

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 28 March 53 28/2030Z	2. LOCATION Mascoutah, Illinois
3. SOURCE Unknown	10. CONCLUSION MIRAGE
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	REMARK: First report I have seen of an honest to goodness mirage.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not Reported	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Dirigible type object appeared to move across road grow large, then reverse and disappear at a high rate of speed. Object was 600' long and silver-gray in color.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Not Reported	
8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

FORM
 FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

ACTION

A TIC INFO

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[Handwritten signature]

057 MAR 31 07:30

RF077

WPA113

YMA079

YYB077

0EB067B0890

RR JEDWP JEDON JEPHQ JWFMH 444

DE JEDST 134

R 302240Z ZNJ

FM CG SCOTT AFB ILL

TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTELL HQS USAF WASH DC

JEDWP/AIR TECH INTELL CENTER WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

JEDON/CG ENT AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO

ZEN/CG ATRC SCOTT AFB ILL

INFO JWFMF/CG TTAF GULFPORT MISS

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

[REDACTED] GC552C PD FOR ATIAA-2C TECH INTELL FTYOBRPT PD

SIGHTING OF A DIRIGIBLE TYP OBJECT WAS MADE IN THE VICINITY OF
SCOTT AFB AT 1430C ON 28 MAR 53 PD OBJECT APPEARED TO MOVE ACROSS
ROAD CMA GROW LARGER CMA THEN REVERSE AND DISAPPEAR AT
IMMENSE SPEED PD SOURCE CLAIMS OBJECT APPRX 600 FT LONG PD SELVER
GREY COLOR PD DISAPPEARED IN CLOUDS OVER HORIZON PD NEGATIVE AIR TRAF
CMA NO INTERCEPT ACTION PD

30/2256Z MAR JEDST

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1. Atr
2. At
3. C. files

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AF FORM 112-PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Scott Air Force Base, Illinois	REPORT NO. ATRC IR-9-53	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
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1. Object shaped like a dirigible, flying from South to North just above tree tops. Approximately five miles away from observer. First sighted at one O'clock position, as it reached 12 O'clock it changed direction of course without changing position and was only 1/2 mile away in a matter of seconds. Estimate of size 600 feet. It hovered for a few seconds then changing from its color of dull silver to a darker grey it disappeared towards the East (12 O'clock) direction, slowly rolling to the left. When last viewed was approximately 20 miles away in a 45° bank, but not turning. Speed can only be described as "terrific". Possible exhaust like small white clouds.

2. Time of sighting 1430C.

3. Visual observation from Auto.

4. Location of observer at time of sighting, traveling East on Highway 15, five miles East of Massouah, Illinois.

5. One observer, civilian worker from Scott Air Force Base. Check of 201 file shows him to be a steady, reliable worker. However, he was a Crew Chief and Aerial Engineer in Air Force and was discharged because of a nervous breakdown in 1943. At present he draws a 10% disability pension from Veterans Administration for this nervous condition.

6. Weather at Scott Air Force Base at time of sighting 25,000 thin scattered clouds, visibility seven (7) miles, temperature 57 degrees, dew point 50 degrees, surface wind NorthWest 16, gusts to 24, altimeter 30.00. Winds aloft 3000 ft, 300 degrees at 20 knots, 6000 ft, 310 degrees at 30 knots, 8000 ft, 340 degrees at 35 knots.

7. None

8. No physical evidence.

9. No interception or identification action taken.

10. No air traffic reported in Area at this time.

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(CLASSIFICATION)

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COUNTRY USA	REPORT NO. ATRC-IR-9-53	(LEAVE BLANK)
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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT FLXOBRPT		
AREA REPORTED ON Mascoutah, Illinois	FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Officer Scott Air Force Base, Illinois	
DATE OF REPORT 23 March 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 30 March 1953	EVALUATION F-6
PREPARED BY (Officer) Captain James H. Webb	SOURCE ██████████ Civilian Employee	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, 29 Apr 52 and TWX GC 552C, 30 March 1953		

NO TWX
RWE 5 May 53

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final-paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

██████████, Civilian employee at Scott AF Base, Illinois, sighted an object which he first thought was a dirigible. Object was just above tree tops moving slowly from South to North, first sighted at 10'clock position. When it reached 12 O'clock position it changed course (without changing its relative heading) and came toward the observer at "terrific" speed, stopping about 1/2 mile away where it hovered for a few seconds. It was surrounded by a mist or haze that tended to obscure it somewhat. The object was dull silver in color, approximately six hundred (600) feet across, between one hundred (100) and two hundred (200) feet above the ground. It began to move away at "terrific" speed and was twenty (20) miles away in a matter of seconds, slowly rolling to the left, but without turning or gaining altitude. Last sighted was about twenty (20) miles away in a forty five (45) degree bank, disappearing into some white clouds, which observer believes were made by the object. The significance of this sighting is believed of little value due to the previous background of the observer, who has had nervous or emotional difficulties. He is convinced he saw the object and he sounds reasonable enough. Follow-up action will be taken and any other findings will be reported.

James H. Webb
JAMES H. WEBB
Captain, USAF
Wing Intelligence Officer

No correlation with Upper Air Balloon Treks
RWB 5 May 1953

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HOWARD L. BEVIS, President

COLUMBUS 10

EMERSON McMILLIN OBSERVATORY

19 May 53

1st Lt. Robert Olsson
Wright-Patterson AFB.

Dear Lt. Olsson;

This is a belated report on the last batch which I received at the end of April.

Just as soon as our plans for employing Miss Gluck officially go through, I shall be able to send you a sheet with comments on each individual case, so that you will have my comments on each folder. The letter method ~~is~~ has obvious drawbacks. But until that time comes and she can handle my typing and completion of forms, I had better stick to this letter method.

In this latest batch we have only 4 really interesting cases. I might mention a 5th, 28 March 53, Scott AFB, which is the 1st report I've seen of an honest to goodness mirage. 6 Cases have only one observer and I'm following my usual rule of discounting those.

8 April was a meteor.

The Great Falls 3 April case was Venus if reported time~~s~~ was in error.

28 March Albrook AFB was pr/obably Venus.

31 March Honshu, and 30 March Lyle, Wash., are puzzling but could possibly have been balloons.

The ~~8~~-April Greenland case was an obvious meteor.

This brings us to the interesting cases:

25 March San Antonio could hardly have been a mirage and I'm surprised there was no radar pickup. Was there any aircraft like helicopters that might explain this. Anything more come in on this one? Don't think this is good enough for a pinch-bottle but it should be listed as Nocturnal meandering light.

29 March Spooner, Wisc: Duration times needs ch@cking here. Hard to believe that object could have done all that in 15 seconds. An interesting case and one of the regular questionnaires should be sent to Mr. Gilette.

Next is the 12 April Stead AFB. I think this is the most interesting case of the batch, and I hope you receive more dope on it. Questionnaires should be sent. I'd like to see Menzel explain this one! Is there any possibility that these could have been aircraft? Apparently ducks have been eliminated.

As for the 26 March, Equasseur AFB although NML, the data are ~~con-~~tradictory and insufficient. Perhaps this was a helicopter? We ought to ~~have~~ have much more information on this one. Has this been received?

Sincerely,
Allen Hyatt