

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 1 March 53 01/1945Z	2. LOCATION Princeton, New Jersey
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Astronomical (VENUS)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Determined to be caused by Venus by the intelligence Officer concerned.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not Reported	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Circular, silver, stationary object was observed in the West. Object was still in sight 3 hours after initial observation.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Non-Visual	
7. COURSE Stationary	
8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

COORDINATION

INSERT
ORGNL CODE AND
FULL SIGNATURE

R. Cross -
1st ATIAE-5

23 Mar 53

H. Johnson
1st ATIAE
23 Mar 53

Joseph A. Callahan
1st ATIAE
24 Mar 53

Multiple

*011945Z
PALMISTON
N.J.*

RMO/jos/65365

In reply refer to
AFCIN-ATIAE-5

SUBJECT: (UNCLASSIFIED) Letter of Commendation

24 MAR 1953

Commanding Officer
Detachment #3
4670th Ground Observer Sq
Tranton, New Jersey

1. The Air Technical Intelligence Center recently received your report of an unidentified aerial object seen by GOC personnel at 1945⁰⁰, 1 March 1953. It wishes to commend the prompt action taken by 1/Lt Richard F. Watson and A/2C Raymond J. Swallow, Jr., in going to the scene of the sighting and identifying the unknown object as the planet Venus, thereby saving the ATIC considerable cost and effort in determining the object's identity.

2. It is hoped that more personnel responsible for reporting unidentified objects Air Force-wide will show equal initiative and enthusiasm in determining the nature of many so-called "flying saucer" reports.

3. The Air Technical Intelligence Center has received about twenty reports from the East Coast in the past month which have been analyzed as being the planet Venus. Therefore, your report and conclusion fall into this recent trend.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL

ROBERT C. BROWN
Majr, USAF
Air Adj. Gen.

V.A.C.

DESIGNATE AUTHD OFFICE OF RECORD

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

COUNTRY United States	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Report of Unidentified Aerial Object		
AREA REPORTED ON Princeton, New Jersey	FROM (Agency) Det #3, 4670th Grd Obsr Sq, Trenton, N.J.	
DATE OF REPORT 3 March 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 1 March 1953	EVALUATION
PREPARED BY (Officer) RICHARD F. WATSON, 1st Lt, USAF	SOURCE	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5, 29 April 1952 Intelligence		

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

At 1945Z, 1 March 1953, the Trenton Filter Center received a report of an unidentified object over Observation Post at Princeton, New Jersey. The observer, Mr. ██████████ of ██████████, Princeton, New Jersey, reported a circular, silver, stationary object, location: Alfa Lima 2120 at 40,000 plus feet. His report relayed immediately to ADFC. At 2000Z, A/2c Raymond Stallon was dispatched to Princeton. At 2045Z, he reported the object still visible but in a different position. At 2100Z, relieved of duty, 1st Lt Richard F. Watson departed for Princeton. Examination of this object with the naked eye revealed a star or planet-like object at approximately 250° with approximately 70° elevation. Through binoculars the object appeared to change shape and brilliance; at times resembling a first quarter moon. Experimentation with the focus of the binoculars, however, indicated that movement and change of shape were actually the result of refracted light in the lens. Returning to Trenton at 2300Z, Lt. Watson was able to locate this object at approximately 260° and elevation 70° est. This fact leads observer (Lt. Watson) to the conclusion that the object in question was actually Venus or some other celestial body.

Good! Weather: Visibility unlimited
Ceiling unlimited
Cloud coverage 0%
Wind at 40,000 ft. 125 knots from 300°

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

Richard F. Watson
RICHARD F. WATSON
1st Lt. USAF

Raymond J. Stallon, Jr.
RAYMOND J. STALLON, JR.
A/2c USAF

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR
1 Dir. of Intell., Hq, USAF
1 Chief ATIC, Ohio
1 4670th GOS, ATTN: M/Sgt Caughman