

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|-----------|---|--|
| 1. DATE 28 July 1954 | | 2. LOCATION Miami, Florida | | 12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical SUN DOG <input checked="" 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 29/0001Z (N) | | 4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar | | | |
| 5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | | 6. SOURCE Civilian | | | |
| 7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 23 Minutes | | 8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1 | 9. COURSE | | |
| 10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Circular with flat bottom. Red with yellow edges, sound before and during 1st minutes of sightings. Elongated as it climbed. Changed color to greyish. Occasional scalloped edges. Slow random motion. Observed through window. | | | | 11. COMMENTS Time and lighting condition indicate sun dog. | |

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Memorandum

From: BROWN, M. J., QMC, USN
To: Chief of Staff, U. S. Naval Base, Key West, Florida
Subj: Unidentified Flying Object; report of
Time: 0340 - 29 July 1954

Witnessed by: [REDACTED] SA, USN

Location: Position of YTB-543: 4 miles, bearing 307° true from
"The Elbows" lighted beacon in the Florida Reefs

General Situation: Aboard USS YTB-543 with tow enroute Miami, Florida,
to Key West, Florida

While steaming south on course 205° true, speed 6.5 knots, approximately 3 miles off of, and parallel to the contour of the Florida Reefs, I was on the Starboard wing of the Bridge with a pair of binoculars and stop watch in my hands observing the general layout of the reefs, its lights and beacons, and of the merchant vessel close aboard and abeam to starboard, also steaming on a southerly course, satisfying myself of the safety of YTB-543 and its tow in relation to the reefs and the merchant vessel. Upon being satisfied of the safety of the YTB-543 and its tow, I then turned my attention forward, off the starboard bow, preparing to observe and check the characteristics of "The Elbows" lighted beacon with the stop watch for further proof and identification when suddenly there appeared a breathtaking phenomena in the sky, slightly above and to the east of "The Elbows" lighted beacon. Exclaiming my discovery to [REDACTED] USN, Helmsman on watch in the wheel house and at the same instance throwing the binoculars to my eyes and in line with the object and unconsciously starting the stop watch, (which results from years of practice), I followed the object from a SSW direction in what appeared to be a long, but slight, semicircle swing across the bow (south to north) and thence veering off sharply to the right disappearing in the NE, off the port quarter. There were 8 vessels known to be in the vicinity at the time and it is assumed and taken for granted that one or more of these vessels sighted this phenomena, especially the vessel immediately to my starboard. The general overall weather condition at that time was fair to good, with fair being from SW through east to NE and good being from SW through West to NE. Sky was three-tenths covered with clouds, mostly of which were on the horizon and to the elevation of position angle 10° to 15° high. In the east these clouds were of: alto-cumulus in the southwest to cumulo-nimbus, alto-cumulus and nimbo-stratus in the southeast, to alto-cumulus and strato-cumulus in the north-east. A sheet of veil of alto-stratus was predominate in the cloud formation and was very visible above the basic clouds. There were rain squalls

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DDO DIB 5290.10

T54-11612
enclosure (1) 2

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with occasional lightning in the SE and NE. The cloud formation in the west from SW through west to NE were of: cumulus, cumulo-nimbus and alto-cumulus with alto-stratus. There were rain squalls in the NW, no lightning was observed. Above the position angle of 15° were occasional scattered clouds of alto-cumulus type up to 25° position angle. Overhead was clear, wind from south at 10 knots, sea from SSW condition one. Visibility unlimited. Position of YTB-543 was 4 miles, bearing 307° True from "The Elbows" lighted beacon.

DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT:

From behind a huge dark mass of clouds directly above "The Elbow" lighted beacon there appeared a brilliant pale blue object, shaped like an egg, moving at incredible speed. This object was observed above the horizon at 10° to 12° position angle, and remained more or less at that level until its disappearance into, or behind a huge cloud bank in the NE, directly above a northbound merchant vessel. During the course of following this object with the binoculars, the shape could not be made out sharply and distinctly due to its light penetrating the thin veil of alto-stratus clouds but, clear enough to indicate the shape of an egg. It is estimated the length being three times its width, the overall size cannot be estimated within a certain degree of accuracy, except in relation to the size of the sun, which the object being close aboard as it was, would be the equivalent of the diameter of three suns, this in turn would be subject to a certain amount of distortion, either plus or minus, depending on atmospheric conditions due to its light penetrating the veil of alto-stratus clouds. Since its distance from the YTB on position angle about 12° off the port bow, (its closest point of approach) is not known, it can be only estimated as HUGE. There also appeared four cones of light extending out from the main body, each at a 90° angle from the other, the upper and lower cones were equal in length to one times its width (each), the forward and after cones were equal to one times its length (each). The cones of light were less brilliant than the main body. This observation was made as the object made its way through the veil of alto-stratus above the heavy basic clouds from a point SSW through south to NE in a time element of 6.3 seconds by stop watch. After its disappearance the course was retraced back to the point of sighting and continued on backwards in the semicircle swing to determine where it came from. It is believed that the object came from the general direction of Key West. No sound could be detected as the object passed off the windward side (port) of the YTB. The windward side being away from the noises of the YTB would have made the noise of the object easily detected had there been any, for the object passed relatively close aboard.

/s/ M. J. BROWN, OMC, USN

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.

ROD DIR 5050.10

754-11612

NAVAL CONTROL OF SHIPPING OFFICE
U. S. NAVAL BASE
KEY WEST, FLORIDA

MEMORANDUM

6 August 1954

Correction to Memorandum concerning "Unidentified Flying Object"

An official of the ONI requested the typed written report to be transformed into a schematic diagram, as near as practicable to the scale of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Chart #1249, and to incorporate other information considered pertinent to this phenomenon that was not incorporated in the typed written report, which at that time was considered by this observer to be of little value but now believed to be important. It must be pointed out however, that some of the information shown on the chart is greatly exaggerated for the sake of simplicity.

Upon transforming this report into a schematic diagram, an error made by this observer was discovered in the typed written report, rechecking the quickly jotted down notes to determine how this error occurred, it was found that the bearings 307° true and 247° True were jumbled close together thus causing this error. The correction are underlined as follows:

1. Position of YTB 543: 4 miles bearing 247° True ^{to} FROM "The Elbow" Lighted beacon in the Florida Reefs. (Occurring two places in the report).
2. Position of South bound merchant vessel abeam to starboard: 1 mile bearing 307° True (not shown in report).

M. J. Brown
M. J. BROWN,
QMC, USN

ENCLOSURE (1) CF
TSK-11817

ENCLOSURE

Ser: 01587 32Y-6

12 AUG 1954

[REDACTED]


From: Commandant, SIXTH Naval District
To: Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, USAF, Washington, D. C.
Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
Commander, Air Defense Command, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Commander, Eastern Air Defense Force, Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N. Y.

Subj: Report of unidentified flying object; forwarding of additional information concerning

Ref: (a) ComSix conf ltr ser 0157022Y-6 dtd 9 Aug 1954, same Subject

Encl: (1) DirC, FIO, Miami, Fla. conf memo dtd 9 Aug 1954, with enclosures

1. By reference (a) subject sighting was reported.
2. Additional information concerning subject sighting is forwarded herewith as enclosure (1).


C. E. BOYD
By direction

INFO COPY TO:
DNI
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FIELD INTELLIGENCE OFFICE
MIAMI, FLORIDA

OPY

9 August 1954

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MEMORANDUM

From: Officer in Charge, Field Intelligence Office, Miami, Florida
To: District Intelligence Officer, SIXTH Naval District

Subj: Unidentified Flying Object

Encl: (1) Memo from observer of Subject Object
(2) Diagram of sighting, compiled by observer

1. A representative of this office was informed by Chief of Staff, Naval Base, Key West, that a report of a sighting made by M.J. BROWN, CMC, USN, on 29 July 1954 was forwarded to your office on 4 August 1954. Enclosures (1) and (2) are supplemental to that report.

2. BROWN is regarded by the command at Key West as a most reliable Chief Petty Officer. Conversation with BROWN disclosed that he had been in the Navy for twenty-two years. He stated that he has observed meteors, meteorites, comets, etcetera, in the past, and that they invariably traveled at some angle to the horizon or the earth's surface. He did not believe subject object could possibly have been one of these natural phenomenon, as it traveled parallel to the surface of the earth.

3. The helmsman on BROWN'S vessel also sighted subject object. His version of the sighting is being compiled and will be forwarded in the near future.

/s/ H. G. SWICORD
LT USN

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 10 YEARS.
EOP, DIS. 520010

[REDACTED]

MEMORANDUM


COPY

[REDACTED]

Ser: 01627 32Y-6

16 AUG 1954

UNCLASSIFIED


From: Commandant, SIXTH Naval District
To: Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, USAF, Washington, D. C.
Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
Commander, Air Defense Command, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo.
Commander, Eastern Air Defense Force, Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N. Y.

Subj: Report of unidentified flying object; forwarding of additional information concerning

Ref: (a) ComSix conf ltr ser 0157032Y-6 dtd 9 Aug 1954, same Subject
(b) ComSix conf ltr ser 0158732Y-6 dtd 12 Aug 1954, same Subject

Encl: (1) Statement of Sydney J. MARTIN, 464 62 53, SN, USN


1. By reference (a) subject sighting was reported. By reference (b) additional information was furnished.
2. Enclosure (1) is the statement made by a witness to the sighting reported in reference (a), and is forwarded herewith as the closing report of subject incident.


C. E. BOYD
By direction

INFO COPY TO:
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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10


T54 11899

10 August 1954

From: MARTIN, Sydney J., 464 62 58, Seaman, U. S. Navy
To: Field Intelligence Officer, Miami, Florida

Subj: Unidentified Flying Object; report of

Time: About 0340R, 29 July 1954

Witnessed by: BROWN, Milbert James, QMC, USN

General Situation: Aboard the USS YTB-543 with tow enroute from Miami, Florida, to Key West, Florida

1. While in the status of performing my duties: (1) as Helmsman on the 0300 to 0600 watch and, (2) Assisting Chief Quartermaster BROWN in obtaining a terrestrial fix to determine the position of the YTB-543 and its tow on a moments notice, I was in the process of checking the ship's head by the magnetic compass, after such time assisting Chief Quartermaster BROWN in obtaining a fix which was timed at 0335R. Almost within the same moment Chief Quartermaster BROWN who was still on the starboard wing of the bridge, with stop watch and binoculars in his hands, said, "I feel certain that this beacon off the starboard bow is "The Elbow" but I am going to check it's characteristics for positive identification, I cannot find the lighted buoy on the starboard beam, for I believe the merchant vessel to starboard is in line with the lighted buoy." Then instantly I heard Chief Quartermaster BROWN call to me, saying, "Martin! Quickly! Look off the starboard bow and slightly high!" There my eyes caught sight of an almost unbelievable phenomenon in the southwest moving at incredible speed. Leaving the steering wheel momentarily to catch a better glimpse of the object as it passed off the port side, I followed the object as it passed off the port side, until it disappeared in the northeast almost directly above a north bound merchant vessel, off the port quarter.

2. Description of object: Unaided by any optical instruments, the object appeared to the naked eye as a very large or, rather huge object, similar in shape like a U. S. Navy blimp, and of bright whiteish-blue color, moving at an incredible speed, moving faster than any flying object I know of. This object was moving horizontally, slightly above, but parallel to the horizon and disappearing in the northeast, over a north bound merchant vessel, of the port quarter in what appeared to be in a matter of seconds, almost as in relation to say, faster than it would take a man to light a cigarette in a normal amount of time. No sound or noise could be detected as it passed off the port side.

/S/SYDNEY J. MARTIN
Seaman, U. S. Navy

ENCLOSURE (1)

754-11899

28 JUL 54

ACTION

ATTN-9
ATTN-2
Rfile

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PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

REF 40A 1391 31 JUL 1954

29/00012
MIAMI FLA

ROUTINE
FM COMDR 2585 AFRCTC MIAMI INTL APRT MIAMI FLA FROM O & T
TO COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO
ATTIC WPAFB OHIO
DIR INTEL HQ USAF
COMDR CONAC MITCHELL AFB NY
14 AF DOBBINS AFB GA

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0-721.
IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA 6B, AFR 200-2, THE FOLLOWING UFOB REPORT IS SUBMITTED. INFORMATION RECEIVED 1430 EST, 29 JULY 54: (1) (A) CIRCULAR WITH FLAT BOTTOM. (B) QUARTER. (C) BRILLIANT "BEAUTIFUL" RED WITH YELLOWISH EDGES, CHANGED TO DARK GRAY, THEN LIGHT GRAY. (D) 1. (E) NOT APPLICABLE. (F) NONE. (G) NONE. (H) SMOOTH, RHYTHMIC SOUND DESCRIBED AS NON-METALLIC AND UNDEFINABLE, HEARD BEFORE SIGHTING AND DURING FIRST FEW MINUTES OF SIGHTING. (I) OBJECT SEEMED TO ELONGATE AS IT CLIMBED, THEN ASSUMED ROUND SHAPE. (2) (A) RHYTHMIC SOUND, BRIGHT LIGHT. (B) ZERO ELEVATION, 270 DEGREES AZIMUTH. (C) 80 DEGREES ELEVATION, 330 DEGREES AZIMUTH. (D) OBJECT ROSE FROM GROUND TO ABOUT 200 FEET ALTITUDE AND HOVERED. VERY SLOW MOVEMENT TO NORTH, THEN TO SOUTH, THEN NORTH AGAIN. OBJECT THEN STARTED TO CLIMB TOWARD NORTHEAST, ELONGATED TEMPORARILY, THEN RESUMED ROUND SHPAE WITH SCALLOPED EDGES, CHANGED SLOWLY TO DARK

PAGE TWO

GRAY, THEN TO LIGHT GRAY AND FADED. (E) SLOWLY FADED. (F) 23 MINUTES (TIME BELIEVED ACCURATE). (3) (A) GROUND VISUAL THROUGH WINDOW. (B) NONE. (C) NOT APPLICABLE. (4) (A) 00012, 29 JULY 54. (B) NIGHT (5) 3565 NW 36 STREET, MIAMI, FLA (6) (A) MRS. [REDACTED] MIAMI, FLA, WIFE OF AIRLINE PILOT. RELIABILITY UNKNOWN. (B) NOT APPLICABLE. (7) (A) CLEAR. (B) SURFACE 070 DEGREES 5K (0000 EASTERN), 6000 FEET, 180 DEGREES, 5K, 10000 FEET, 280 DEGREES 8K, 16000 FEET, 360 DEGREES, 13K, 20000 FEET, 010 DEGREES, 12K. (C) 0530 EASY OBSERVATION, 1500 SCATTERED, 2500 SCATTERED, 15000 BROKEN (D) 15 MILES. (E) BROKEN. (F) TOWERING CUMULUS EASY, CUMULO-NIMBUS SOUTH. (8) NEGATIVE. (9) NEGATIVE. (10) NEGATIVE. (11) DELTA, CHICAGO AND SOUTHERN FLIGHT 79, A DC-7 LANDED AT 0500E, MIAMI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. (12) POSSIBLE REFRACTION OF LIGHT FROM SUN, WHICH AROSE AT 0546 EST
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DOD DIB 5200.10

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

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| 1. DATE 28 July 1954 | 2. LOCATION Miami, Florida | | 12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical METEOR <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 0349 GMT 29/0340Z | 4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar | | |
| 5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No | 6. SOURCE MILITARY | | |
| 7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 6 Seconds | 8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one | 9. COURSE NE | |
| 10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Brilliant pale blue object, rapid speed - 4 cones of light. No sound. Very large, passed near vessel. Flight paralell to horizon. | | 11. COMMENTS Meteor sighting. | |

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Ser: 01570 32X-6

9 AUG 1954

[REDACTED]

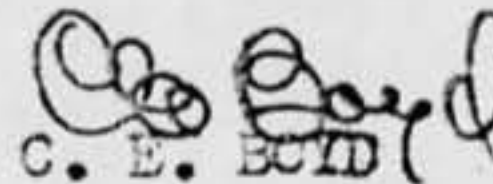
From: Commandant, SIXTH Naval District
To: Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, USAF, Washington, D. C.
Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
Commander, Eastern Air Defense Force, Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N.Y.
Commander, Air Defense Command, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo.

Subj: Report of unidentified flying object; forwarding of

Ref: (a) COMEASTSEAFLRON Instruction 3820.2 of 16 July 1954

Encl: (1) Commander, US Naval Base, Key West, Fla. conf ltr ser 023
dtd 5 August 1954, with enclosure

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded herewith in accordance with reference (a).
2. The files of DIO-6ND contain no derogatory data concerning M. J. BROWN, OMC, USN.


C. E. BOYD
By direction

INFO COPY TO:
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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DDO DIS 5290.10

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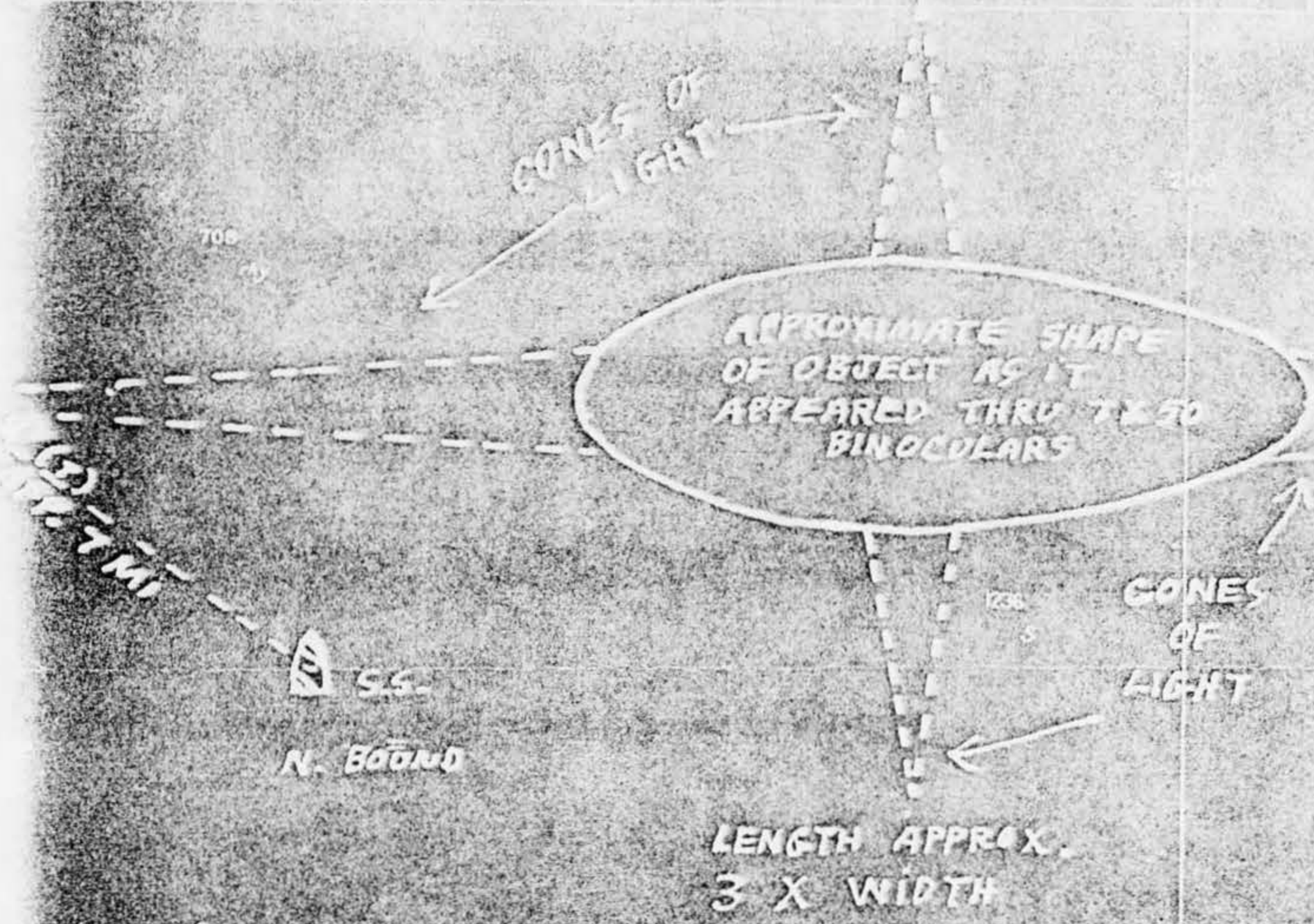
UNCLASSIFIED

T54-11010

EST SPEED 1200
DIST OF OBJECT
TIME 6.3 SECS

APPEARED
HERE
BEHIND A
CLOUD BANK
EAST 10°

DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE
300 TO 500 FT

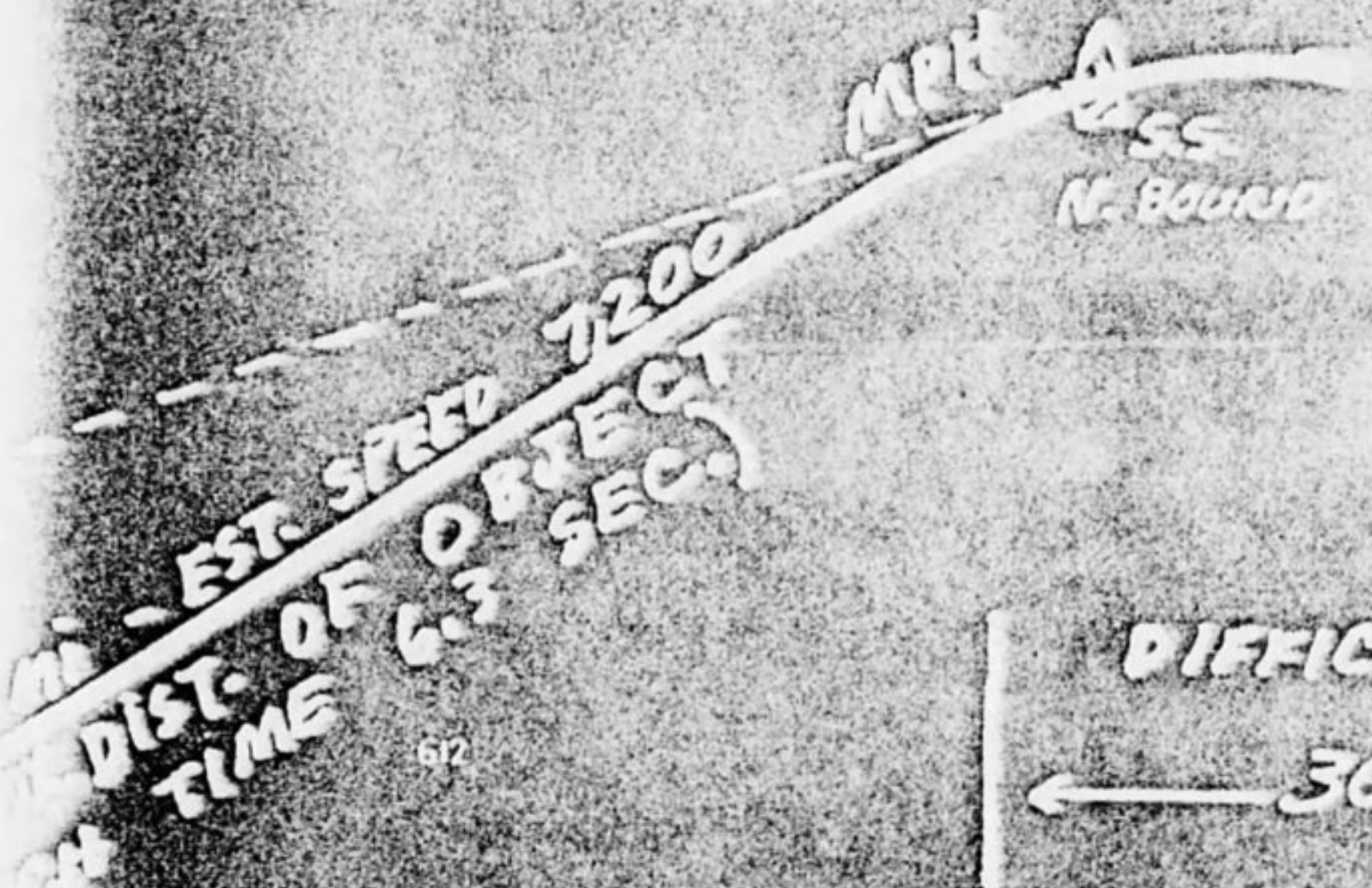


M. J. Brown QMC, USN
OBSERVER

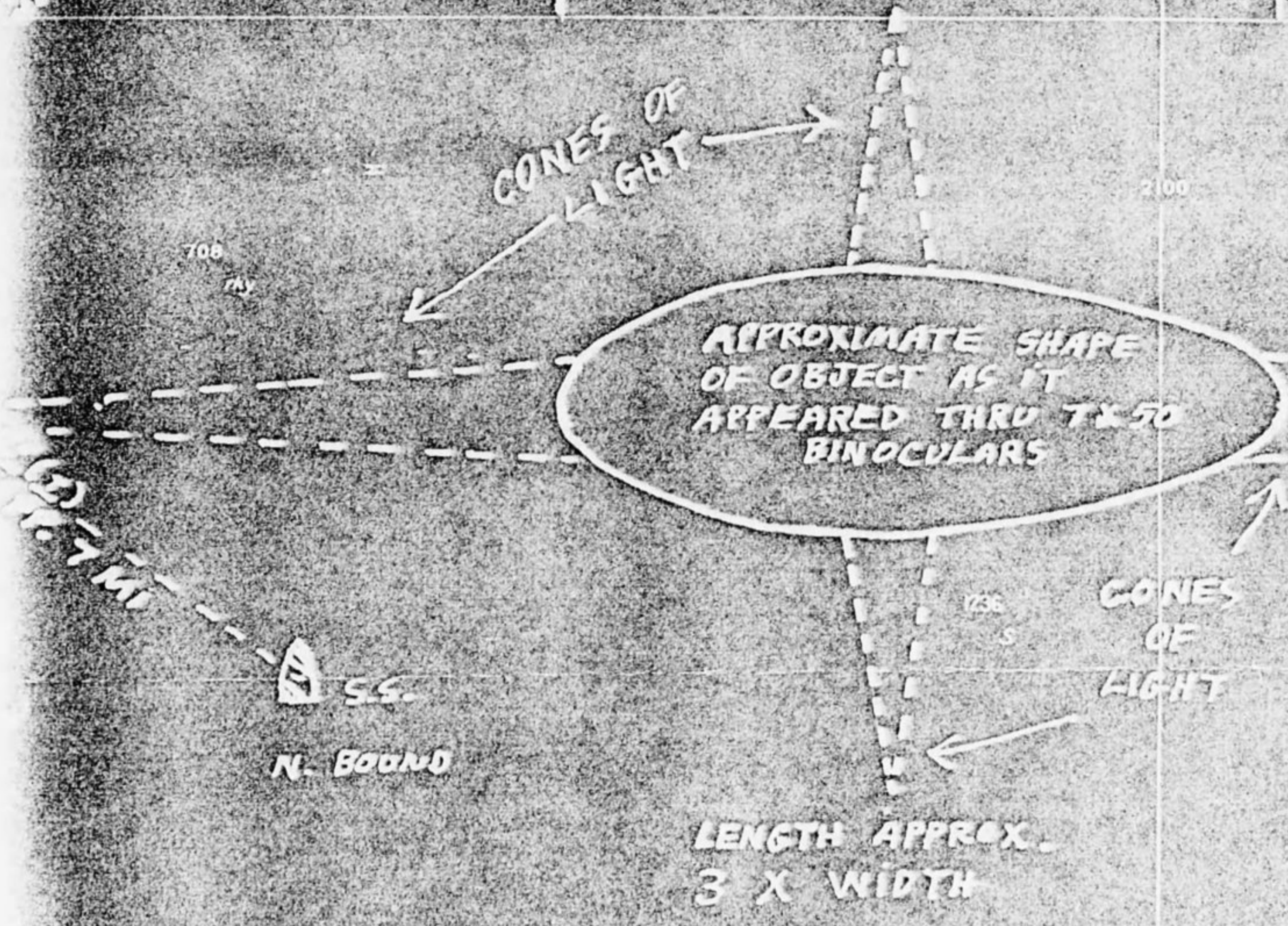
SECTION OF C.S. CHART 1249

↑
ONE NORTH BOUND VESSEL
DISAPPEARED OVER THE
HORIZON

OBJECT
DISAPPEARED
HERE
BEHIND A
CLOUD BANK
POSITION
ANGLE
EST. 10°



DIFFICULT TO ESTIMATE
← 300 TO 500 FT →



THE ELBOW BN

SIGHTED
OBJECT
HERE
POSITION
ANGLE
10°
EST.

POINT OF
APPROACH
EST DIST
1.5 MI
POSITION
ANGLE
APPROX
12°

205 (12)

214 (1)
APP
8 MI

171 (1)
APP
8 MI

177 (1)
APP
7 MI

SS.
S. BOUND

SS.
S. BOUND

SS.
S. BOUND



MAGNETIC

VAR 143° E (1949)

ONE SOUTH BOUND VESSEL
DISAPPEARED OVER THE
HORIZON



Harbor

CARYSFORT REEF LIGHTHOUSE

CARYSFORT REEF LIGHTHOUSE

TOWING LIGHTER

OTC (T) APP 8

29 JUL '54

YTB 543 0340R

APPROX DIST PATH AND (STU)

THE ELBOW BN

241°(T) APP 4 MI

SIGHTED OBJECT HERE POSITION ANGLE 10° EAST

CLOSEST POINT OF APPROACH EST. DIST. 1.5 MI POSITION ANGLE APPROX 12°

210S 15 KTS

214°(T) APP 8 MI

191°(T) APP 8 MI

179°(T) APP 7 MI

SS S-BOUND

SS S-BOUND

SS S-BOUND

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U. S. NAVAL BASE
Key West, Florida

Code 001
Ser 023

5 AUG 1954

[REDACTED]
From: Commander, U. S. Naval Base, Key West, Florida
To: Commandant, Sixth Naval District (Attn: DIO)

Subj: Report of unidentified aerial object

Encl: (1) Memorandum report by [REDACTED], OMC, USN, dated 29 July 1954

1. Subject report, enclosure (1), is forwarded herewith.
2. Brown is considered an extremely reliable, experienced Chief Petty Officer, with over twenty years of service which has included a thorough familiarity with meteorology.
3. No action has been taken by this command at this time.

/s/ C. L. MURPHY
Chief of Staff

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[REDACTED]
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIS 5290.10

COPY

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T54-11612E (1)