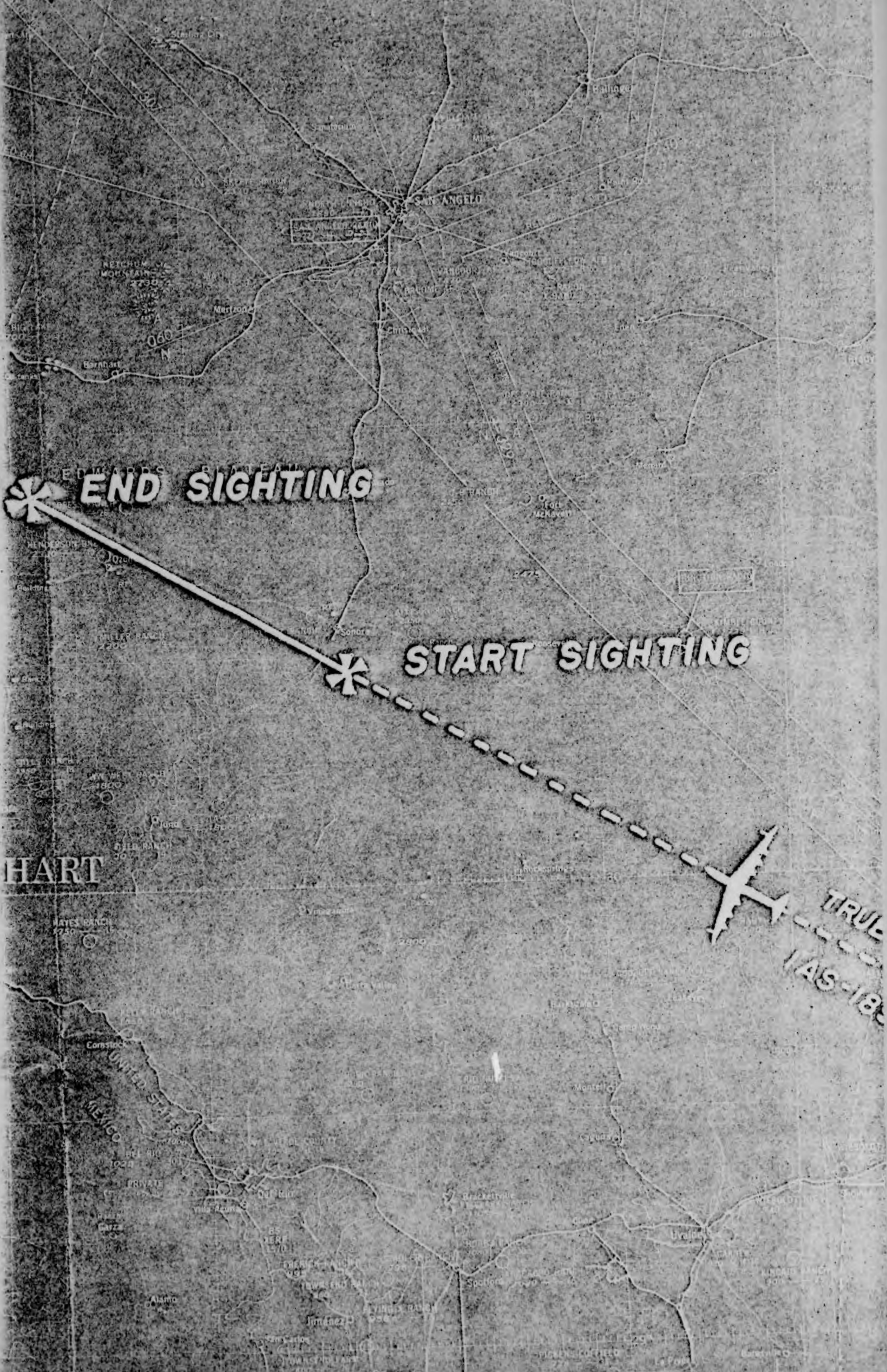
END SIGHTING

START SIGHTING

HART

TIRUE

145-18



S [REDACTED]

42

COUNTRY United States of America		REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT FLYOBREP			
AREA REPORTED ON San Angelo, Texas		FROM (Agency) 31st Strat Rcn Sq 5th Strat Rcn Wg (H), Travis AFB, Calif	
DATE OF REPORT 20 June 1952	DATE OF INFORMATION 19 May 1952	EVALUATION B-2	
PREPARED BY (Officer) 1st Lt James F. Wood, Sq Intell Officer		SOURCE Interrogation of RB-36 crew members	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, 20 Apr 52. Ltr Hq USAF, AFOIN-C/CC-2, 15th AF Intel Bulletin #27. Ltr Hq 15th AF, DIO, Dtd 21 May 52. Dec 51			

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.)

COMMENTS of Approving Officer:

Although this report was belatedly received by this headquarters, it was thought to be sufficiently important to forward for evaluation. All squadron intelligence officers and aircrew members in this wing have been forcefully reminded of their responsibility in promptly reporting all unusual aerial observations in accordance with JANAP 146B and AFL 200-5.

The attached photographs prove the authenticity of the report as observed and the only explanation of the objects that can be reached at this headquarters is the possibility that the white puffs may have been caused by exhaust from a vertically launched, multiple phase, rocket or guided missile. The proximity of the aircraft to the New Mexico testing sites does not rule out this possibility, but since the wind velocity at 18,000 feet was 35 knots, it seems unlikely that exhaust puffs would remain that long without dissipating.

APPROVED:

William J. Quien Jr.
WILLIAM J. QUIEN JR.
Captain USAF
Asst Wing Intell Off

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

3 INCL.

1. Photographs of objects (2 Transparencies, 1 cy each; 2 photos, 6 cys each)
2. Plot Map of Area Sighting (6 cys)
3. Statements of Observers (8 Statements, 6 cys each)

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

Director of Intelligence, USAF, Washington 25, D.C.	3 cys
Chief Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: ATIAA-2c W-P AFB	1 cy
Commanding General SAC, Offutt AFB	1 cy
Commanding General 15th AF, March AFB	1 cy

UNCLASSIFIED

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.

142 11544

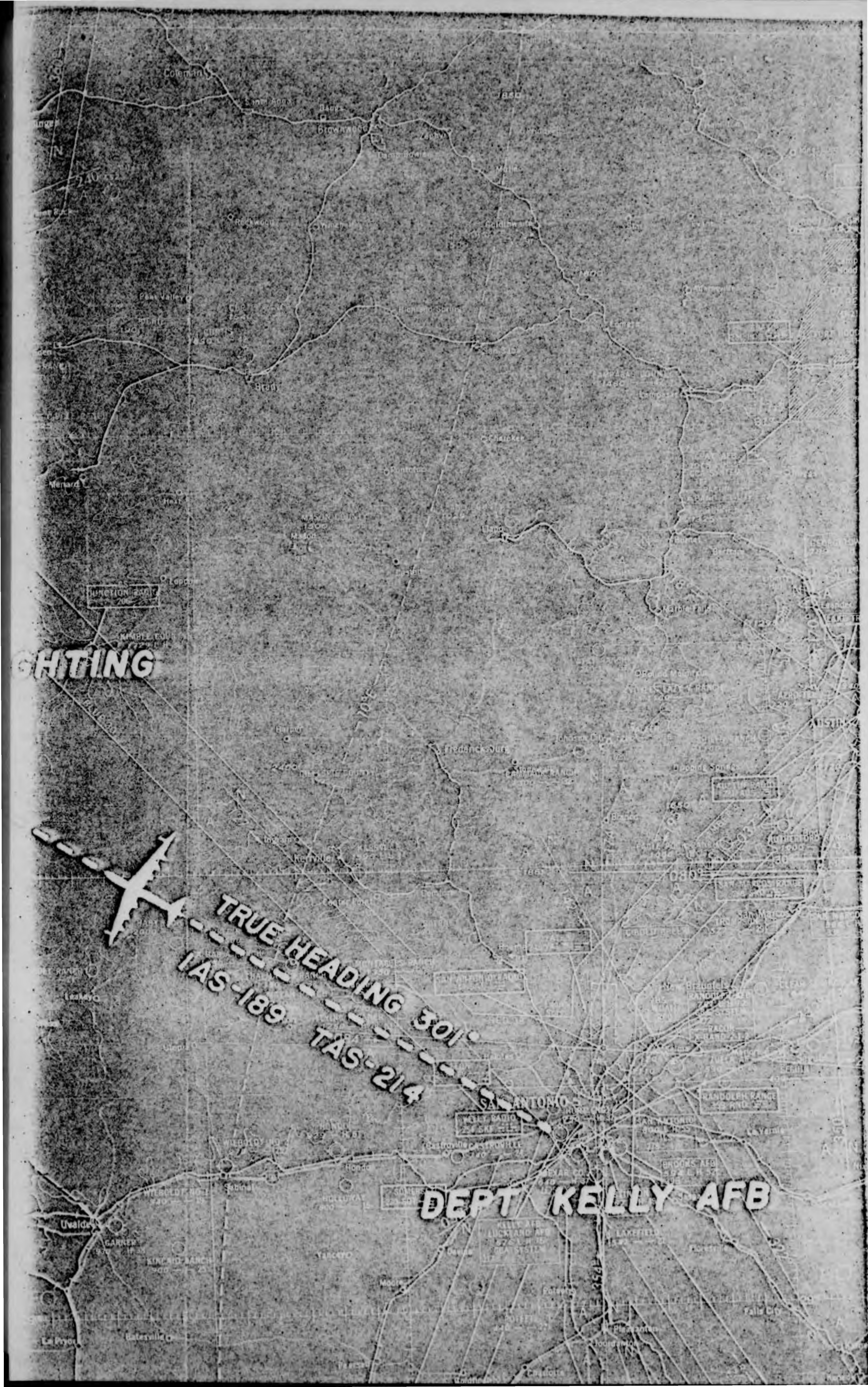
(CLASSIFICATION)

CHITING



TRUE HEADING 301
IAS-189
TAS-214

DEPT KELLY AFB



AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT CLASSIFIED

FROM (Agency) 31st Strat Recon Sq 5th Strat Recon Wg (H) Travis AFB, Calif	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
---	------------	-------------------

While flying on a training mission on 19 May 1952 in the vicinity of San Angelo, Texas, an RB-36 crew of the 31st Strat Recon Squadron, 5th Strat Recon Wing, observed seven unidentified objects ahead of their aircraft. The RB-36 was at an altitude of 18,000 feet, indicating 189 MPH (214 MPH TAS) and the weather conditions in the area were CAVU with winds aloft of 35 knots from 315 degrees. The time of the sighting was 0148 GMT, and the aircraft's exact position at the time of the sighting was 30 - 37 N 100 - 47 W, heading 301° true. The seven objects appeared at a position of 11 o'clock to the aircraft at an estimated distance of 50 to 75 miles and were stacked in a vertical column, the bottom of which was estimated to be at 25,000 feet and the top at 60,000 feet. Several conflicting reports were received on the length of time the objects were in view, but it is believed the time ranged from 15 to 20 minutes. The objects were lost from sight at a position approximately 30 - 53 N 101 - 20 W as light conditions were becoming very poor since the aircraft was flying in the direction of the setting sun. The objects were white in color and no estimate of their size could be given. One crew member described the objects as white doughnuts like small vapor trails. A pair of six power binoculars were used to observe the objects, and the user confirmed the small white vapor trail theory. The radar observer did not see any unusual returns on his scope.

The aircraft commander of the RB-36 radioed the San Angelo ground station, and a ground observer from that station was also able to see the objects.

One crew member had a 35M personal camera aboard, loaded with color film. He took six photographs of the objects, but only two were of any value. These two transparencies have been attached to the report forwarded to the Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. The attached photographs are enlargements of the transparencies. When viewed with a 35M projector, the objects are clearly distinguishable in the transparencies.

The report of this sighting was delayed since the RB-36 crew did not report this sighting until 29 May 1952. It was decided at that time to withhold the report until the color photographs were returned from the agency that was processing them. Upon their return, black and white photographs had to be made. This factor also contributed to the delay.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

It is the opinion of the preparing officer that the sighting reported was observed as stated in each of the crew member's statements, and it is definitely worthy of a flying object report.

James F. Wood
JAMES F. WOOD
1st Lt, USAF
Sq Intell Off

UNCLASSIFIED

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

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.

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT

UNCLASSIFIED

On the 19th of May 1952, at 18,000 ft, 45 minutes out of Kelly AFB, 30 miles southwest of San Angelo, Texas, I observed seven unidentifiable glowing objects ahead, on course. We continued on course and approached them for about an hour. On closer observation they appeared to me to be vapor trails, the highest at approximately 40,000 ft, spaced down at 1,000 ft intervals as sketched below*. The trails were approximately one mile in length.

*

Handwritten sketch of seven curved lines, representing vapor trails, arranged in a descending staircase pattern from top-left to bottom-right.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

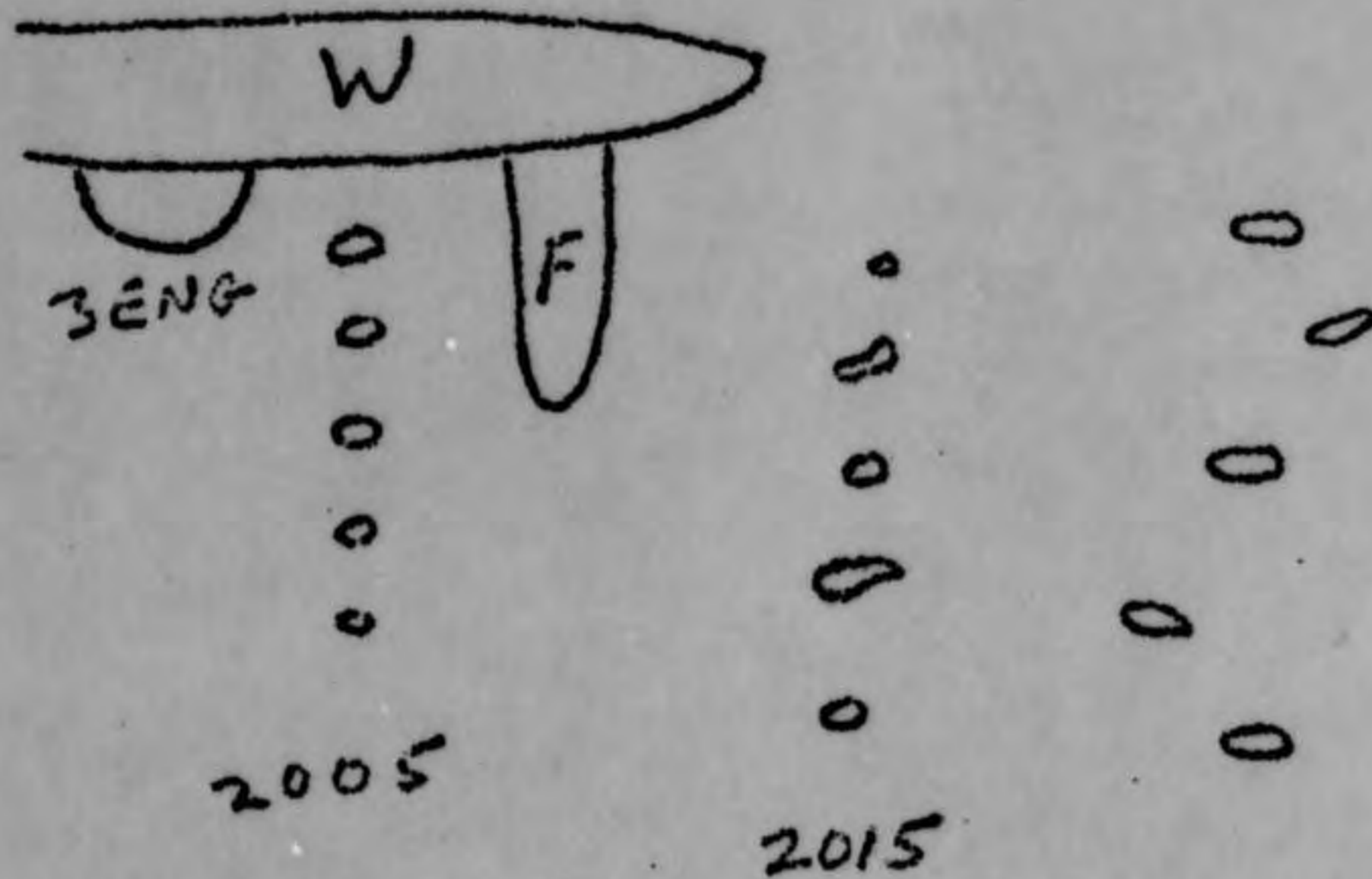
UNCLASSIFIED

52 IN 662

[REDACTED]

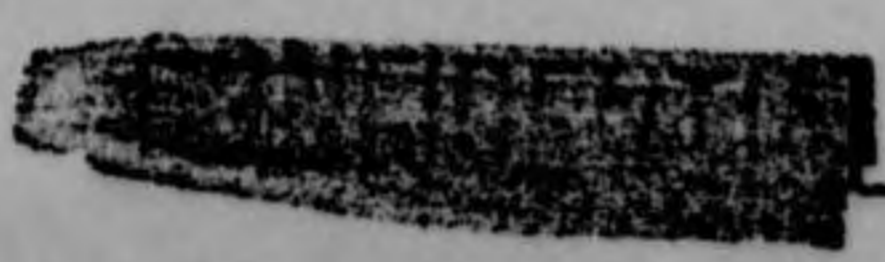
UNCLASSIFIED

While returning from TDY, Kelly AFB on May 19, 1952 at 2005 G.S.T. I observed out of the left blister a peculiar formation of bright spots (5) under the wing (left) at 12 o'clock. They were in a vertical line. As we came closer the spacing between the spots became uneven and gradually left a vertical line. They appeared as diagrammed below. Just before dusk, at the closest, I was able to see what was causing the spots. It appeared that some aircraft had left vapor trails in a spiral ascent or descent. The brightness of the spots appeared to me to be caused by the sun's reflection from these vapor trails. Altitude appeared to be some 15 to 20 thousand feet above our altitude of 18,000 feet.



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

UNCLASSIFIED



6 52W 668

[REDACTED]

STATEMENT

UNCLASSIFIED

On May 19, 1952 at 2005 hrs C.S.T. approximately 30 miles southwest of San Angelo, Texas, a string of seven circular lights was observed ahead of and higher than our aircraft. The sighting was reported to the A/C and everyone within view of the objects attempted to determine what they were. Upon closer observation on my part they appeared to be very small circles such as a small jet plane might make if it were flying an extremely small circle. A better description might be of a white doughnut in the sky. There were seven such objects almost one above the other. The altitude of the objects seemed to me to range from approximately 25,000 ft (the lowest) to approximately 60,000 ft (the highest). As we got closer to the objects the circular part of the objects seemed larger and fuzzier as a vapor trail might appear after it begins to dissipate. They stayed in view, still appearing ahead of us, until dark. The extreme brightness of the objects upon first sighting seemed to come from the sun which was setting. Later on the objects definitely had the fuzzy, hazy appearance of a dissipating vapor trail.

[REDACTED]

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

UNCLASSIFIED


142 11544

[REDACTED]

6-52W 568

STATEMENT
UNCLASSIFIED

Shortly before sunset on the evening of the 19th of May 1952 we were flying at an altitude of 18,000 ft. The navigator called our attention to some objects in the air ahead of us. At first glance they looked like seven bright white lights in vertical formation. Looking at them thru 6 power binoculars they appeared to be small white clouds, as the edges could be noticed to be cloud-like in nature. The objects continued to be visible until dark (about one hour) without changing very much in size or distance although we were flying almost directly toward them for this time. They were ahead of the ship's course, slightly to the left and higher than us by about an angle of 10 to 15 degrees.



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

UNCLASSIFIED

132 1154*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5200.10

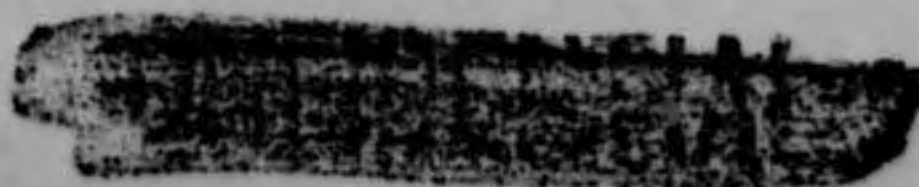
UNCLASSIFIED

On May 19, 1952 at 2005 G.S.T. while flying southwest of San Angelo, Texas at an altitude of 18,000 feet, seven bright objects were observed in the west in a vertical formation. There appeared to be no apparent movement for the first 15 minutes, then they appeared to be sending off vapor trails in a swirling motion, different from any vapor trails I've observed from high flying aircraft. After the vapor trails drifted off no objects were in sight. I took six pictures of this with my personal camera (35mm). The film is now being developed.



NO ADDITIONAL INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED



6-52W368

64-115A

STATEMENT

UNCLASSIFIED

Objects in question were sighted approximately 45 minutes northwest of San Antonio. My attention was called to them and I observed them out of the left forward blister. There were seven objects about 50 to 75 miles away about 10 degrees above flight line at 11 o'clock of the aircraft. They were very white and had the appearance of having phosphorous trails, and were in a vertical line. No movement was apparent and as we drew closer I figured they must be vapor trails and so I returned to my work. This all occurred on 19 May 1952.



UNCLASSIFIED

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

1750 2450



52 11 668