

NATIVES

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 19 May 60	2. LOCATION 4 mi N of Dillingham, Alaska		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 200500Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Civilian		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 hr	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE W	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Round object with projection at the ends of the center line. There was a red band on the object between the projections. On the bottom were two appendages which moved in an undulating motion. Also, on the center bottom was a half moon shaped object which whirled at varying speeds. The object was about as big as an automobile and silver in color.		11. COMMENTS There was a weather balloon with a radar reflector which crossed the area at the time of the sighting. It is concluded that the object was a weather balloon.	

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SEEM TO CORRELATE WITH SIGHTING, ESPECIALLY
CONSIDERING WIND DIRECTION AND VELOCITY. ITEM KILO:
CHIEF, INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, HQ 10TH AIR DIV (DEF).
THE NATIVES WHO OBSERVED THE OBJECT STATED IT CAME
WITHIN 200 FEET OF THEM. SEVERAL OF THE OBSERVERS
DREW SKETCHES WHICH WERE VERY SIMILAR. WHEN THE
OBJECT ROSE INTO THE AIR, A SUCKING NOISE WAS HEARD
AND GRASS WAS SUCKED UP FROM THE GROUND. ONE OF
THE OBSERVERS, A DEAF-MUTE, POSSIBLY INDICATED THAT
A 5 GALLON CAN WAS SUCKED UP, BUT THIS WAS NOT
ASCERTAINABLE FOR SURE. IN THE PAST, NATIVES HAVE
OFTEN PROVED TO BE ACCURATE AND RELIABLE OBSERVERS
OF UNUSUAL OCCURANCES IN THE ALASKAN AREA. NO
REASONABLE EXPLANATION OF THE OBJECT IS READILY
APPARENT. REQUEST YOUR OPINION OF WHETHER ON-THE-
SPOT INVESTIGATION AND INTERROGATION OF OBSERVERS
BY THIS OFFICE IS WARRANTED

BT

02/0207Z JUN RJKDAG

NNNN

GOOD. ITEM GOLF: (1) VERY CLEAR, NO CLOUDS. (2)
WINDS AS OF 0000Z, LITTLE CHANGE THEREAFTER. SURFACE
270 DEGREES 10K; 6000 FEET 350 DEGREES 10K; 10000,
30 DEGREES 16 K; 16000, 30 DEGREES, 23K; 20000, 300
DEGREES 24K; 30000, 50 DEGREES 30K; 50000 330 DEGREES
11K; 80000, 070 DEGREES 10K. (3) UNLIMITED (4)
UNRESTRICTED (5) CLEAR TO LIGHT SCATTERED (6) NONE
(7) TEMPERATURE INVERSION AT 4000 FT. ITEM HOTEL:
UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA; US WEATHER BUREAU ANCHORAGE
AND LOCAL WEATHER PERSONNEL FAIL TO INDICATE ANY
POSSIBLE EXPLANATION. ITEM INDIA: NONE. ITEM
JULIETTE: AT 20/0545Z MAY 1960, THE 705TH ACWRON, KING
SALMON, ALASKA WAS CARRYING A WEATHER BALLON AT
BKFQ3045 AT 35,000 FEET. THIS HOWEVER WOULD NOT

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ENOUGH FOR POSSIBLY 3 MEN TO BE INSIDE. ITEM BRAVO.

(1) CAME INTO VIEW (2) UNKNOWN (3) LAST SEEN HIGH, ESTIMATED 8000 FEET, ALMOST DUE SOUTH (4) OBJECT WAS MOVING SLOWLY AND APPARENTLY FOLLOWING NO SPECIAL COURSE. WOULD MOVE ALONG NEAR GROUND, LOWEST ALTITUDE ESTIMATED UNDER 300 FEET, THEN RISE AND HOVER AND DESCEND AGAIN. FINALLY ASCENDED RAPIDLY TO ESTIMATED 8000 FEET AND MOVED RAPIDLY SOUTH.

APPEARED TO HOVER OVER THE VILLAGES OF CLARKS POINT AND EKUK FOR SOME TIME. (5) SLOWLY TO SOUTH (6)

APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR. ITEM CHARLIE. (1) GROUND VISUAL (2) SOME OBSERVERS USED BINOCULARS TO WATCH OBJECT OVER CLARK POINT AND EKUK. TYPE UNKNOWN.

(2) N/A. ITEM DELTA: (1) 20/0500Z MAY 1960 (2) DAY.

ITEM ECHO: 4 MILES NORTH OF DILLINGHAM ALASKA OR APP

BKGQ3306. ITEM FOXTROT: OBSERVERS WERE A GROUP OF

NATIVES. THE PERSON WHO INTERROGATED THEM AND

REPORTED SIGHTING IS SFC RALPH SORENSEN (ALASKA

NATIONAL GUARD) BOX 45, DILLINGHAM, ALASKA. BARGE

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OPERATOR, AGE 25. NO ESTIMATE AS TO RELIABILITY BUT DID NOT SOUND LIKE A CRANK. SFC SORENSEN TALKED TO THE NATIVES THROUGH INTERPRETER AND MAILED IN A REPORT. ON RECEIPT, A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WAS HELD WITH SFC SORENSEN FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS. SFC

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SUSPECTED THAT THEY ARE, AND THAT SUPERSTITION AND A NATURAL TENDENCY TO EXAGGERATE IS THE CAUSE FOR SOME PARTS OF THEIR STORY. THE LANGUAGE BARRIER COULD ALSO BE PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FANTASTIC PART OF THE REPORT. IT IS CONCLUDED THAT THE OBJECT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SIGHT WAS A UX BALLOON WHICH WAS PLOTTED INTO THE AREA AT THE TIME OF THE SIGHTING.

Dr. J. H. ...

Direction of Motion
Satellite: (ACIM-41), (ACIM-42), (ACIM-43)
Astronomical Phenomena (Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc.)
Radar Analysis (ACIM-41)
Natural Phenomena (Ball Lightning, etc.)
Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc.
Other
Evaluation of Source Reliability

ATIC

ACTION COPY

NNNN

ZCZCSQG576ZCQYA057

1960 JUN 2 06 12 4E29
2-420

RR RJEDSQ

(B)

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atic

R 020100Z ZEX

FM 10TH AD DEF ALA

TO RJWFAL/ADC

RJEDSQ/ATIC WPAFB

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AF

BT

UNCLAS FROM 10AD DO-I 0146. ATTN AFCIN HQ USAF. ATTN SAFIS

UFO ITEM ALPHA: (1) CIRCULAR IN PLAN, ROUGHLY FOOTBALL

SHAPED IN CROSS SECTION. (2) 20 TO 25 FEET IN DIAMETER,

10 TO 12 FEET IN THICKNESS (3) METALLIC SILVERY WHITE,

COMPARED TO ALUMINUM (4) ONE (5) N/A (6) TWO

FLEXIBLE TUBES OR FLAPS APPROXIMATELY 4 TO 5 FEET

LONG DEPENDING FROM EDGE, A SEMI-CIRCULAR, WHIRLING

DEVICE IN CENTER OF BOTTOM. (7) NONE. (8) SOUND WAS

DESCRIBED AS WHIRRING WITH SUCKING SOUND WHEN FINALLY

ASCENDING. (9) OBSERVERS DID NOT SEE ANY WINDOWS.

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WERE FAIRLY SURE OF DIMENSIONS AND STATED WAS BIG

FORM 805-5 PRINTED BY THE STANDARD REGISTER CO., DAYTON 1, OHIO, U. S. A. STANLOCK #1 FINE

UFO ANALYSIS SHEET

Location DILLINGHAM, ALASKA

Date 19 MAY 60 Hour (Z) 0500

WX FOG

Description ROUND SILVERY OBJECT WITH A
TRAPEZOIDAL OBJECT BELOW IT.

Direction of Motion GENERALLY WEST.

Satellite: (AFCIN-4F3, Phone 69219) MUCH TOO SLOW.

Astronomical Phenomena (Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc) MUCH TOO

DETAILED.

Radar Analysis (AFCIN-4E1) N/A.

Natural Phenomena (Ball Lightning, etc) ---

Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc. PROBABLY WX BALLOON.

Other ---

Evaluation of Source Reliability UNKNOWN---

Analysis and Conclusions: THERE WAS A WX BALLOON WITH A RADAR REFLECTOR WHICH CROSSED THE AREA AT THE TIME OF THE SIGHTING. THE DESCRIPTION OF THIS TYPE OF BALLOON FROM A DISTANCE AND BY SOME ONE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE EQUIPMENT WOULD GENERALLY MATCH THAT OF THE WITNESSES. IT IS NOT KNOWN IF THE WITNESSES IUAN JERRY AND STEFAN PAT ARE INDIANS OR NOT, BUT IT IS

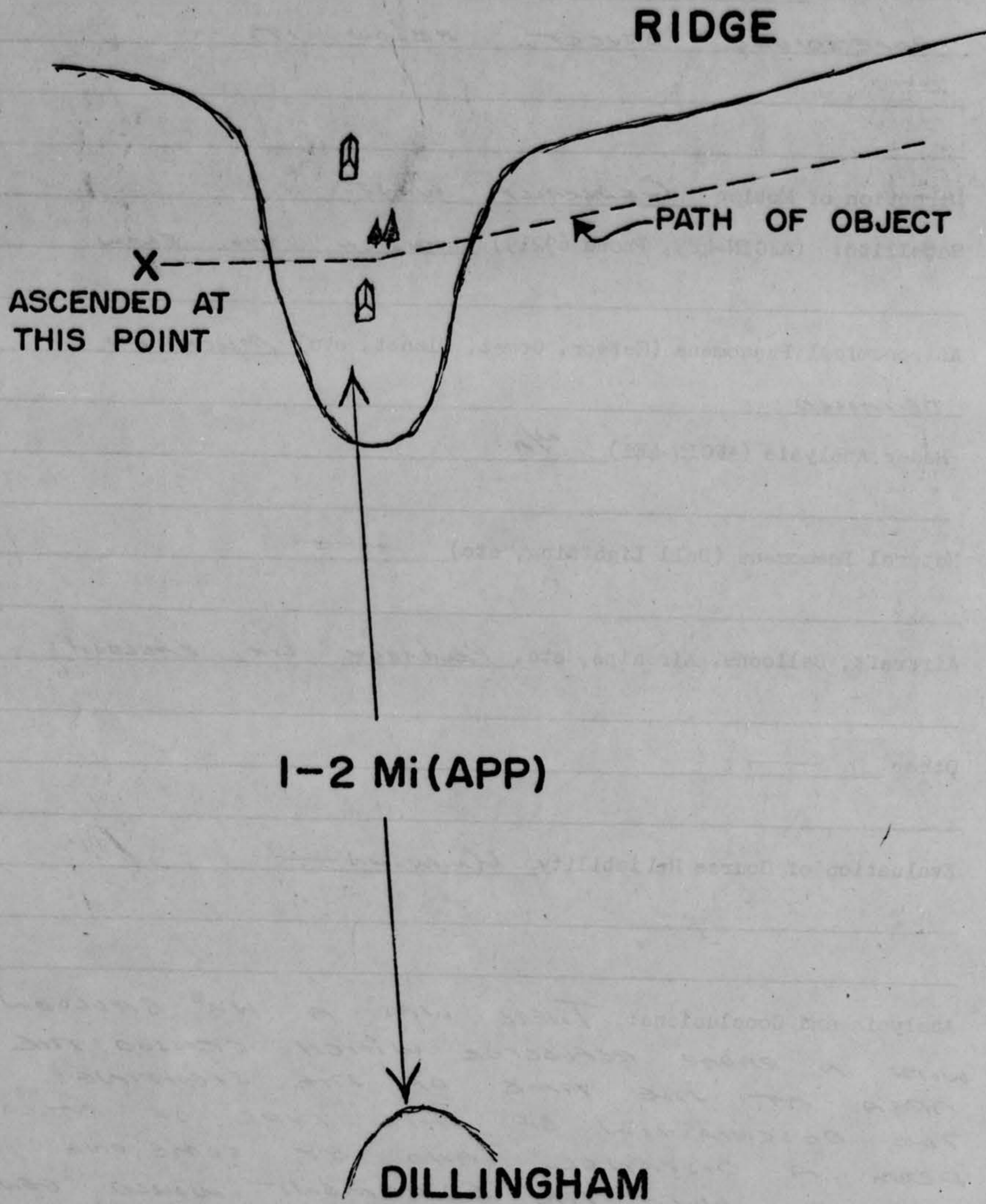


FIGURE 3

SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

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OF

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Hq 10th Air Division (Def)

IR-1-60

2

5

[REDACTED], Alaska National Guard, did not see the object, but was the person who reported the sighting. He stated that many people saw the object after it was well up in the air; but he had heard of no one other than those listed below who saw it at close range. In a town the size of Dillingham, news travels fast and if anyone else had seen it, [REDACTED] probably would have heard of it.


[REDACTED] saw the object at close range. He is a deaf-mute native and communicated his sighting to his brother [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was not personally contacted. The following account was given by [REDACTED], speaking for his brother. [REDACTED] was in the yard of the [REDACTED] house when he saw the object flying along the ridge. He noticed that it was creating considerable suction, in fact, enough to pick up two empty five gallon fuel tins and swirl them in the air below the object. He was alarmed because some very small children were playing in the area and he was afraid they would be sucked up. The object passed about 50 to 100 feet from him and just cleared electric wires estimated 12 feet above ground. Apparently the cans were carried from one side of the ridge on which the houses stand, to the other, a distance of possibly 100 yards. The object passed between the houses, dipped slightly into the ravine and ascended at an extremely high rate of speed. As it ascended, it swirled dead grass from the meadow high into the air after it. [REDACTED] drew a picture of the object, (figure 1) and described it as follows: It was quite round with a projection at the ends on the center line. Whether this was "fore and aft" or a flange all the way around could not be determined. There was a red band on the object between the projections. On the bottom were two appendages which moved in an undulating motion (the motion was described with arm movements). Also, in the center bottom, was a half moon shaped object which whirled at varying speeds. Apparently, when the object ascended rapidly, it whirled very fast. According to [REDACTED] account, the angle of incidence to the object of these appendages and half moon changed, but because of language difficulty, it was impossible to determine what relationship this had with the movement of the object except that it possibly occurred when it turned. The object was about as big as an automobile and was silver in color. [REDACTED] felt certain it was not a balloon and was metallic. It was impossible to determine the three dimensional shape of the object. It is difficult to assess the reliability of these persons but it is probably at least average. Conversation with [REDACTED] indicated no reason to doubt the veracity of either [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]. There was some language difficulty in communication with [REDACTED].

Another possible witness was [REDACTED]. He was not interviewed because he was then living in an outlying village. [REDACTED] stated that he understood that [REDACTED] was at the [REDACTED] house and had heard the object make a loud sucking noise when it ascended. He was not sure whether [REDACTED] had seen the object.

[REDACTED] established the time of initial sighting at approximately 20/0500Z, May 1960. He is the proprietor of a pool hall and barber shop in Dillingham and was seated at the rear window of his establishment. He noticed the object come into view from behind some buildings. The object was near the ridge and approximately paralleling the ridge. He described the object as the size of a light airplane at that distance, silvery in color and football shaped. When shown the drawing (figure 1) he stated it did not seem so round to him. He was unable to discern any details at that distance (about 2 miles) except that it did not have wings. The object appeared to be moving slowly. [REDACTED] watched the object for a while, then went to locate binoculars. From the window there is a clear view of the ridge and

(CLASSIFICATION)

(SECURITY INFORMATION when filled in)

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN USA		REPORT NO. IR-1-60	(Leave blank)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
AREA REPORT CONCERNS Alaska			
AGENCY OF ORIGIN Hq 10th Air Division (Def)		DATE OF REPORT 21 June 1960	
SOURCE OF INFORMATION Various		DATE OF INFORMATION 19 May 1960	
PREPARING OFFICER Captain Thomas M. Conrow		EVALUATION F-3	
REFERENCES (Control number, directives, previous report, etc., as applicable) Msg 10th AD DO-I 0146			
SUBJECT UFO observed at Dillingham, Alaska			
SUMMARY (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 118a.) This report is an amplification and partial correction of information in message 10AD DOI 0146 dated 2 June 1960. This information is based on personal contacts made on 2 June 1960, reference ATIC message AFCIN-4E2 6-1881-E dated 16 June 1960.			
0 INCLS		APPROVED:  WILLIAM L. BINGHAM Major, USAF Actg Dep-ACS/Intelligence Hq AAC	
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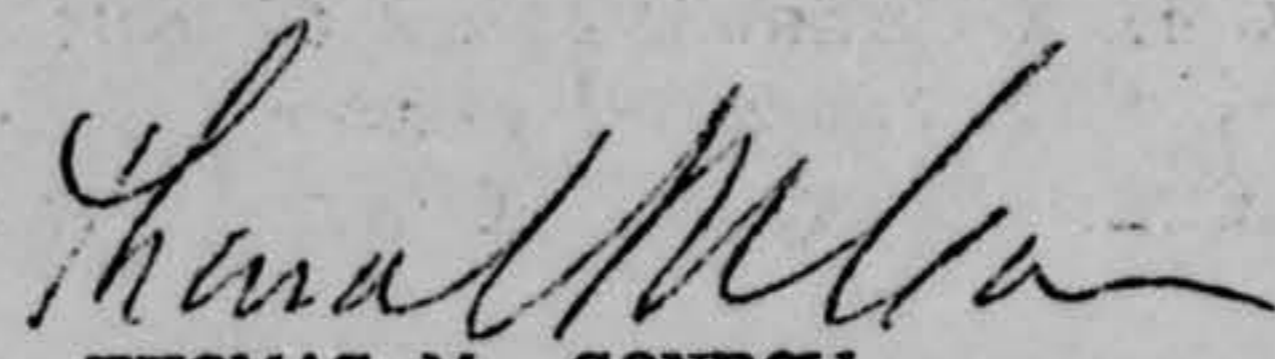
house. The reliability of [redacted] is difficult to estimate, but he was not evasive and some details of his story correlated with that of [redacted]. There was some language difficulty.

[redacted] was flying in a light plane at 2500 feet near Ekuk, south of Dillingham at 20/0645Z, May 1960. He saw people on the ground looking up and in trying to find what they were looking at, saw the object at an estimated 10,000 feet and nearly above him. He stated it was round and silver, with a small trapezoidal object below it and a much smaller object of indeterminate shape below that. He described the trapezoidal object as not more than one-fifth the size of the round object, flat, and with the horizontal sides parallel. (Figure 2). He stated that the round object was very large, much larger than the incendiary balloons floated over from Japan during WWII. He said he felt he could climb up to the object, but did not as fog was enveloping the airfield at Dillingham and he was afraid to waste the time. He could give no other details. [redacted] is a barge operator and pilot. He seemed to tell a straight forward story and the object was in that location at the time indicated.

Additional Information. At the time of the sightings, the weather was described as clear. [redacted] and [redacted] stated a breeze of about 15 miles per hour was blowing and that the object was headed pretty much into the wind. The object came from approximately 50 degrees true and ascended on a heading of approximately 215 degrees true (figure 3). It was last seen almost due south of Dillingham over the village of Ekuk. The 705th ACWRON at King Salmon carried the following moves on a weather balloon: 20/0145Z BKGQ3035, 0215Z GQ0840, 0245 GQ0035, 0315 FQ 5830, 0445 FQ5023, D515 FQ 4845, 0545 FQ 3050. At 0545 contact lost and fade.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

There still appears to be no logical explanation of the sighting. It is quite obvious that an object was sighted. Whether all the details of the sighting are correct cannot be ascertained, however, there is no reason to doubt their essential accuracy. At any rate, it does not appear that a commonplace object such as an airplane or balloon was responsible for the sighting.

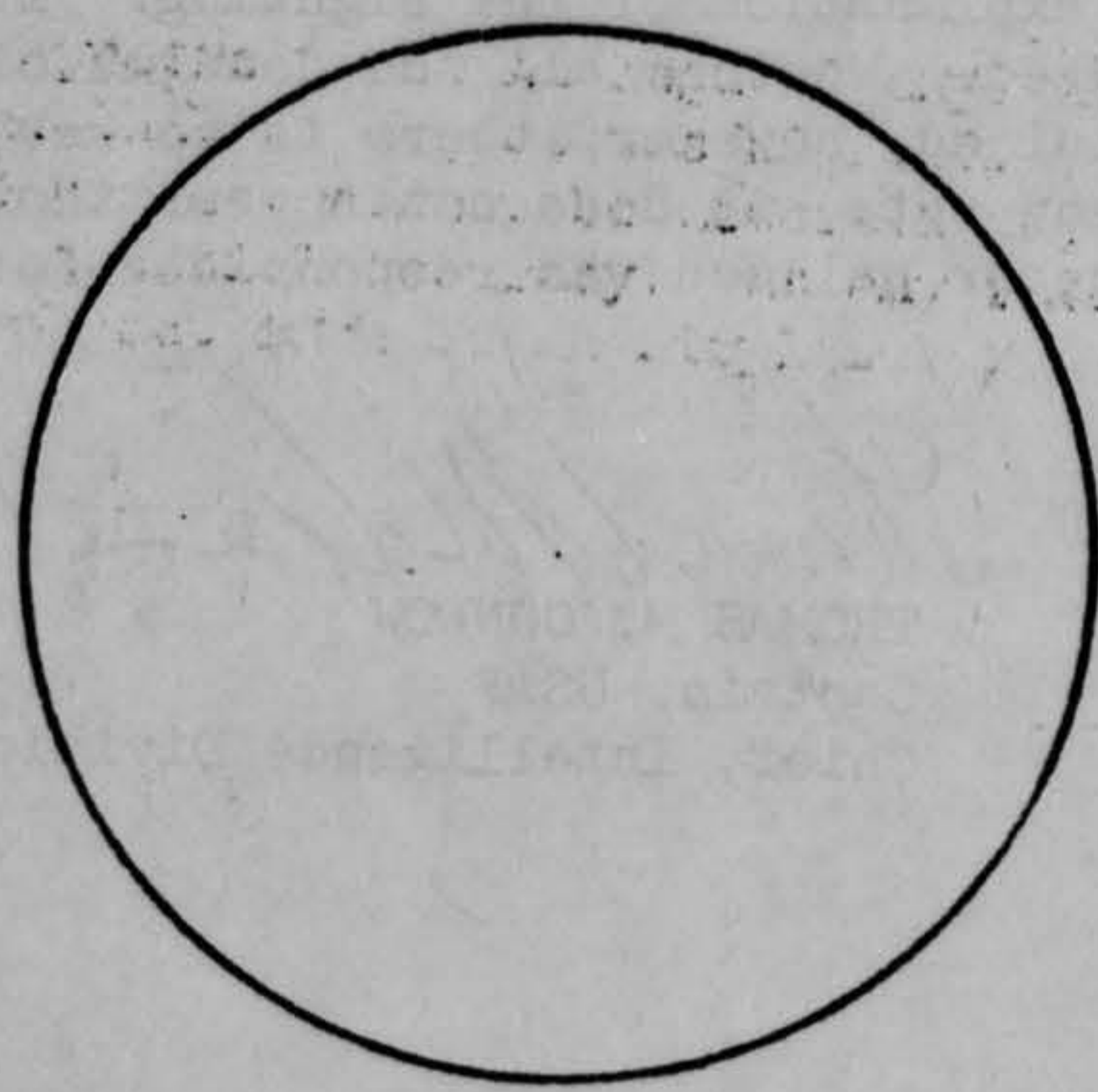
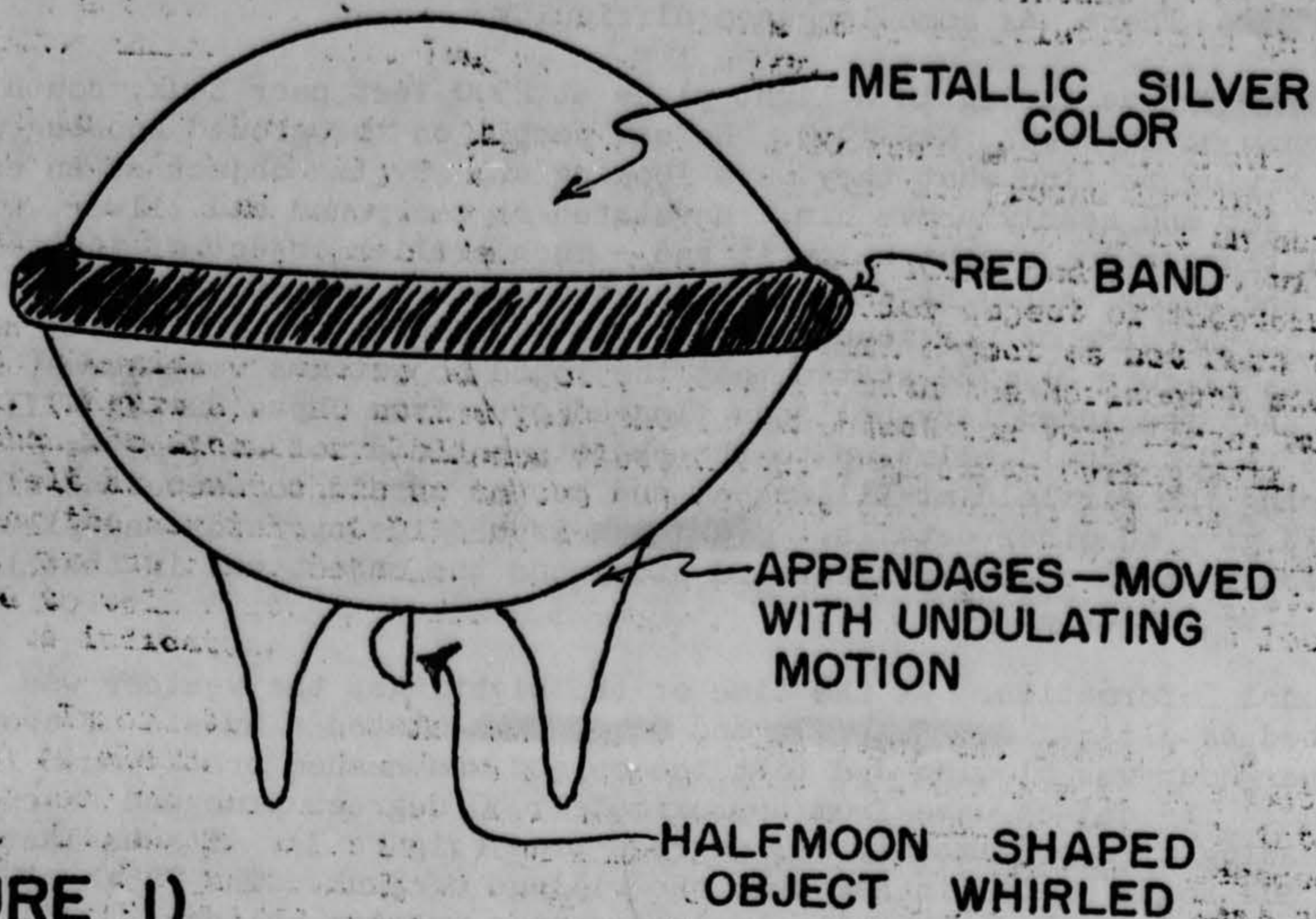

THOMAS M. CONROW
Captain, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Division

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(FIGURE 2)

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

1960 JUN 17 20 42

10A/25
170112

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE	
ACTION	ROUTINE	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE	AF	10 AD	UNCLAS
INFO						DO-I 0146	

FROM: ATIC, W-P AFB 2

TO: ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA *RTK DAG*

/UNCLASSIFIED/FROM: AFCIN-4E2 6-1881-E

ATTN: 10TH AIR DIVISION. YOUR MSG LOAD DO-I 0146, DTD 2 JUNE 60,
REQ YOUR ORG PERSONALLY CONTACT THE WITNESSES OF THE ALLEGED UFO.
REQ A CAREFUL EVALUATION OF EACH WITNESS.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

DATE	TIME
16	0910
MONTH	YEAR
JUNE	1960

WRITER	SYMBOL	AFCIN-4E2		RELEASEE	SIGNATURE	<i>Nicholas Post</i>		
	TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Standard, if required)	Major Robert J. Friend <i>R. J. Friend</i>			TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE	NICHOLAS POST		
	PHONE	69216	PAGE NR.		1	NR. OF PAGES	1	Acting Deputy
	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	UNCLASSIFIED			AFCIN-4E			