

✓ IMPERIAL BEACH, CALIFORNIA

Two naval personnel

One 2900

Duty officer at Naval communications station at Imperial Beach, Calif., saw large orange disc of light. Object stood still for 3-4 min, then proceeded at high speed. Object later reappeared.

1. Radiosonde and pibal releases were scheduled at 0300Z from San Diego - U.S. Navy weather station.
2. Object was reported to have hovered.

REPORT NO. **52-10**

OBJECT REPORTED: **Large Orange Disk of Light** DATE OF INCIDENT: **16 Nov '52** TIME ("Z" or local): **1825U-1855U**

LOCATION: (Miles or Yards): (Degrees) (Avoid obscure, local names)
 Lat. Long. or **20 MI (?)** bearing **255°T** from **NavComSta, Imperial Beach, Calif**

Objects Course: **290°T** Speed: **High** Silhouette (Bow on, off bow, broadside, quarter, stern on): **Circular ("size of barrel head")** Length: **Unknown**

Height above water of bow: **Inapplicable** Stern: **-** Superstructure: **None** Mast, etc.: **None**

Color of markings and hull, superstructure: **Orange** Special fittings, lights (Describe and locate): **Bluish band around perimeter**

Bow wave (Heavy, moderate, light): **None** Stern wave (Heavy, moderate, light): **None** Smoke or vapor seen: **None**

REPORTED BY (Name, address and telephone): **Carl CRITTENDEN, Asst Supervisor Security, 932 E 18th St, Apt C, National City, Calif**

Time, distance and bearing from observer: **When first seen 1825U, est. 400' Alt. 600' Elev, 255°T** **When last seen 1855U, 20° Elev, 255°T**

Observer's height above sea: **35'** Binoculars used? **Yes** Power: **7 x 50** Observer's course: **Stationary**

Observer's experience in sighting similar objects, and in estimating speed and distance: **27 yrs, Naval Service; 5 yrs as Security Watch**

CONDITIONS AT TIME (Weather, maximum visibility, light conditions, sea condition): **Clear weather, unlimited visibility, late twilight, rough sea** VESSELS NEARBY (Naval vessels, merchant vessels, fishboats, etc.; locate and describe): **None**

Whales, etc? **None** wrecks, projecting rocks? (Describe): **None** Aircraft: **None** Depth of water, character of bottom (from chart): **Inapplicable**

Approximate bearing (from observer) and altitude of sun or moon: **No sun or moon**

OTHER WITNESSES (Name, address, telephone): **Fred A. PARKS, 4186 Stephens St., San Diego, California**

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

OBSERVER/WITNESSES INTERVIEWED BY: **LCDR J.T. RUGH, JR., USNR** INFORMATION PASSED TO: **USAF** (Date and time) **at 20 Nov '52**

COUNTER OPERATIONS: RESULTS THEREOF: **None**

RELIABILITY OF SOURCE: **Excellent** EVALUATION OF REPORT: **Possibly meteor** DATE OF REPORT: **20 Nov '52** REPORTING OFFICER (Signature): **J.T. RUGH, JR., USNR**

DETAILED DESCRIPTION, AND CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING SIGHTING (Use additional sheet if needed):
Both CRITTENDEN and PARKS were interviewed and told essentially the same story quoted herewith from Log entry: "2045. Per Order CDR CHISOLM, on leaving the station that this be entered in Log at 1838. I relieved PARKS in tower. We both noticed a large yellow ball like light orange color. It stood still for about 3 or 4 mins and then disappeared at a great rate of speed to westward to sea. I reported same to O.D. Chief NICHOLS and after PARKS left from tower on his patrol run the same thing appeared again and PARKS called by radio to me and said "There it is again CRITTENDEN" and it went down behind the quarters in the upper compound. PARKS told me that it looked like it was travelling at a great rate of speed just above the water, there were no planes flying, there were no noise connected to it. CRITTENDEN." CRITTENDEN stated that, when seen, with naked eyes as well as through the binoculars, the object had a "bluish reflection" around its perimeter. The lookout tower at the Naval Communications Station, Imperial Beach is located at 32° 25' 15" N, 117° 07' 35" W.

UNCLASSIFIED

SKETCH OF OBJECT (Use additional sheet)
 (Include approximate height and length, location of lights, special fittings, etc.)

DISTRICT INTELLIGENCE OFFICE
ELEVENTH NAVAL DISTRICT

REPORT NO. 52-10

OBJECT REPORTED Large Orange Disk of Light		DATE OF INCIDENT 16 Nov '52	TIME ("G" or Local) 1825U-1855U
LOCATION Lat.	Long.	(Miles or Fords) or 20 MI (?)	(Degrees) bearing 255°T
		(Avoid obscure, local names) from NavComSta, Imperial Beach, Calif	
Objects Course 290°T	Speed High	Silhouette (Bow on, off bow, broadside, quarter, stern on) Circular ("size of barrel head")	Length Unknown
Height above water of bow Inapplicable	Stem -	Superstructure None	Mast, etc. None
Color of markings and hull, Superstructure Orange		Special fittings, Lights (Describe and locate) Bluish band around perimeter ✓	
Bow wave (Heavy, moderate, light) None	Stem wave (Heavy, moderate, light) None	Smoke or vapor seen? None	
REPORTED BY (Name, address and telephone) Carl CRITTENDEN, Asst Supervisor Security, 932 E 18th St, Apt C, National City, Calif			
Time, distance and bearing from observer When first seen 1825U, est. 400' Alt. 60° Elev, 255°T When last seen 1855U, 20° Elev, 255°T			
Observer's height above sea 35'	Binoculars used? Yes	Power 7 x 50	Observer's course Stationary
Observer's experience in sighting similar objects, and in estimating speed and distance 27 yrs, Naval Service; 5 yrs as Security Watch			
CONDITIONS AT TIME (Weather, maximum visibility, light conditions, sea conditions) Clear weather, unlimited visibility, late twilight, rough sea		VESSELS NEARBY? (Small vessels, merchant vessels, fishboats, etc.; locate and describe) None	
Wrecks, etc? None	Wrecks, projecting rocks? (Describe) None	Aircraft None	Depth of water, character of bottom (from chart) Inapplicable
Approximate bearing (from observer) and altitude of sun or moon No sun or moon			
OTHER WITNESSES (Names, addresses, telephone) Fred A. PARKS, 4186 Stephens St., San Diego, California			

OBSERVER/WITNESSES INTERVIEWED BY LCDR J.T. RUGH, JR., USNR	INFORMATION PASSED TO USAP	(Date and time) at 20 Nov '52
COUNTER OPERATIONS: RESULTS THEREOF? None		
RELIABILITY OF SOURCE Excellent	EVALUATION OF REPORT Possibly meteor ✓	DATE OF REPORT 20 Nov '52
REPORTING OFFICER (Signature) J.T. RUGH, JR., USNR		

DETAILED DESCRIPTION, AND CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING SIGHTING (Use additional sheet if needed)
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