

UFG8 INDEX CARD

1. DATE 15 February 1955		2. LOCATION New York, N. Y.		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 <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Probably optical</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT _____		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		6. SOURCE Civilian photographer			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION N/A (Object never observed; later discovered on film.)		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 2	9. COURSE Stationary		
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Two white spots with darker crosses across their centers showed up on photgraphic negatives during the process of development of the film. There was no previous sighting of either of these "objects".			11. COMMENTS Concur in the conclusion that "spots" in the picture were probably produced by optical phenomena. Note: Hq, 4602d AISS would be interested in your reaction to this. RB		

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REF ID: A66115	PART DESCRIPTION: 1-55 OR	PAGE 2
<p>1. SUBJECT: [REDACTED] (Continued)</p>		
<p>Address: [REDACTED] Great Neck, New York</p>		
<p>Age: 35</p>		
<p>Present Position: [REDACTED] New York Journal American</p>		
<p>Education: High School</p>		
<p>Qualifications: Former Air Force Navigator and Staff Photographer</p>		
<p>11. REMARKS: SOURCE was a serious minded individual in his field, thorough with a keen sense of responsibility and very much interested in his work. SOURCE was a former Air Force Navigator and was well versed in aerial photographic techniques. He was very cooperative and sure that he could not render any additional information unless he had been totally advised of the presence of the spot on the film after the picture was developed. He occasionally expressed his conviction that the "lighting" was a result of a combination of weather and optical equipment. It is believed that the information received from SOURCE may be considered fairly reliable.</p>		
<p>12. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF EQUIPMENT:</p>		
<p>1. 16 YOUNG/17 FEB 55 SOURCE, alone, set up his camera in Central Park at the 17th Street Crossover Road near the Mall on assignment to photograph some snow scenes.</p>		
<p>2. Using a 1/2 speed graphic camera with Ansco Superpan Triax film, ASA 40, Tungsten, SOURCE exposed for about five minutes at f-11. The Mall in the foreground. A press 40 bullet was shot away from the lens during the exposure.</p>		
<p>3. At no time during his assignment did SOURCE see, hear, or otherwise sense anything unusual. While focusing and composing subject photograph SOURCE stated that he keenly scanned the picture area and saw nothing which would result in a glow of this intensity.</p>		
<p>4. The sky at this time was overcast with low clouds and it had stopped moving momentarily. The weather was estimated at about 15 degrees Fahrenheit, and there was a no wind condition.</p>		
<p>5. Upon his return to the Journal American Film Studio, SOURCE, as usual, handed the film packs to the darkroom crew for processing. Upon projecting the negative for an enlargement the "spot" was thought to be on the enlarger lens, but after cleaning, it was determined to be on the negative. Enlargements of the print were then analyzed by the photographers on the shift without anyone being able to arrive at a sound solution.</p>		

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6. Minutes later one of the newspaper reporters, a Mr. [REDACTED] entered the room and immediately voiced his conclusions. He then called the Wilsons Astoria, whose twin towers are located just left of the "spot", to check if any of the guests had seen anything strange in the area. Another call was made to Trenton Airport in New Jersey, (GEORGE BIRD 551) to see if the field ceiling light was on. It was reported that it was. Mr. [REDACTED] then called Headquarters, 3d District, Coast Guard and Headquarters 26th Air Division for a possible explanation of this alleged phenomena. None could be given.

7. In STURGEON'S opinion, the "spot" was caused by a reflection from a lighted object or objects in nearby real time that were bright enough to register during the course of a prolonged exposure but not of sufficient intensity to be discernible to the naked eye.

2. [REDACTED]
1. Photographs (dup)
 2. Negatives of Photographs

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REF ID: A66015
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

NO. 5 - 16000-115

15 APR 55

INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

1. A check with the Ground Observer Corps (GOC) Center at Ft. Belknap, Wash. D.C. (PHONE NO. 1-0) revealed that the subject photograph was taken at 11/0740Z FEB 55. The time of the subject photograph at 11/0740Z FEB 55.

2. A check was made with several of the GOC collectors with the Ground Observer Corps (GOC) Center at Ft. Belknap, Wash. D.C. since the relative position of the spot on the photograph placed it in the general area of the GOC. This check revealed an unobstructed view of the entire area from the spot on the photograph during that time recalled seeing anything unusual in the area.

3. Contact was made with the Hayden Planetarium, Wash. D.C. to establish a scientific explanation for the appearance of the "spot" on the photograph. Mr. Nicholson, associate astronomer, was shown the photograph and made the following conclusions:

a. A bright star in the sky will sometimes appear on a film negative similar to the "spot" on the subject photograph. However, since at this time there was an overcast condition, this possibility was ruled out.

b. Mr. Nicholson noted that there was another "spot" on the picture on the roof-top, about 22 degrees from the primary "spot". He pointed out that this second "spot" was superimposed on the water tower on the roof and there was a definite variation in the shadow gradient of the tower.


c. The two street lamps in the foreground of the picture are in the same relative position as the two "spots" on the horizon, by virtue of distance and direction.

d. It was therefore concluded that these factors may have produced an optical phenomenon in the camera.

e. This conclusion was supported by Mr. [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] and optical advisor.

4. Mr. Parrotter, chief observer for the Hayden Planetarium concurred with the conclusions of paragraph 3 above, and rendered the following additional information in its support:

a. A check with the weather bureau revealed that there was a 100% overcast and the visibility was about three miles. It had stopped snowing at about 15/0740Z FEB 55 and there were light winds from the south veering to south-west. There were no cloud reflections at this time. A check with the weather bureau for entries on the special phenomena sheet produced no results.


 WILLIAM C. VAN HORN
 Major
 Ordnance in Charge

