1. DATE - TIME GROUP	2. LOCATION			
1 August 53 02/0235Z	Ke, West, Florida			
3. SOURCE	10. CONCLUSION AIRCRAFT			
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS				
S. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS			
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6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION	a other travolot from " to D, rising.			
100 mari = 71 m - 1				
7. COURSE				
That and Pising				
8. PHOTOS				
ECNo				
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE				
ZX No				

FTD SEP 53 0-329 (TDE) Provious -illians of this form may be used.

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AFL 200-5, 29 April 1952, FLYOBRPT

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summery of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 119-Part II.)

On 2h July and 1 August 1953 Seaman Apprentice Charles B. De Forrest, a student at the Fleet Sonar School, United States Naval Base, Key West, Florida, observed an serial object in the sky over the town of Key West. The first sighting was between 2200 and 2230 EST and the second was at 2135 EST. The object appeared to be about the size of a pin point or a star, was very bright white in color. On 24 July it proceeded rapidly from low on the western skyline to a point directly forward and overhead, then blinked out immediately before descending below the eastern skyline. On I August it appeared at the same point on the horizon but was obscured by clouds at the zenith of its flight path. No mechanical characteristics were noted. The object made regular equal changes in course laterally during its observation but was not observed to modify a regular are vertically. The observer does not appear to be extremely extrovert, appeared to be very stable, and desires no publicity; rather, he, at times, gave the indication he wished he had not brought up the matter.

This office has no comment upon the report other than to note that the observer appeared to have been skeptical of his own sighting and checked it against whatever known data were available to him with the result that he decided he had seen some object with which he was not familiar.

> DONALD J. TWOMBLY let Lt, USAF Intelligence Officer

Channels

Tras Intel, Hq USAF, Washington 25, D. C.

Chief, ATIC, ATTN: ATTAA-EC, Wright Patterson AFB, Ohio (info)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	Wing Intelligence Cilice	REPORT NO.		Total Control			
	156th Trp Carr Wg (M)						
	MIA, Miami, Florida		PAGE	4	OF	4	PAGES
		THE THE TAX					

the interview continued and he was conversing more easily at the end.

At no time did he exhibit any excitement about the sighting. He gave the impression that he wanted to be very exact in his answers and give precise data for all aspects of his observation. He stated he had not mentioned the sighting to any newspapers and he would not trust them to give a true version of his account, nor to protect him from public ridicule. He asked for and received permission to call the interviewing officer's home, collect, in the event he made another sighting.

f. Maather and winds about conditions at time and place of sightings were as follows:

24 July

Weather: Coserver reported a "broken overcast" which cleared up sufficiently to leave most of the sky clear. Clouds were reported as solid to the west in the area of the object's appearance. A check with the CAA office of the U.S. Weather Eurem at Boca Chica Key revealed the following data: ceiling 22,300 - 25,000, thin scattered clouds; visibility ten miles, temperature 7h F; dewpoint 73; relative humidity 95%; sea level pressure 1016.9 millibars; altimeter setting 30.02 inches; station pressure 30.005; dry bulb reading 7h.h, wet bulb reading 73.2; winds east two miles per hour; total sky cover five tenths, zero altocumulus at 1h,000 feet, five tenths cirrus at 25,000 feet; two tenths of the cover opaque, three tenths transparent. Winds eleft, in teletype sequence; 00802 3505 23307 3h09 h351h 3517 63517 3515 83312 3109 03107 23312 h3h15 63216 83117 03217. Time - 2200 EST, 0300 2.

1 August

Weather: Observer reported a heavy overcast stretching from the eastern horizon to directly everhead. Official figures are: ceiling 2000 scattered clouds, 20,000 scattered clouds, visibility fifteen miles; temperature 88° F; despoint 76; relative humidity 68%; see level pressure 1019.6 millibers; altimeter setting 30.10 instance; station pressure 30.09; dry bulb reading 87.9, wet bulb reading 79.0; winds cost eight miles per hour; total sky cover five tenths; four tenths cumulus at 2000 feet, one tenth circus at 20,000 feet; all five tenths opaque. Winds aloft, in teletype sequence: 01010 1116 21116 111h hlll3 111h, no further data. Time 2200 EST, 03000.

- g. We menutal activity or condition, neteorological or otherwise, was re-
- b. No existence of any physical evidence of the sightings was reported or discovered.
 - i. Ho official interception or identification action was taken.
- j. CAN and Navy control towar records reveal no air traffic in the general area at the times of the stiditings.
- 2. The telligence office of the 450th Troop Carrier Group (A), which also supports the 456th Troop Carrier Wing (A); will cease operations at hismi International Airport, Florida, and begin operations at harleston hir Force Base, South Carolina, as of 2h00 hours 9 August 1953.

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

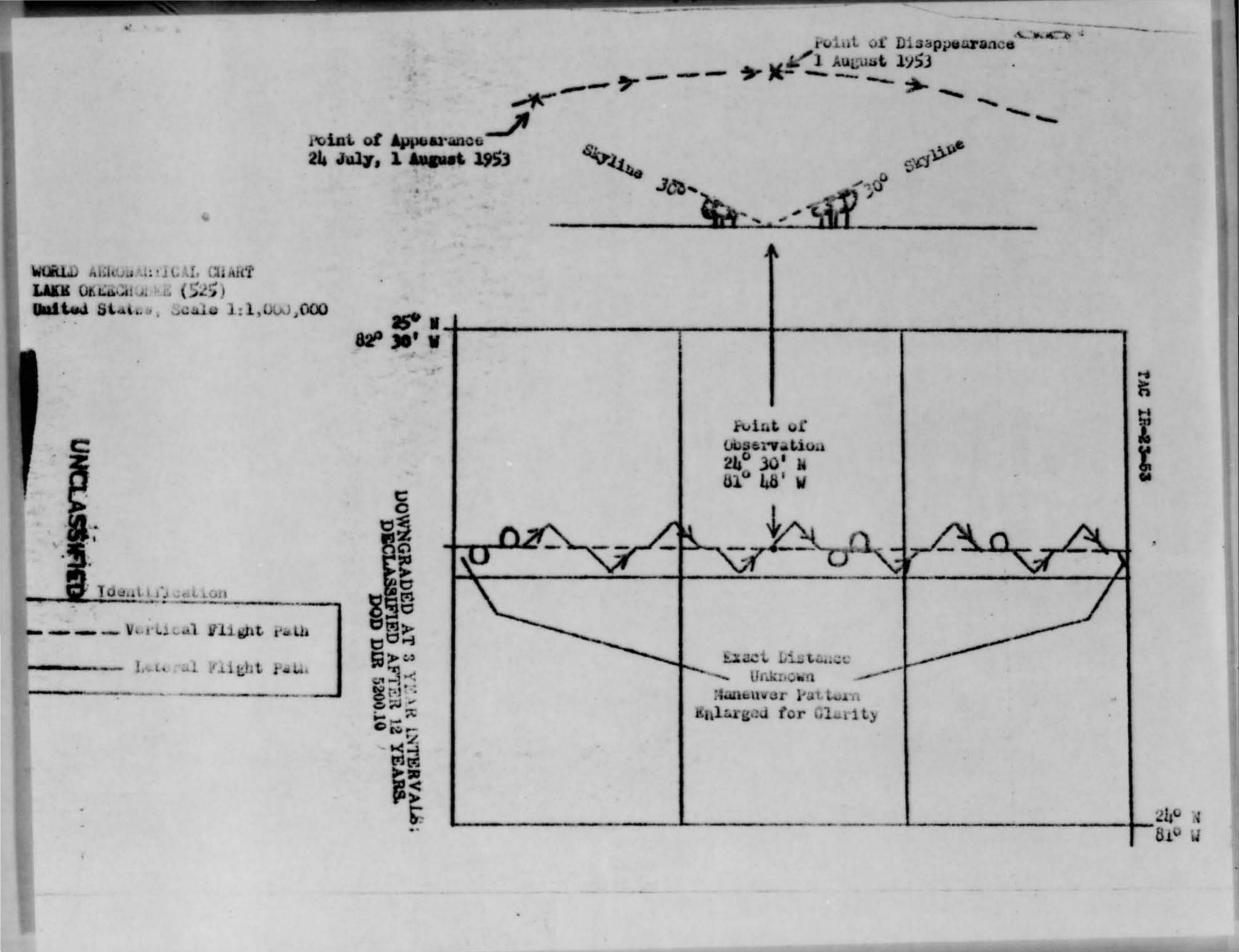
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Alymen) Wing Intelligence Office	REPORT NO.					
156th Tro Carr Wg (M)			-			
MIA. Miami. Florida	PAG TR-23-58	PAGE	_ 3	OF	4	PAGES

north-south line and that he attempted to maintain a check on the flight path by this method throughout the observations. On this basis, he stated the object was noticed first due west at approximately 30° above the horizon and immediately above the sky line which was formed by trees surrounding the house. It proceeded generally due east, except for the maneuvers described in paragraph a above. No estimate of the distance or height was attempted by the observer since, he stated, he did not know the true size of the object. He stated the object did not travel as fast as a meteor.

e. The observer stated that on 2h July he was accompanied by his wife and that he called his landlady, a Hrs. with and her mother, name unknown, out of the house to watch the object. On 1 August be was alone when he first noticed the object and called his wife, bre. and Bre. and Bre. The three woman were not interviewed due to time limitations. The observer, Seaman Apprentice Charles . De Forrest, 750h095, is a student at the Flact Sonar School, Tey mest. He enlisted on 9 October 1952. His parent's home is at Chester, Tennsylvania, and he lives with his wife at 321 Simonton Street, Key West. He has been married approximately six months. He has no children or dependents other than his wife. He was born on 11 July 1931 and is 22 Years old. He completed two years of schooling at La Salle College, Philadelphia, where he majored in English literature and minored in language and government. He has worked during summer vacations as a life guard, life guard supervisor, and camp counsellor, and he was employed in the maintenance department of La Salla, during his academic years, as a general naintenance worker. He is fairly familiar with astronomy, claiming to be able to recognize a few major constallations, but he stated he is not interested in astronomy as such, being mainly concerned with the subject through his long standing interest in celestial navigation in which he would like to make a career. He advanced no opinions as to what caused the sighting other than that he believed he saw some type of powered aircraft with great maneuverability. He further stated he believes "Tlying sameers" might exist but that he is not very concerned, and is not worried, about the possibility or the phenomens. He was emphatic in declaring the object did not recenble an strerest landing light but that it did recemble an aircraft running light and that, until he observed the erratic course, he believed it was the tail running light of me aircraft. He stated that once before, in the summer of 1949, while he was a life guard at See Isle or See Island City, New Jersey, he noticed an object which was stronge to him. It was described me a metallic flash first observed as stationary on the horison and then rising at a 45° angle and disappearing, after a very smooth but very fast ascent. He was in a boat on the water at the time, in the early morning, and ascribed the sighting to a combination of the effects of clouds, water, and the sun shining on an pirereft fuselage. He did not report the sighting. On 24 July 1953 he attempted to telephone the Naval Base at Key West and the Naval Air Station at Boca Chica Key but both lines were ousy. He then called the CAP to report the sighting. At that time, he stated, he heard the CAP operator interrupt the conversation to make a weather report part of which was "ceiling 1500". After receiving a mild verbal reprimend the same night from the Officer of the Day or the Officer of the Guard at the Sonar School for failure to persist in his efforts to contact that office. he reported the 1 August sighting directly to the Sonar School and was informed the information would be passed on to the Chief of Staff at the lavel Base.

Induity was made as the conserver's poweral resolution and charmoviedge of conserver except during duty hours. The supervisor
moviedge of conserver except during duty hours. The supervisor
move him a character rating of "very good" "above represent and
described him as quist, conscientions, a good student - not outstanding but above average. To this interviewer observer appeared
to be stable, well adjusted, poised, but at first extremely reserved
and would not elaborate on his answers except in response to per-



NFO 24 July 1953



UNCLASSIFIED

Key West, Florida

Description

Between the hours of 2200 and 2230 EST, a student at the Fleet Sonar School, United States Naval Base, Key West, Florida, observed an unidentified flying object in the sky over the town of Key West. The object appeared to be approximately the size of a pin point or a star, very bright white in color, proceeded rapidly from low on the western skyline to a point directly forward and overhead. The object then blinked out momentarily before descending below the eastern skyline. No serodynamic features, trail, exhaust, propulsion system, or sound were noted. Speed was reported as unknown, since the observer did not know the object's true size or its distance from him. The observer stated that the object appeared to move in regular smooth circles.

Discussion

Inquiry was made as to the observer's general reputation and character. His supervisor in Sonar Operations stated that he had no knowledge of the observer except during duty hours. The supervisor gave him a character rating of "very good", "above reproach", and described him as a quiet, conscientious, good student - not outstanding but above average. The interviewer stated that the observer appeared to be stable, well-adjusted, and very consistent with his answers after considerable questioning.

The weather at the time of the observation was reported as a broken overcast. Clouds were reported to be solid to the west where the object disappeared. A check with CAA office of U.S. Weather Bureau at Boca Chica Key revealed a ceiling of 22,300 feet.

There were several aircraft in the area and one of them was equipped with a searchlight. There is a probability that the observer saw the searchlight scanning the area.

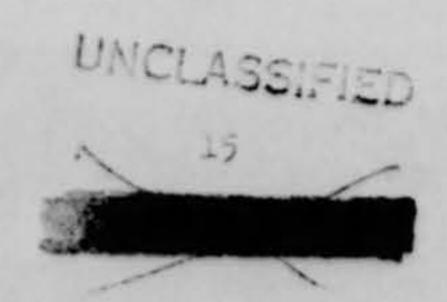
Conclusion

Other - Probably searchlight on aircraft.

24 July & _____ Key West

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DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS, DOD DIR 5200.19



T53-11156

November 1953

Dear Capt. Harding;

We have been so busy with the Black Hawk, S. Dakota case that I've only just now gotten down to looking over the large batch of accumulated reports. I must say that compared with Black Hawk, none of these approaches that incident in linterest. There are a few interesting sightings, but on none of these is information sufficient to make a follow-up profitable.

Of the interesting ones, the very similar sightings of 24 July and 1 August at Key West would warrent follow-up if they were more recent. With present information I have no suggested explanation.

The 26 July Perrin AFB Texas also holds possible interest from the standpoint of maneuvers and the fact they were observed from the Control Tower and by civilians of Dennison, Texas.

It is too bad there is not more information on Creola, Ala. These cases cover four separate days. There is possibly pay dirt in these.

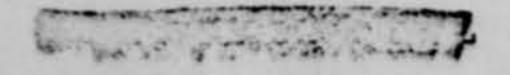
Finally, the Sidi Slimane sighting is definitely puzzling and will probably have to remain on the books as unexplained.

As for the remaining 30 or so, there is so little information concerming those which do not have obvious explanations that there is no percentage whatever in considering them seriously.

Thus, out of the total number there are 4 independent sets which, if staff and time were available, would be interesting to pursue. Personally, I vote for sticking with the Black Hawk case until we have squeezed it dry. I feel certain that if this case can be explained, others would follow suit.

Concerning the Black Hawk case, we are proceeding slowly but surely with the investigation. Solid objects are certainly indicated by the evidence. Since the observations covered several hours and sightings were both visual and radar, it is important, in my estimation, that we continue to pursue this since failure to identify pinpoints a possible real weakness in our defense set-up. I hope to have a preliminary report on this case for you soon.

J. Allen Hynek



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DOD DIR 5200.10



155TH TROOP CARFIER WING (M) PIRATE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT Mismi, Florida

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WIN

7 August 1953

SUBJECT: Transmittal of AF Form 112, FLYOBRPT

THRU:

Commander

Eighteenth Air Force

ATTN: Director of Intelligence

Donaldson Air Force Bass Greenville, South Carolina

Commander

Tactical Air Command

ATTM: Deputy Chief of Staff, Intelligence

Langley Air Force Base

Virginia

Director of Intelligence

Headquarters, United States Air Fores

Washington 25, D. C.

1. In com diance with wire message from the Commander, ATIC, Wright Patterson Air Porce Base, Chio, reference AFOIN-ATIAM-7-25-E, dated 31 July 1953, copy inclosed, AF Form 112, FLYSERPT, is submitted herewith.

2 Incls

1. TWX, AFOIM-ATIAE-7-25-E (w/d)
2. AF Form 112 (quad) w/l incl

1st Lt, USAF

Intelligence Officer

Vcc: Cmdr, ATIC, ATTH: ATIAA-2C, Wright Patterson AFB, Chio

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



ATIAE-5 File

ININT MESSAGEFORM

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AIR INTELEGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence (Iffice	REPORT NO.					
456th Trp Carr Wg (M)						
MIA, Miami, Florida	TAC IR-23-53	PAGE	2	OF	4	PAGES

- 1. Report follows of the information obtained by this office in compliance with message AFOIN-ATIAE-7-25-3 from the Commander, ATIC, Wright Patterson AFB. Delay in reporting was caused by inability to contact the observer due to the message having been received on Saturday, 1 August 1953, the time command in arranging for a definite time and place for interviewing the observer, and the need for coordinating available transportation consistent with the scheduled commitments of this Wing in moving to Charleston, South Carolina. Complete cooperation was extended by all levels of command contacted, both Air Force and Havy, in order to insure completion of the investigation. Pertinent information is submitted in the order established by paragraph 7c, AFL 200-5.
- a. Only one object was sighted on each occasion. It was very bright white in color but so small that the observer stated he could just barely see it. It was reported to be shout the size of a pin point or a star of ordinary size and luminence. No aerodynamic features, trail, exhaust, propulsion system, or sound were coserved. Speed was reported as unknown, since the observer did not know the object's true size or its distance from him. It was reported to have traversed an angle of 120 from west to east in one and one half minutes during the first sighting on 2h July 1953 and 60° in approximately forty seconds during the second sighting on 1 August 1953. The object took an aread straight course, vertically, from west to east; however lateral maneuvers were said to have been observed on both occasions. These maneuvers, or changes of course, were described as lateral is angular legs, or siz sags, along the vertical course and level or lateral circles. The observer was insistent that the individual short less appeared to be of the same distance, duration, and at the same angles, and that they varied from side to side along the vertical course. As reported to the interviewing officer, those changes in course can be most accurately described as the type of course an eircraft would take in tracking a beam while maintaining altitude. The circles, or turns, were described as regular, smooth, and all of the same radius. A graphic description of these maneuvers is included as inclosure 1. On 24 July, the object disappeared completely approximately three or four degrees above the sky line efter blinking out and reappearing four or five times. On I August is disappeared behind a cloud bank at approximately 90° or directly overhead from the observer. The observer also stated that he believed the object backed two or three times but was heeitest to say as much since he believed that an illusion of reversing could have been due to the effects of perspective when observing a circle made by the chiest in a very small radius. Observer reported that the object's course on 24 July teek it through the permebre of the moon, but not directly across the moon, and yet it was still as visible as when observed in the darker part of the sky. Observer also recorted the moon light as being very bright during the entire observation on 2h July 1953.
- b. For 2h July and 1 August the times of sighting were reported to be between 2200 and 2230 EST and at 2135 EST, respectively. Converted to Z time these
 would be 0300 to 0330 and 0235. The first sighting lasted for approximately one and
 one half nimites and the second for approximately forty seconds. The observer's time
 astimates were checked by the interviewer by sample time sequences; the observer was
 consistent in his estimates.
- o, oth observations were made visually from the surface with the naked eye; the poserver states he sees not lear illusies and claims to lave 20/20 eyesigns.
- and, prior to the sightings, determined that the submarine base, key west, and his landlady's house were on a direct north-south line and that he took this fact into account when observing the object. He stated that immediately upon observing the object he faced toward it and judged the angle of suppose to the land toward it and judged the angle of suppose to the land to the stated that immediately upon observing the object he faced toward it and judged the angle of suppose to the land to the land to the stated that immediately upon observing the object he faced toward it and judged the angle of suppose to the land to the