

# **THE FIFTH HORSEMAN OF THE APOCALYPSE**

## **UFOS: A HISTORY**

1949 January- June

## **SUPPLEMENTAL NOTES**

By

Loren E. Gross

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“UFOs are the Fifth Horseman of the Apocalypse.”

--- Dr. Lincoln La Paz

“Supplemental Notes” consist of material under consideration for any revision of the original UFO history volume covering this time period.

Some notes about sources:

Nearly all of the government documents utilized in the "Supplemental Notes" in my UFO history series were obtained by Robert Todd and Jan Aldrich, involving considerable effort and expense on their part. Thousands of pages of AFIN UFO records were furnished to the two researchers by the National Archives and Records Services (NARS) from the Director of Intelligence decimal files 000.9 "Flying Discs" file. These are not part of the Blue Book files but are part of the same record group #341. Hundreds more were obtained by Jan and Robert from the National Air Intelligence Center (NAIC), 4180 Watson Way, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, 45433-5648. The NAIC furnished documents listed under: "Project Sign 1948/1949 Investigative Reports, 333.5, Investigations." Moreover, some more information was obtained from the Inspector General, USAF, Office of Special Investigations (OSI) Files, Record Group #341, Entry 63A. ---L.E. Gross

WANTED: Any UFO material related to the summer 1947 UFO wave. Contact: Project 1947,  
Box 391, Canterbury CT 06331

XXXXXXXX

3 January. Fourth Army notifies Washington. "We have a problem." (See pages 2-4)

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CONFIDENTIAL

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY  
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

350.09 AKADB

3 January 1949

SUBJECT: Unusual Incidents

TO: Director of Intelligence  
General Staff, United States Army  
Washington 25, D.C.  
Attn: Chief, Security Branch

1. Forwarded herewith report of Fourth Army Intelligence Officer stationed at Sandia Base, New Mexico.
2. It is recommended that a thorough investigation of the reported incidents be initiated by qualified scientific investigators and that this headquarters be advised of action taken.
3. Copy of the Intelligence Summary has been forwarded to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AF Base, Dayton, Ohio.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incl  
Intel. Summary

EUSTIS L. POLAND  
Colonel, GSC  
AC of S, G-2

incl. #1

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YInter-Office Memo Slip  
Headquarters Fourth Army

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects; New Mexico

No.	Date	From	To	Remarks
1	29 Dec 48	Major Godsoe	A C/S G-2	<p>1. Since the initial report of unidentified objects described as flares or moving lights, in the vicinity of Las Vegas, New Mexico, on 5 December 1948, there have been 23 reports from observers up to and including 28 December 1948. Of these reports, 21 have been in New Mexico, 1 in Arizona and 1 in Oregon.</p> <p>2. The 21 observations in New Mexico, have, in general, been in the vicinity of an area bounded in the east by the city of Las Vegas and in the north by Los Alamos. Two observations were made in the vicinity of Albuquerque.</p> <p>3. The appearance of the lights are of a definite pattern. All have been of an intense white or greenish white. The trajectory or path of flight has been north to east, north to west or west to east. Altitude has been reported from 3000 to 20,000 feet above the terrain, which in this area is 5000 to 7200 feet above sea level. Speed has been undetermined except that it seems to be above the supersonic range.</p> <p>4. This office, the FBI and the intelligence agencies of Sandia Base and Kirtland Field have been unable to evaluate or determine the significance or origin of the phenomena. We have therefore agreed that the 17th District, Office of Special Investigation (OSI) of the Air Force be the gathering and reporting channel to Washington, have access to aircraft and observation facilities and are in coordination with the Geophysics Laboratory of the Air Materiel Command, USAF.</p> <p>5. The OSI has obtained the cooperation of Dr. Lincoln La Paz of the University of New Mexico. Dr. La Paz is one of the top ranking meteorologists in the United States. He is qualified to identify the sighted objects as natural meteoric phenomena or otherwise. Dr. La Paz has, from descriptions of observations furnished him and,</p>

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BY PERSONAL OBSERVATION, determined that the objects sighted are NOT natural meteoric phenomena. Dr. La Paz is in consultation with other scientists in an effort to solve the problem but up to this time have arrived at theories only. Theories advanced to date have fallen into CATEGORY III possibilities. Experimental tests have been made at the university to determine what material would give off the whitish-greenish glow under extreme heat. The only material which they have discovered giving off this color is Beryllium Copper, a metal used in the construction of guided missiles. It is the unsubstantiated opinion of Dr. La Paz that the presently unidentified objects are man made missiles constructed to be self disintegrating, hence the whitish-greenish color given off at the time of observation.

6. It is of interest to note that at least two of the objects have been sighted directly over the Los Alamos AEC project. One person who observed one of the objects at Los Alamos has stated that it looked exactly the same as V2 Rockets he had seen over England during the war.

7. In view of the continuation of these objects being sighted over this area, it is suggested that Fourth Army coordinate with the Air Force and the Air Materiel Command to conduct a scientific study of the phenomena. The situation is beyond the capabilities of ordinary intelligence agencies, who can only report occurrence and cannot evaluate the probabilities or possibilities.

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13 January. "Sensing shots?" Help urgently requested. Security people puzzled.

Agencies in New Mexico were greatly concerned about the strange aerial phenomena being reported. Rumors were beginning to get out of hand. (See Fourth Army letter below)

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY  
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

452.1 AKADB

/dsb  
13 January 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft (Control No. A-1917).

TO : Director of Intelligence, GSUSA  
Washington 25, D.C.

1. The inclosed Summary of Information, subject, "Unconventional Aircraft (Control No. A-1917," dated 13 Jan 49, is forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary.
2. Agencies in New Mexico are greatly concerned over these phenomena. They are of the opinion that some foreign power is making "sensing shots" with some super-stratosphere devise designed to be self-disintegrating. They also believe that when the devise is perfected for accuracy, the disintegrating factor will be eliminated in favor of a warhead.
3. Another theory advanced as possibly acceptable lies in the belief that the phenomena are the result of radiological warfare experiments by a foreign power, further, that the rays may be lethal or might be attributed to the cause of some of the plane crashes that have occurred recently.
4. Still another belief that is advanced is that, it is highly probable that the United States may be carrying on some top-secret experiments.
5. It is felt that these incidents are of such great importance, especially as they are occurring in the vicinity of sensitive installations, that a scientific board be sent to this locality to study the situation with a view of arriving at a solution of this extraordinary phenomena with the least practicable delay.
6. It is further requested that this Headquarters be informed of action taken on this and a previous report in order that reporting agencies may be advised.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incl;  
as stated

EUSTIS L. POLAND  
Colonel, GSC  
AC of S, G-2

18 January. Wild theories considered.

Fourth Army G-2's representative, probably Col. Eustis L. Poland, wrote a letter addressed to the Air Material Command (Air Force) trying to explain how difficult it was to understand the unusual observations being reported in the U.S. Southwest:

"So far as this Headquarters knows, there is no explanation for the foregoing [A summary of the observations was submitted]. A Mrs. [name deleted] presently of Pampa, Texas, and formerly a resident of Santa Fe, New Mexico, has advanced the theory that the 'lights' are man-made masses of electrical energy, similar to ball lightning, performing the function of a guided missile. She believes these missiles, or 'bolide' bombs as she calls them, are induced by a 'ray' or similar form of energy which gradually 'compacts' the molecular structure of the atmosphere along its trajectory until the missile itself forms and becomes visible. This energy dissipates itself in the same manner as ball lightning; but it is supposed to build up an extremely high voltage---several billion volts in most cases. Mrs. [name deleted] believes the 'ray' is directed by a foreign power and originates at a point outside the United States. She alleges the 'attack' is now in the experimental stage; that is, that the missiles so far seen are 'sensing shots' made in an effort to bracket the Atomic Energy Commission installation at Los Alamos. Mrs. [name deleted] has expounded on this theory in voluminous and numerous letters addressed to this, and other, official Headquarters, for more than two years. The Office of the Director of Intelligence of the General Staff, has classified Mrs. [name deleted] as within the 'lunatic fringe'..." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter. Preparing Office: Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Subject: Unconventional Aircraft. No date or signature visible on photocopy in author's files. A related memo suggests an 18 January date. The person originating correspondence on these matters for the Fourth Army at this time was a Col. Poland.

Why pay attention to a 'crackpot?'

It seems clear the Fourth Army people were affected by the weird "bolide bomb" concept pressed on them by the female civilian. Besides the fact the Fourth Army had no satisfactory answer, which tempted the military to consider every option, the woman's theories were submitted: "...prior to the official observations herein reported." (xx.) The Army felt this early reporting of the theory helped the woman's credibility. Other agencies and experts would not be so charitable.

(xx.) Ibid.

6 February. Dr. La Paz and the foreign secret weapon theory.

Dr. La Paz had spent the first week of February investigating the report of an object that appeared to explode near Walker Air Force Base at Roswell, New Mexico. A search of the region

had been coordinated by OSI agent Paul Ryan, of the Roswell office. On February 6<sup>th</sup> La Paz conferred with agent Ryan. Ryan informed the regional FBI office Dr. La Paz had offered an opinion about such reports. The professor's opinion was then forwarded to Washington. A memo to Director Hoover said:

"Dr. La Paz advanced the theory to Ryan that the objects were controlled missiles traveling around the earth at an altitude of approximately 25 miles and at a speed of approximately 15 miles per second. The missile was probably controlled by agents stationed at various intervals who are able to bring the missile down over a designated area and explode it. He stated that Dr. La Paz added that he believed the Russians or some other country was practicing with these weapons which carried no war head and were being exploded at an altitude of approximately 10 miles. After the practice period La Paz assumed the weapon would be loaded with an atomic war head.

"La Paz told Ryan that two men whom he interviewed at Kenna, New Mexico, had informed him 'nothing will be found.' La Paz had attached significance to the above statement and that the men apparently had some knowledge that the phenomena was not a meteorite." (xx.)

(xx.) Office Memorandum. To: Director, FBI. From: SAC, El Paso. Subject: Protection of Vital Installations. Bureau file #65-58300. Date: February 10, 1949. Copy in author's files.

If agents of a foreign power were operating on U.S. soil, the problem would be the investigative responsibility of the FBI, regardless of any previous agreement with the Air Force to stay out of the aerial phenomena controversy, hence Bureau interest in La Paz's ideas.

The reason that La Paz attached significance to the comment "nothing will be found" was no doubt due to the fact his extensive ground searches had produced no material evidence. How did the men in Kenna know that? (Did La Paz mention something to the press?)

(Lt. Ryan is mentioned again in a letter written by La Paz to Col. Doyle Rees in early 1952. The Ryan-led search for the 1949 Roswell "object" included a visit to the Mescalero-Apache Reservation and the guide for the field trip was Mr. Charles Milligan who was on leave from his engineering job at Lockheed Corporation in California. See my monograph *UFOs A History 1952 January-May*, p.22)

It's difficult to say how seriously La Paz entertained the Russian hypothesis. Perhaps he just enjoyed figuring out the orbital complexity of a Russian missile launch. The professor goes into greater detail with his calculations in a letter to Col. Doyle Rees written on May 24, 1950. (See my monograph *UFOs A History 1950 April-July*, p.50)

11 February. Von Karman's is lukewarm. (See pages 7-8)

15 February. The AEC resists meeting.

Even with La Paz's apparent endorsement of a possible foreign power origin, the Atomic Energy Commission did not feel any meeting was justified, as a result the Army only managed the approval of a "informal" gathering to be held on February 16<sup>th</sup>. (See Army letter on page 9)

# CONFIDENTIAL

THEODORE VON KÄRMÁN  
1501 SOUTH MARENGO AVENUE  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

11 February 1949

Major General C. P. Cabell  
Director of Intelligence  
Office, Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations  
Headquarters, United States Air Force  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Cabell:

Dr. Joseph Kaplan, a member of the Scientific Advisory Board to the Chief of Staff, USAF and Professor of Physics at the University of California, Los Angeles, called my attention to a report of the 17th District Office of Special Investigations (Inspector General, USAF), Kirtland Field, New Mexico, subject: (UNKNOWN) Aerial Phenomena, file number 24-8, dated 19 January 1949.

This report deals with extraordinary observations of certain aerial phenomena. These observations concern so-called "fireballs" of unusual color, size and speed. The report also contains the observations of Dr. Lincoln LaPaz, Director of the Institute of Meteoritics, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque. //

I always have been, and am yet, extremely skeptical about flying discs, saucers, fireballs and related effects. In this case, however, the personality and prestige of the observer and the number of apparently reliable people who saw the phenomena, makes me think it might be worthwhile to give more serious attention to the matter.

I wonder whether it would not be desirable to set up a kind of project in Albuquerque, which would give an opportunity for Dr. LaPaz to obtain adequate equipment and personnel for continuous, well planned observations. It seems to me that intelligent speculation on the nature of the phenomena can only begin when one has scientifically correct determination of size, altitude, speed, shape and color. Director LaPaz, who is an authority on meteoritics, definitely states that at least one of the observed "fireballs" could not be of heavenly origin. As far as my technical judgement goes, I believe it is highly improbable that the phenomena originates as a man made missile. Never-the-less, the fact is there, observed by competent and reliable people. Therefore, I believe the scientific approach is necessary, at least in order to secure exact and objective measurements.

I submit the question to you, as I am aware that such a project can be successful only if it is kept secret and is set up with the cooperation of trained experts in the Intelligence Division. I believe you can easily procure the subject report, providing it is not already in your hands. I would appreciate your reaction and advice.

File 14Apr 49  
Gen Cabell

350.05 Scient Intell  
X 095 Von Karman Theodore  
095 Kaplan Joseph  
095 La Paz Lincoln

095 Heinke  
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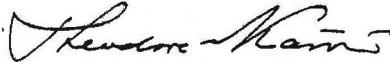
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Letter to Major General Cabell, dated 11 February 1949

I found in my files some documents concerning the members of the USSR Academy of Sciences and research programs of various institutions connected with the Academy. I received these publications as one of the members of the American delegation to the celebration of the Anniversary of the Academy, in Moscow in 1945. Since scientific research in the USSR is built up around the Academy of Sciences, I thought your collaborators might obtain some interesting information from these documents. I have, therefore, taken the liberty of forwarding them to Colonel Robert Taylor of the Collection Division.

I plan to be in Washington, at the offices of the Scientific Advisory Board, for a few days after 17 February 1949. If there are any matters you wish to discuss with me, or if there is any way I can be of assistance by furnishing information to you and your officers, I shall be glad to meet with you.

Respectfully yours,



DR. THEODORE von KARMAN

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La Paz changes his tune.

The foreign power theory may have been the one of choice for La Paz on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February, but when the “informal” meeting convened on the 16<sup>th</sup> of the month, the New Mexico professor changed his tune. Asked directly by others at the gathering what explanation he favored, La Paz developed a bad case of amnesia about any possibility of an enemy intrusion:

“Dr. La Paz: The only [?] explanation is the one I gave in the beginning and had my ears promptly boxed for. I think these are defensive maneuvers of higher U.S. Command and they are practicing in the neighborhood of the regions they are going to defend, so naturally your localization of light near the atomic bomb installations, but boy, am I scolded for that! Even Dr. Kaplan of the FAD tells me no, no, the FAD would know all about it, and they don’t have any facts.”  
(xx.)

(xx.) (See page 37 of my UFO history monograph covering the time period of 1949 January – June. The official transcript of the meeting is quoted.)

One wonders if La Paz had been impressed earlier by Fourth Army agents who tended to believe in Russian aerial spies. In turn, the Army seemed to have been influenced by a female civilian who kept sending letters to authorities in the U.S. Southwest. She claimed knowledge of a foreign invasion of American airspace and went into fantastic detail about the supposed activity. Apparently La Paz was tipped off about the woman before the meeting got underway. Panel member Newburger mention the woman in question, who was described in a transcript notation that deleted the actual name but inserted the comment that the person referred to was a: “...crackpot with Communist affiliations.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.50.

La Paz almost seemed to panic at the mention of the woman. He told Mr. Newburger: “Except for the flying discs, nothing that you could say would cause me greater embarrassment! I have actually had communications from (deleted) myself.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

Getting the AEC interested in the “lights” was not the only problem facing the 4<sup>th</sup> Army. The Air Force didn’t seem to be interested. A check of the list of people at the Los Alamos meeting (See page 23 of my monograph *UFOs A History 1949: January-June*) shows no one from Wright Field’s team of “UFO experts.” Project GRUDGE’s “new view” was now prevalent and attention being given to aerial phenomena was at a “minimum level.” The Air Force’s absence is admitted in official records: “A representative from Air Material Command [Project GRUDGE] was to attend a conference at Kirtland Air Force Base on 16 February, 1949, but he did not appear.” (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: District Commander 5<sup>th</sup> OSI District (IG) Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. From: Lt. Col. William M. Turner, Executive, Special Investigations, The Inspector General, USAF. 2 March 49. Copy in author’s files.

The Kaplan approach worked. Dr. von Karman's February 11<sup>th</sup> letter to General Cabell did the trick. Unfortunately the paperwork was still being processed on February 16<sup>th</sup>, which was too late for the Los Alamos meeting. On February 18<sup>th</sup> General Cabell's Washington office issue a memo outlining a response to von Karman, assuring the AFSA Chairman the AMC was on top of things. General Cabell informed von Karman the AMC had the transcript from the February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting and that a GRUDGE's advisor, Dr. Hynek (misspelled as "Heineke"), was studying the matter. As a final note, General Cabell assured von Karman: "it seems unlikely that domestic incidents can be attributed to the activity of a foreign power or a science unknown to our specialists. It also seems unlikely that a foreign power would expose superiority of power by a prolonged ineffectual penetration of the United States." (See pages 12-13) For General Cabell, and others, the foregoing statement was a profoundly rational assumption.

24 February. A second "anomalous luminous phenomena" meeting.

Interest by the High Command was enough to get the some action at lower levels. Col. McCoy at Wright Field sent Capt. Groseclose and Lt. Smith to Kirtland AFB to discuss any progress by the 17<sup>th</sup> DO. It seems there was some confusion over who should take responsibility for the problem. An Air Force document states:

"Maj. Godsoe's connection with the investigation seemed indirect although it was not made quite clear to representatives of this Command. The Major expressed disappointment at AMC's [GRUDGE's] apparent (to him) lack of interest in green fireballs incidents and the 'Flying Discs' even though Departments of Air Force and Army letters direct all echelons to report all information on unidentified aerial phenomenon to Hq AMC. In the absence of a specific request for investigation and because of regular workload the OSI were required by their immediate Hq to spend less time on this investigation." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: District Commander 5<sup>th</sup> OSI District (IG) Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio. From: William M. Turner, Lt. Colonel, USAF. Executive, Special Investigations. The Inspector General, USAF. 2 March 49. Copy in author's files.

24 February. Apparent results of the meeting. (See pages 14-15)

Note that the meeting seemed to produce positive results: 1.) An attempt was made to tie in the green fireball phenomena with the flying disc mystery. 2.) A better report form was to be provided personnel. 3.) Camera/transit-equipped observation posts were planned. 4.) A new contract for La Paz was recommended. 5.) Ground searches were suggested.

Project TWINKLE.

On page 53 of my monograph *UFOs A History January-June*, a Project TWINKLE is mentioned. A paragraph in the draft of E.J. Ruppelt's book *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*, which was deleted in the final published version, states: "While green fireballs were being

AFOAI-DA/Maj Boggs/st/5867  
Wrtn: 18 Feb 49

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

PROBLEM:

1. To furnish information for General Cabell's reply to letter from Dr. von Karman regarding unknown aerial phenomena.

FACTS & DISCUSSION:

2. Letter from Dr. von Karman, dated 11 Feb 49, to General Cabell cites unknown aerial phenomena reported from New Mexico and refers to observations of Dr. LaPaz of the University of New Mexico. Dr. von Karman states that he has been and is still extremely skeptical about flying discs and other unidentified flying objects but that the personality and prestige of Dr. LaPaz, as well as a number of apparently reliable observers makes him think that it might be worthwhile to give more serious attention to the matter. Dr. von Karman suggests that a scientific approach is necessary to obtain exact and objective measurements.

3. Hq. AMC has been contacted and the project "Grudge", (unidentified flying objects), officer supplied the following details:

a. AMC has the report from Kirtland Field and Dr. LaPaz' observations to which Dr. von Karman refers in his letter.

b. Nine separate incidents have been reported from the general area of Los Alamos, New Mexico. There were more than nine witnesses however, as some of the incidents have as many as three or four observers. The incidents reported occurred between 12 Sep 48 and 2 Feb 49. Two other incidents of earlier date have been reported from the general area of Holloman AFB, New Mexico.

c. More than six months ago, Hq. AMC was in contact with Dr. LaPaz and was considering a contract whereby Dr. LaPaz would analyze unidentified flying object incidents from an astrophysical standpoint. It was decided, however, that Dr. LaPaz would be too remote in New Mexico for easy liaison with Hq. AMC on the project. A friend of Dr. LaPaz, Dr. Heineke, of Ohio State University, was subsequently awarded such a contract and has been in the process of analyzing unidentified flying object data particularly that which has occurred in New Mexico. Two days ago, Dr. Heineke visited AMC and stated that he did not as yet have any final overall conclusions on the phenomena. Dr. Heineke did not indicate any inadequacy of data for performing his analyses. Dr. Heineke indicated that he expects to

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Memorandum For Record (Cont'd)

visit Dr. LaPas very soon and discuss the results of analyses of incidents in New Mexico. At the time Dr. Heineke was awarded the contract for this analysis he was highly recommended by Dr. LaPas.

4. In addition to the coverage of these specific incidents in New Mexico, detailed investigations of all incidents reported to involve unusual flying objects during the period June 1946 to date have been conducted by the special project group of Hq. AMC. The continuing efforts of this project are directed toward establishing the identify of each unusual object reported. Single or seemingly related incidents which appear to involve objects that might represent some unusual man-made device or activity are fully explored by both the AMC project personnel and other specialists, such as those of the RAND Corporation (formerly Project RAND).

5. Of some 210 incidents, approximately twenty per cent have been explained. The majority of these involved misidentification of synoptic weather balloons. Others involved observations of airborne cosmic ray research equipment, bolides, meteors, and in one instance, the daylight observation of the planet Venus. Only two reported incidents were determined to have been hoax.

6. To date there has been no tangible evidence which would support a theory that any incidents are attributable to activity of a foreign nation. On the other hand, there is no evidence to categorically deny such a possibility, particularly since some incidents which occurred overseas could have involved foreign aircraft. The possibility of foreign devices becomes more remote in the case of domestic incidents, and would represent achievements which defy many well defined limits in aeronautical science. However, there are many incidents reported by reliable and competent observers which are still unexplained.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

7. It is recommended that Dr. von Karman be provided any of the foregoing information deemed appropriate and the following specific items:

a. The incidents which occurred in New Mexico are being analyzed in detail by Dr. Heineke, Ohio State University, who was recommended for the work by Dr. LaPas, University of New Mexico.

b. Dr. Heineke's conclusions should furnish a firm basis for any future decision to gather additional data.

c. Considering those domestic incidents which have been identified, it seems unlikely that domestic incidents can be attributed to the activity of a foreign power or a science unknown to our specialists. It also seems unlikely that a foreign power would expose ~~their~~ superiority of power by a prolonged ineffectual penetration of the United States.

**SECRET**

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 923007  
By BP NARA Date 7-26

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MEMORANDUM FOR FILE: Aerial Phenomena (24-8) Kirtland Air Force Base  
Kirtland Field, New Mexico  
28 February 1949

TO: District Commander  
17th District OSI (IG) USAF  
Kirtland Air Force Base  
Kirtland Field, New Mexico

FROM: Security Division  
17th District OSI (IG) USAF  
Kirtland Air Force Base  
Kirtland Field, New Mexico

RE: Aerial Phenomena (24-8)

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE:

On 24 February 1949, a meeting was held in the Office of the Security Division, 17th District OSI. The following were present:

Dr Lincoln LaPaz, University of New Mexico  
Major William H. Godsoe, Fourth Army  
Captain Melvin E. Neef, Office of Special Investigations  
Captain Roger J. Groseclose, Air Material Command  
First Lieutenant Howard W. Smith, Air Material Command  
Special Agent Jack L. Boling, Office of Special Investigations

The topic of discussion was the relation of the anomalous luminous phenomena observed in the Santa Fe -- Las Vegas -- West Texas area to Project "Grudge", formerly Project "Sign".

A definite form, developed by Project personnel, was provided for the compilation of data pertaining to future observations. It was specifically requested that complete data, rather than a reduction thereof, be forwarded, so that all scientific branches might study the original figures and description.

The establishment of observation posts for accurate study and location of the phenomena was strongly recommended by Major Godsoe, and concurred in by the AMC representatives. These observation posts should be three in number, each equipped with eight cameras (for complete sky coverage) and two operators. A transit would be provided so that immediate, accurate readings may be taken.

The AMC representatives said that Professor Hineck, the present scientific advisor for Project "Grudge", was to leave the Project to return to academic duties at Ohio State University. It was recom-

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV  
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF  
Historian  
3 DEC 1975  
DATE

UNCLASSIFIED



reported in Northern New Mexico, Project Twinkle was chasing UFO's in Southern New Mexico. Why? Because the camera crews lived in Southern New Mexico and because they didn't much care if they photographed a UFO, green fireball, or anything." (xx.)

(xx.) Unpublished draft of *The Report on Unidentified Flying Objects*. Chapter Four: "Green Fireballs, Project Twinkle, Little Lights and Grudge." p.11.

2 March. Sidney Shalett's UFO article. "Several things inimical to our interests."

By now Shalett had completed his UFO writings, so he submitted the results to the military for their review. This may have been more of a courtesy than a strict requirement, and there is no indication, in available records, that Shalett changed anything. A fast read of the material seems to show the proposed magazine article would be acceptable to the Air Force, however the Air Force's Director of Intelligence would not approve its release (The article was published anyway).

The reasons for the Director's displeasure are listed in a March 2, 1949, document and it demonstrates how tricky it is for the military to cooperate with a civilian writer. It is now understandable why the Air Force issued a press release the same time the Shalett article appeared. (See document in question on page 17)

Some comments on the Director's objections might be helpful.

Point a: "The statement of an Air Force position (Part 2, page 2) on the subject of flying objects. No such position is in effect."

Comment: Here one would think the Air Force would be happy with Shalett "playing down" the UFO mystery. Actually, Shalett over does it. The opening paragraphs of Part II of the article quotes many top generals as not believing in "flying saucers." As the D/I points out (As I read it -L.E. Gross), this assumed the Air Force had taken a position on the controversy when in fact an investigation was still in effect. In fact, after reading those paragraphs a military person would feel like a complete fool if he reported a UFO. Here are the paragraphs in question:

"Less than a year ago, Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg, the Air Chief of Staff, who was responsible for the decision to set up an Air Force project to sift the saucer reports, was piloting a B-17 bomber on a night flight when a strange, disk-shaped, lighted object streaked by somewhere over to his right. If the general had rushed into print with his experience, it would have been another incident in the Great Flying Saucer Scare. In stead of getting rattled, he just experimented a bit by moving his head at different angles, and, sure enough, he could reproduce the saucer at will. It was merely a reflection of a ground light on his window.

"Lt. Gen. Lauris Norstad, who has served both the Air Force and Army as director of Plans and Operations, was flying back from Maxwell Field one night when he and his copilot noticed a strange large object pacing them above. It failed to answer their identification signals. A little calm reconnaissance, however, established that the aircraft was nothing but the reflection a star on a cloud.

"Other generals have been bewildered -but not for long -long by highly realistic

2 Mar 49

Proposed Magazine Article by Sidney Shalett

Director of Public Relations, OSAF

w/2 Mar 49

2 MAR 1949

Director of Intelligence, DCS/O

MajdaLagna/hop/76472

AFOAI-AE

1. The Director of Intelligence has reviewed the draft of a proposed magazine article by Sidney Shalett entitled "What You Can Believe About Those Flying Saucers," and cannot approve its release. Although the article discloses no information of importance to the national security, several things in it are inimical to the interests of the National Military Establishment, and therefore might affect national defense. Among them are:

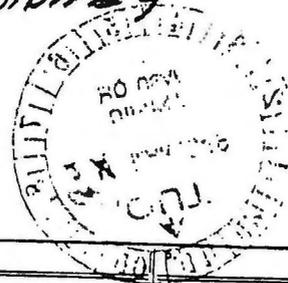
- a. The statement of an Air Force position (Part 2, page 2) on the subject of flying objects. No such position is in effect.
- b. Evidences of lack of cooperation between the Air Force and the Navy in the matter of research into the project.
- c. Evidence of Dr. Irving Langmuir's deprecation of the Air Force project.
- d. The revelation of Air Intelligence as the primary source of information, in violation of Mr. Shalett's agreement.

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Hoyman  
Hancock

(S)

Chief of Staff,  
Acting Director of Intelligence  
Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations

1000176 General  
0951 SHALETT, SIDNEY



OFFICE SYMBOL	1. AFOIN	2.	3.	4.
GRADE AND SURNAME OF COORDINATING OFFICERS	Brig Gen E.M. [unclear]			

illusions from ground air beacons and searchlights. Even Col. H.M. McCoy, who heads up the intelligence division at Air Materiel Command headquarters at Wright-Patterson Field, Dayton, Ohio, where saucer reports are screened, once thought he saw a disk while flying a P-51 fighter in broad daylight. It turned out to be a glint of sunlight from the canopy of another distant P-51.

"Lt. Gen. Curtis E. LeMay, now the tough-minded Strategic Air Command boss, was particularly rough on saucer reports when he headed up the Air Force's research-and-development program at the height of the scare. He put his weather expert on the trail, and substantial proof was uncovered that one out of six of the then current crop of reports could be traced to a certain type of aluminum-covered radar-target balloon then in wide use. LeMay said nothing for publication, but soon thereafter, when a certain lieutenant colonel gave out a lulu of a story on how he, too, had seen flying saucers, the general rebuked him blisteringly by telegram... and sent it collect.

"Gen. Carl Spaatz, the retired Air Chief, is another who gets indignant when he thinks of saucer hysteria. 'If the American people are capable of getting so excited over something which doesn't exist,' Spaatz told me, 'God help us if anyone ever plasters us with a real atomic bomb.' He added, 'I can tell you unequivocally that the reported sighting of so-called saucers were completely unconnected with any form of secret research that the Air Force was conducting during my term as Chief of Staff.'" (xx.)

(xx.) Shalett, Sidney. "What You Can Believe About Flying Saucers." *Saturday Evening Post*. Part II. May 7, 1949. pp.36,184.

Dr. Langmuir: "Forget it!"

Another objection by the D/I, which is closely related to Point "a," is Point "c" which was the extensive coverage given to the opinions of Dr. Irving Langmuir, a member the Air Force's Scientific Advisory Board. Langmuir really trashes the whole subject. After interviewing the famous scientist, Shalett writes:

"Perhaps the most outspoken foe of the flying saucer in the United States is Dr. Irving Langmuir, the distinguished scientist and Nobel Prize winner. Doctor Langmuir, associate director of General Electric's Research Laboratory at Schenectady, has spent a lifetime debunking what he calls 'pathological science'—that is, untruthful scientific theories which were carelessly accepted as truthful until someone came along to prick a hole in them—and he lumps saucers in this category. He also happens to be a member of the Air Force's Scientific Advisory Board. Though Doctor Langmuir speaks on saucers in his nonofficial capacity as a scientist, he has given the Air Force an earful on the—as it appears to him—absurdity of it all.

"Doctor Langmuir was one of the first to point out that Venus was close to its peak brilliance the day an unfortunate National Guard pilot killed himself chasing a saucer in Kentucky. When shown a picture that someone took of a heel-shaped 'saucer' flying over Phoenix, Arizona, he acidly inquired if anyone had taken the trouble to determine whether there was a violent squall over Phoenix that day

" 'To me,' he said, 'the picture has all the scientific aspects of a piece of tar

paper, or a torn blanket, or a collapsed balloon, tossing in a high wind.

“‘One of the characteristics of a thing that isn’t so,’ Doctor Langmuir continued, ‘is the impossibility of bringing it out into the open. If a man tells me that two and two equal five –or that he has seen a flying saucer –I don’t feel I have to prove he is wrong. I feel the burden is on him to prove that he is right.’

“I asked Doctor Langmuir what he would advise the Air Force to do about the flying saucers. He snapped his answer, ‘Forget it!’” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.186.

The D/I’s Point “c” states: “The revelation of the Air Intelligence as the primary source of information, in violation of Mr. Shalett’s agreement.” Shalett makes a number of brief references to his visit to Wright Field to gather information. One of the most glaring was this statement: “I have had what seemed to be the wholehearted cooperation of the Air Force in Washington and in other parts of the country.” (xx.)

(xx.) Shalett, Sidney. “What You Can Believe About Flying Saucers.” *The Saturday Evening Post*. Part I. April 30, 1949. p.20.

Also, there was this: “When I went to Wright Field armed only with reports of what witnesses said they had seen, the Great Flying Saucer Scare seemed reasonably mysterious to me. When I finished my investigation in Dayton, Washington and elsewhere, the thing seemed less mysterious than odd.” (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.138.

One might add that Shalett’s perceived “violation of an agreement” would no doubt be negative factor in any consideration for future cooperation between the Air Force and the civilian UFO investigators.

The remaining objection listed by the D/I may have been a lesser sin (I least I feel that to be the case –L.E. Gross). The Director states Shalett’s article shows: “Evidence of lack of cooperation between the Air Force and the Navy in the matter of research into the [UFO] project.” This is not that clear in Shalett’s writings. Perhaps it has something to do with the Navy’s Skyhook balloon program and the apparent inability of the Air Force to know when and where launches were made.

6 March.

Fort Hood, Texas.

We have seen how difficult it was for the 4<sup>th</sup> Army to get other services and agencies interested in the “mysterious lights.” Meetings were finally held late in February at which time the subject received a serious hearing. Almost as if it had been scripted, new events quickly supported the Army’s concern. Another area under the 4<sup>th</sup> Army’s jurisdiction, Fort Hood, Texas, began to experience visits by strange “lights.” This time there was little doubt the “lights” were a possible threat to national security. (More detailed information is now available. See pages 19-34)

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Authority 923007

By BP NARA Date 7-26

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## SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

Date: 9 March 1949

## Preparing Office

Fourth Army Intelligence Liaison Officer, Sandia Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico

## Subject:

Unidentified Flying Light Phenomena

## Summary of Information

1. An unidentified flying light was observed in New Mexico on 8 March, 1949, at 1835 hours. Observations are reported from:

Kirtland AFB control tower  
Los Alamos, AEC Project.

2. (a) Kirtland AFB reports luminous object, blue white in color in northwest horizon. Descent vertical, exploding before reaching earth. No sound indicated.

(b) Los Alamos guard station #106 reports luminous object, greenish white in color, west of southwest. Direction of flight southeast on horizontal plane. Altitude at or below partial cloud cover. Duration of sighting 2 to 4 seconds. Speed slower than meteor or falling star. No noise heard.

(c) Los Alamos guard station #103 reports luminous object, greenish white with billowy white flaming tail. Seen west of southwest by observer, gliding in a 60° downward angle. Was at altitude of cloud layer. Speed undetermined but described as floating or lazy manner. Observed for 2 to 4 seconds. No noise heard.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY KERRY K. HUNTE, Capt, USAF

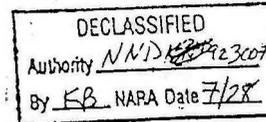
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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

16 March 1949

Preparing Office

Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Subject:

Unusual Lights  
452.1 AKADB

## Summary of Information

Following is an interim summary predicated on request of the Fourth Army Liaison Officer at Sandia Base for this headquarters to investigate and report on "fireball" phenomena reported to the Commanding General, Sandia Base, by AFSWP installation at Camp Hood, Texas. Report stated that several sightings of unusual "light" phenomena in the atmosphere above Site Baker (Q Area) had been made by security personnel there during the period 6 - 8 March 1949.

At CAMP HOOD, it was determined that this type of phenomena, hitherto unreported from the Camp Hood Area, has the same general characteristics of the phenomena observed during the past several months at Sandia Base. Because observers were in different locations and some were not certain as to time, it is possible that observation reported within the same hour on the same date are duplications. It should be noted that none of the observers had been instructed to look for or report any sort of atmospheric phenomena. All stated without equivocations that they had never before seen anything resembling the reported phenomena. All claimed to have seen "falling stars" nearly every night on the Camp Hood Reservation; but all were emphatic in stating that this phenomena was quite different. All men were interrogated separately and had no advance notice that they would be questioned. After the interrogation they were taken to the spot where the observations had been made. These points were numbered and then plotted on map, Camp Hood and vicinity, 1/62 500 1943. Overlays have been made and a copy is hereto attached. The observer was then told to aim a surveying instrument, brought along for the purpose, at the celestial points of origin and of termination of the phenomena. Vertical angles and magnetic azimuth of each point was then recorded. In most cases, the observer was able to fix azimuths by some terrain features. Vertical angles were of course estimated except where elevations of observations coincided with ridge or treelines.

Observations on 6 March 1949:

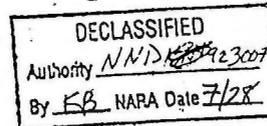
1. From observation point #6 (see attached overlay).
  - a. Location of point: 909.7 - 857.5; Time: 2100 hours.
  - b. Weather: Overcast (see attached weather report.)
  - c. Witnesses: Sgt. Hubert J. Vickery, AF 34932926  
1st Provost Security Sq  
Killeen Base, Camp Hood, Texas  
Pfc John C. Ransom, AF 15252814  
1st Provost Security Sq  
Killeen Base, Camp Hood, Texas

*Incl. #1*

Distribution: 1-DI, GSUSA; 2-CG, Sandia Base; 1-OSI, Kirtland AFB; File

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S/I, Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas,  
16 March 1949, subj, "Unusual Lights"

## d. Object sighted:

- (1) Number: 1
- (2) Shape: Oblong
- (3) Size: Described as "about 2 ft by 1 ft"
- (4) Color: Pale blue-white light
- (5) Speed: Not known
- (6) Direction: From N 74° W to N 81° W
- (7) Maneuverability: No deviation from course
- (8) Altitude: From 69' above horizon to 45' above
- (9) Sound: None
- (10) Exhaust trail: Sgt Vickery reports none. Pfc Ransom reported a faint pinkish red trail extending about three times the length of the body.

## 2. From observation point #1 (see attached overlay).

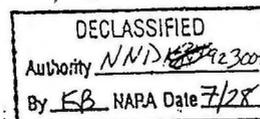
- a. Location of point: 914.3 - 855.7; Time: About 2020 hours.
- b. Weather: Overcast (see attached weather report).
- c. Witnesses: Pvt Martin M. Fensterman, US 57122075  
42nd AIB, Company A  
Camp Hood, Texas  
  
Pvt Frank (NMI) Luisi, US 57100167  
42 AIB, Company A  
Camp Hood, Texas

## d. Object sighted:

- (1) Number: 1
- (2) Shape: Ball like flash
- (3) Size: Looked like basketball
- (4) Color: Pale blue-white light
- (5) Speed: Not known
- (6) Direction: N 40° E
- (7) Maneuverability: None--was a "fixed flash"
- (8) Altitude: 59° above horizon.
- (9) Sound: None
- (10) Exhaust trail: None

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S/I, Office of the AC of S, GO2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas,  
16 March 1949, subj: "Unusual Lights"

3. From observation point #3 (see attached overlay).

- a. Location: 914.5 - 856.1; Time: About 2045 hours.
- b. Weather: Overcast (see attached weather report).
- c. Witness: Pvt Harold D. Moore, US 57410066  
42nd AIB, Company A  
Camp Hood, Texas

d. Object Sighted:

- (1) Number: 1
- (2) Shape: Roundish head with trail
- (3) Size: About 10° in length
- (4) Color: Light colored head, orange trail
- (5) Speed: not known
- (6) Direction: from S 81° W to S 60° W
- (7) Maneuverability: No deviation from course
- (8) Altitude: From 21° above horizon to 6° 31' above
- (9) Sound: None
- (10) Exhaust trail: Orange trail about 10° long
- (11) Remarks: Appeared to be going over Q area

Observations on 7 March 1949:

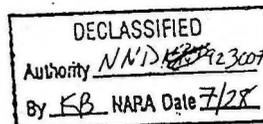
1. From observation point #1 (see attached overlay)

- a. Location: 914.3 - 855.7; Time: 0115 hours.
- b. Weather: Clear (see attached weather report).
- c. Witness: Pfc Robert Gardner Black, US 57112155  
42nd AIB, Company A  
Camp Hood, Texas

d. Object sighted:

- (1) Number: 1
- (2) Shape: Like flash bulb
- (3) Size: Flash bulb
- (4) Color: Brilliant blue-white
- (5) Speed: None
- (6) Direction: N 40° E
- (7) Maneuverability: None-fixed flash
- (8) Altitude: 66° 15' above horizon
- (9) Sound: None
- (10) Exhaust trail: None

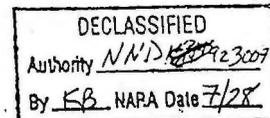
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**SA, Office of the AG of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.**  
 16 March 1949, subj: "Unusual Lights"

- (11) Remarks: This observer is a Harvard graduate. Used stars to mark bearing and elevation of sighting. Stated he had never seen anything like this phenomena before.
2. From observation point #2 (see attached overlay).
- a. Location: 915.1 - 856.1; Time: 0115 - 0130 hours.
- b. Weather: Clear (see attached weather report).
- c. Witness: Pvt Paul C. Bryant, US 57204806  
 42nd AIB, Company A  
 Camp Hood, Texas
- d. Object sighted:
- (1) Number: 1
  - (2) Shape: Like flash bulb
  - (3) Size: Basketball
  - (4) Color: Bright blue-white
  - (5) Speed: None
  - (6) Direction: N 16° W
  - (7) Maneuverability: None--fixed flash
  - (8) Altitude: 27° 30' above horizon
  - (9) Sound: None
  - (10) Exhaust trail: None.
3. From observation point #5 (see attached overlay).
- a. Location: 914.6 - 056.7; Time: 0130 - 0200 hours.
- b. Weather: Clear (see attached weather report.)
- c. Witnesses: Pvt Francesca (NMI) Lonardo, US 57175045  
 42nd AIB, Company A  
 Camp Hood, Texas
- Pvt. Savino E. Digni, US 57175036  
 42nd AIB, Company A  
 Camp Hood, Texas
- d. Object sighted:
- (1) Number: 1
  - (2) Shape: ball like flash
  - (3) Size: Like flash bulb
  - (4) Color: Bluish white

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S/I, Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas,  
16 March 1949, subj: "Unusual Lights"

- (5) Speed: not known
- (6) Direction: S 20° W.
- (7) Maneuverability: None--fixed flash
- (8) Altitude: 26° above horizon
- (9) Sound: None
- (10) Exhaust trail: None

4. From observation point #7 (see attached overlay)

- a. Location: 909.0 - 856.9; Time: 0145 hours.
- b. Weather: Clear (see attached weather report).
- c. Witness: Pfc Max Eugene Manlove, AF 15418997  
1st Provost Security Sq  
Camp Hood, Texas
- d. Object sighted:

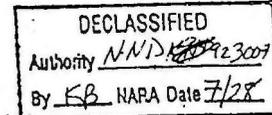
- (1) Number: 1
- (2) Shape: Teardrop
- (3) Size: "About 2 ft by 1 ft"
- (4) Color: Orange
- (5) Speed: not known
- (6) Direction: N 60° E
- (7) Maneuverability: No deviation
- (8) Altitude: 4 when first seen--dropped vertically
- (9) Sound: None
- (10) Exhaust trail: None
- (11) Remarks: Witness said this "light" dropped vertically to ground and disappeared behind trees directly in front of him. In view "about 2 seconds".

Observations on 8 March 1949:

1. From observation point #1 (see attached overlay).

- a. Location: 914.3 - 855.7; Time: About 0103 hours.
- b. Weather: Clear (see attached weather report.)
- c. Witness: Pvt Charlie H. Payne, US 57211002  
42nd AIB, Company A  
Camp Hood, Texas

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S/I, Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas,  
16 March 1949: Subj, "Unusual Lights"

## d. Object sighted:

- (1) Number: 1
- (2) Shape: Roundish head with hazy smoke trail.
- (3) Size: Not known
- (4) Color: Pale white light at head
- (5) Speed: not known
- (6) Direction: From S 58° to S 54° E
- (7) Maneuverability: No deviation
- (8) Altitude: From 58° above horizon to 54° above
- (9) Sound: None
- (10) Exhaust trail: Left hazy white smoke trail
- (11) Remarks: Travelled in arc and visible "long enough to snap your fingers."

## 2. From observation point #4 (see attached overlay).

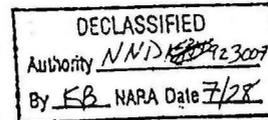
- a. Location: 914.6 - 856.7; Time: About 0103.
- b. Weather: Clear (see attached weather report).
- c. Witness: Cpl Luke Burke Sims, RA 38753446  
Company A, 42nd AIB  
Camp Hood, Texas

## d. Object sighted:

- (1) Number: 1
- (2) Shape: Lemon with tail
- (3) Size: Not known
- (4) Color: Pale reddish nose, whitish red trail
- (5) Speed: Not known, but very fast
- (6) Direction: From N 56° W to S 64° W
- (7) Maneuverability: No deviation
- (8) Altitude: From 15 above horizon at beginning and end of arc.
- (9) Sound: None
- (10) Exhaust trail: Whitish red trail.
- (11) Remarks: Good observer. Stated that "Light" started from point above horizon then arced upward and down to 15° when it disappeared. Was perfect arc. He was able to run 10 paces toward field telephone to report light before it vanished.

The following incident may or may not be connected. At about 1930 hours on 7 March 1949, a flashlight was seen moving about the "Q" Area fence line near the air strip. It could not be told by the observer whether the light was within or

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES



S/I, Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas,  
16 March 1949, subj: "Unusual Lights"

without the fence. The Security Officer of Site Baker is investigating. He stated the light was not carried by any of the AFSWP personnel.

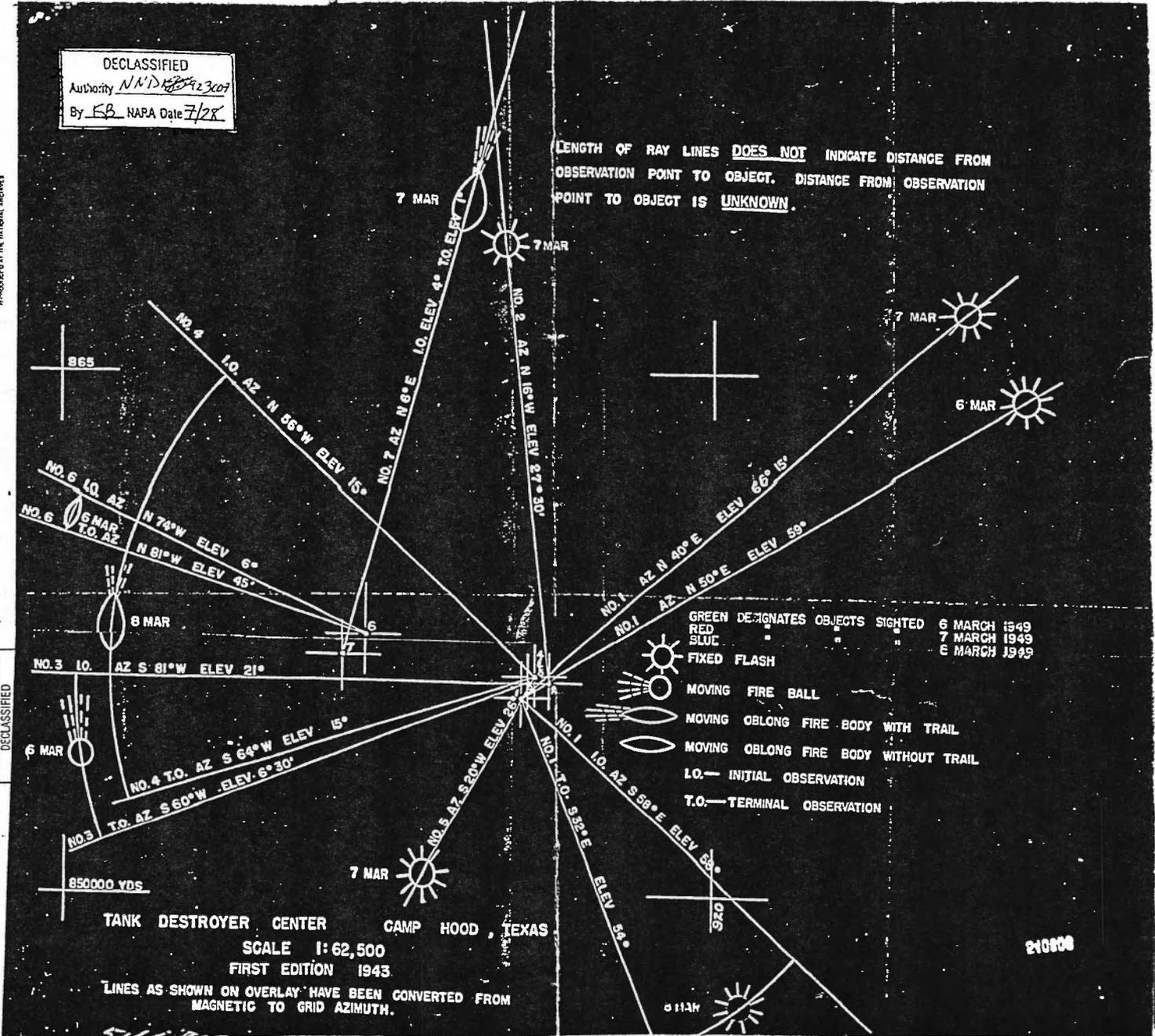
Investigation continues in an effort to determine cause of the "lights". Last information is that 32 trip flares have been put into the general area by the 2nd Armored Division and that some may have been set off by wild animals. Subsequent summary will be rendered when more exact evidence on flares is obtained. It is presently known, however, that these flares explode on the ground and do not shoot into the air.

No conclusion is drawn from the data on attached overlay other than to note that the "lights" form a rough circle about the "Q" area. Copy of surface weather observations for Camp Hood on the 6, 7 and 8 March 1949 are attached as a possible aid in analysis. This report covers only day hours since the USAF weather service at Camp Hood closes at 1700 hours and opens at 0730 hours.

(B-2)

- EXHIBIT I - Overlay, Tank Destroyer Center, Camp Hood, Texas
- EXHIBIT II - Weather Report, 6 March 1949, Camp Hood, Texas
- EXHIBIT III - Weather Report, 7 March 1949, Camp Hood, Texas
- EXHIBIT IV - Weather Report, 8 March 1949, Camp Hood, Texas

Official Fourth Army overlay. Original in color, according to the text lower-right.



## They Didn't Learn a Lesson From Orson Welles 'Invasion from Mars' Broadcast Starts Riot in Ecuador

QUITO, Ecuador, Feb. 13 (AP) — An enraged mob took bloody vengeance here last night for panic caused by an Orson Welles-type radio dramatization of an "Invasion from Mars."

The mob attacked and burned the building of the newspaper El Comercio, which housed the radio station, killing at least six persons and injuring 15 others.

Regular army troops had to use tanks and tear gas to restore order.

The newspaper building, its equipment and the radio station were wrecked. Loss was estimated at more than \$350,000. Several persons were reported under arrest.

The populace had been terrified by a radio dramatization of H. G. Wells' fantastic novel, "The War of Worlds,"

localized to describe strange creatures from Mars landing nearby and heading for Quito.

It was carried out much after the fashion of Orson Welles' famous "Martian invasion" broadcast in 1938 which caused panic in some parts of the United States.

Hysteria drove most of the population of Quito into the streets before the program directors learned how much consternation they had caused. Frantically they appealed to the people to be calm, and assured them it was all fictional.

When the people finally were convinced, they swept upon El Comercio building, Ecuador's principal newspaper, showering it with stones and driving occupants to the upper floors.

Groups set fire to the building at various points, and some of the occupants leaped from

the third story windows as the flames trapped them.

Witnesses said about 100 persons were in the building when the mob formed in front, crashing in windows with stones. Several occupants escaped through a rear door, but others were forced upstairs by the rampaging mob.

As the flames cut off escape, occupants formed a human chain from balconies and windows. Some of these people were dashed to the ground when the "chain" broke. Others leaped.

Police aid was slow to rally because mobile police units had been sent to nearby Cotacallao, scene of the radio-reported "invasion," to investigate. Police officials said they thought Cotacallao was the scene of the

Continued on Page Two

Albuquerque NM Journal Feb 14, 1949

## Mars' Broadcast Starts A Riot

Continued from Page One

broadcast, which gave realistic eye witness accounts.

It mentioned well known government officials and news men as being at the scene of the Martian landings, and an actor impersonated the minister of interior in an appeal to the people.

The people, many of them only half clad, fled into the streets in wild displays of terror—and when they learned it was a hoax, they were just as wild in their wrath.

It took tanks and tear gas to clear a way for fire apparatus to reach the flaming building. The fire spread to some nearby buildings, including the government communications building.

Damage to other buildings was not serious, but only the front of El Comercio was left standing. Its presses and other equipment were wrecked and its files destroyed. It is the city's oldest newspaper, founded Jan. 1, 1908. Orson Welles, in his 1938

broadcast, spread terror in the United States which had less tragic repercussions. Some persons were reported to have died of fright when they heard his graphic description of weird Martian creatures landing in the New Jersey area. People in many places prayed in the streets or fled into the country. Men in New Jersey seized arms and prepared to fight for their lives.

There were angry—but strictly vocal—protests when people learned it was just another radio show.

This is how the show was staged over Radio Quito:

The usual musical program was interrupted by an announcer saying, "Here is an urgent piece of late news."

"This was followed by a vivid description of an invasion by an enemy which approached Quito in the shape of a cloud after destroying the neighboring town of Latacunga, 20 miles to the south.

Then the announcer said: "The air base of Mariscal Sucre has been taken by the enemy and it is being destroyed. There are many dead and wounded. It is about to be wiped out."

"The voice personifying a government minister asked the citizens to be calm in order to be able to organize the defense and evacuation of the city."

At this point the "mayor" arrived. He said: "people of Quito, let us defend our city. Our women and children must go out into the surrounding heights to

leave the men free for action and combat."

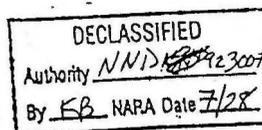
The voice of a priest begging for divine mercy in the catastrophe was heard.

Recording of the church bells of Quito sounding an alarm was played. The announcer said that from microphones set up in the tower of La Previsora, tallest building in Quito, he could see a monster approaching from the north engulfed in fire and smoke.

That was the high point of the broadcast. People began fleeing from their homes and running through the streets. Many were clad only in night dress.

A day after project GRUDGE with its "new view" became official at Wright Field, Ohio, the nation of Ecuador, of all places, experienced a big "Martian invasion scare." On February 12<sup>th</sup> mob violence in Quito killed 6 people, injured 15, and caused \$350,000 dollars in damage. One might think the population of Quito was not very familiar with the idea of invading spacemen (as well as being isolated from the tensions of the Cold War), thus not easy to panic, nonetheless, people were thrown into complete turmoil by an overly realistic radio drama. The Ecuadorean government even asked its Minister of Defence to investigate the riot.

U.S. Air Force concerns over alarmist interpretations of UFO stories may have been justified if the South American tragedy was any guide. Note that the AP wire story got a big play in the Albuquerque, the heart of "green fireball" country. (See clipping this page)



## SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

Date: 18 March 1949

Preparing Office

AC of S, G-2, 2d Armored Division, Camp Hood, Texas

Subject

UNUSUAL PHENOMENON OF LIGHTS

## Summary of Information

On 17 March 1949, an officer of this section was sent to the Field Force Area adjacent to Killeen Base to attempt to ascertain the reliability and credibility of recent reports sent to your office. This officer, Captain McCulloch, was accompanied by the twelve enlisted men from the 42d AIB, 2d Armored Division, recently interviewed by Major Wynn, your headquarters. The proposed plan of operation was for Captain McCulloch to assign these men their previous positions from which they reported seeing unusual lights on the nights of 6, 7, and 8 March 1949, and firing three ground flares and three parachute flares. In that manner these men might be able to identify these lights as being the same type as they had previously reported.

Captain McCulloch left Camp Hood enroute to the Field Force Area at approximately 1930 17 March 1949. When the vehicle in which the party was riding turned from US Highway 190, onto Clear Creek Road, heading south, at a point approximately three to four hundred yards from US Highway 190, there appeared a flare which seemed to be between the Field Force Area and Killeen Base, directly over the Air Strip. This occurred at 1952. The flare appeared to be white. When the flare was observed it was impossible to ascertain the height due to the distance from which it was sighted. The same flare was noticed by the Field Force, as their log revealed that they had seen a flare in the same general direction at the same time. It was ascertained that the location of the flare was (910.40 - 855.28).

The vehicle in which the aforementioned party was riding traveled a distance of about two hundred to three hundred yards from the last mentioned place, there appeared three more flares in about two minutes. These three flares were seen by Captain McCulloch's party, the Field Force, and representatives of Killeen Base. Two of these were reported at 1958 17 March 1949. The first flare was red and occurred at (910.42 - 860.14). The third flare occurred at 2000, was white, and was located at (410.38 - 860.15).

The next flare occurred at 2024 17 March 1949, it appeared to be red, was seen by the Field Force and was located at (910.30 - 855.17).

The last flare, which was unidentified as to the exact location, but at approximately (910.37 - 855.35) occurred at 2152 17 March 1949.

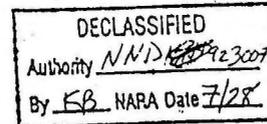
Four flares were set off by Captain McCulloch, two of which were ground type and the others were parachute flares. The flares set off by Captain McCulloch do not coincide with the time of sighting of other flares. It is brought out at this time that the personnel taken into the field by Captain McCulloch stated that they were not the same type lights that had been previously reported.

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WD AGO Form  
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## SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

Date: 18 March 1949

## Preparing Office

AC of S, G-2, 2d Armored Division, Camp Hood, Texas

## Subject:

UNUSUAL PHENOMENON OF LIGHTS

## Summary of Information

Killeen Base declared a Green Alert from 2000 to 2100 17 March 1949, because of these incidents. It is planned by this headquarters to strengthen the Field Force.

Further investigation in the 2d Armored Division revealed that the 82nd Reconnaissance Battalion, Combat Command "A", 2d Armored Division, participated in night problems last evening from the hours of 2000 to 2200. It was ascertained that in this problem parachute flares were used. These flares were fired from the position (910.20 - 860.38). The approximate time these flares were fired from the position are as follows: 2015, Star Flare; 2020, Cluster Flare; 2021, Star Flare; 2035, Green Cluster, 2032, Yellow Cluster; 2210, White Cluster. It is not believed that these flares would have traveled to the point where the Field Force and Killeen Base would have seen them.

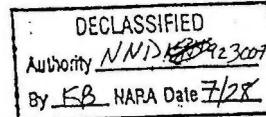
It is believed by this headquarters that the lights which occurred on 6, 7, and 8 March 1949, are not the same type as these that are covered in this report. (B-2)

Distribution: AC of S, G-2, Fourth Army  
 FBI; Killeen Base; File.

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~~SECRET~~

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

18 March 1949

## PREPARING OFFICE

Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

SUBJECT	CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION	
	OF SOURCE:	OF INFORMATION:
UNUSUAL LIGHTS (452.1 AKADB)	Completely reliable...A	Confirmed by other sources..1
	Usually Reliable.....B	Probably true.....2
	Fairly Reliable.....C	Possibly true.....3
	Not Usually Reliable..D	Doubtfully true.....4
	Unreliable.....E	Improbable.....5
	Reliability Unknown...F	Truth cannot be judged.....6

## SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

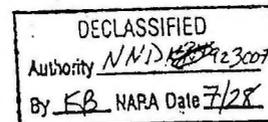
Eight moving "lights" appeared in the atmosphere over or in the vicinity of the "Q" area, AFSWP, Camp Hood, Texas, on the evening of 17 March 1949. At the time of these sightings, the alert guard of the 2nd Armored Division, under the Assistant AC of S, G-2 of Camp Hood, was in the area concerned and prepared to fire flares and record instrument readings of elevation and azimuth. The purpose was to check the powers of observation of observers who had previously reported the phenomena observed on 6-7-8 March 1949 and heretofore reported in Summary of Information, this Headquarters, dated 17 March 1949, subject: "unusual lights." However, before this operation could be begun, the series of 8 unusual "lights" appeared.

Coordinates of lights and time of sighting follow:

	<u>Coordinates</u>	<u>Time</u>
1.	910.40 - 855.14	1952
2.	910.39 - 860.13	1958
3.	910.42 - 860.14	1958
4.	910.38 - 860.15	2000
5.	910.32 - 855.20	2000
6.	910.30 - 855.17	2010
7.	910.36 - 855.06	2024
8.	910.37 - 855.35	2152

Coordinates were based on dual sightings of each light by sights on tanks of observers. Time was clocked at instant of sighting. Captain McCullough, the Assistant G-2, personally observed three of the lights. Physical characteristics of these "lights" were reported as "quite different" from those reported on 6-7-8 March 1949. One burst into a green cluster. One was reddish, another white. One observer described some of them as similar to Very Pistol flares. While this phenomena was occurring, a security detachment from the "Q" area arrived in the vicinity of the alert crew from the 2nd Armored Division.

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Page 2

It was then determined that no one in the "Q" area was responsible for the phenomena. "Q" area then went on alert status. Ordnance check has shown that nothing in the way of pyrotechnic missiles has been issued or used in months. Investigation of whole area by ground crews is being made and additional reports will be rendered. As in the case of the 6-7-8 March "lights," those of the 17th "bracket" the "Q" area. One group of 3 lights being north of the area and one group of 5 lights just south of the area. Overlay showing locations is attached.

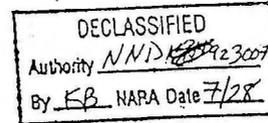
Federal Bureau of Investigation, San Antonio, Texas, Office of Naval Intelligence, San Antonio, Texas, have been notified. Director of Intelligence, Air Materiel Command, Office of Special Investigations, Kirtland Air Force Base and Commanding General, Sandia Base, are on distribution of this Summary.

DISTRIBUTION FBI, Santex; ONI, Santex; DI; AMC; OSI; Kirtland AFB; CG, Sandia Base; File

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REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES



## SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

Date: 21 March 1949

## Preparing Office

AC of S, G-2, 2d Armored Division, Camp Hood, Texas

## Subject:

UNIDENTIFIED PHENOMENON OF LIGHTS

## Summary of Information

On 181947 March 1949, four unidentified lights appeared in the vicinity of (915.26 - 855.19), the lights noticed at this time were three yellow and one red. A patrol of Killeen Base, in the "Q" Area noticed two of these lights. A patrol located on Crossville Mountain, which consisted of four enlisted men of the Alert Force saw four. Immediate investigation in the general area failed to reveal any cause or anything which would indicate that some person or thing had been in the area. (B-3)

At 181930 March 1949, another yellow light was seen in the approximate vicinity of (910.41 - 855.10). This light was reportedly seen by only one man. There was no indication from reports that these lights were moving, there was no noise, and the persons reporting were unable to make an estimate of the height. (B-3)

At 181947 March 1949, what appeared to be blinking lights appeared in the vicinity of the Rock Quarry, located at (905.82 - 855.61). Investigation by the Alert Force and patrols of Killeen Base failed to reveal any cause or person in that general area. Again at 181955 March 1949, lights were seen in this general area. (B-3)

At 190048 March 1949, blinking lights were seen in the same general area (905.82 - 855.61). Investigation failed to reveal the cause of these lights. All of the lights which appeared in the proximity of (905.82 - 855.61) were seen by patrols located in the "Q" Area and were seen from points between (910.20 - 855.36) and (905.44 - 855.41). (B-3)

Captain McCulloch, this headquarters and Mr. Raymond Schmidieke, Special Agent, Killeen Base, spent several hours from an observation point located in the "Q" Area in an attempt to see these blinking lights.

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Waco FBI	G-2 File

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Deyarmond, Lipp, Langmuir, Valley, and Hynek.

The CIA memo quoted in my monograph *UFOs A History January-June*, dated March 15, 1949, contains an interesting remark about the opinion of a Mr. Deyarmond: "...he seemed to think, and I agree, that the 'flying discs' will turn out to be another 'sea serpent.' However, since there is even a remote possibility that they may be interplanetary it is necessary to investigate each sighting."

Al Deyarmond's UFO belief history was unusual. E.J. Ruppelt's impression of the man (from reading memos from the Project SIGN days) was that early on Deyarmond was a "firm believer" along with Al Loedding and "Red" Honnacker. When Ruppelt took over the UFO project late in 1951, Deyarmond gave the appearance of being a scoffer in keeping with the then current policy. However, being a scoffer (at least publicly) did not keep Deyarmond from chewing out Ruppelt if the new UFO chief failed to "keep an open mind" about UFO reports.

As for the others named in the CIA memo, Ruppelt also knew Dr. James Lipp, who he called "violently anti-saucer." Moreover, Dr. Langmuir, as we have seen, qualifies as someone who is less than objective when it came to UFOs. Dr. Hynek, as everyone knows, eventually changed his mind about the ET hypothesis being "highly improbable," and Dr. Valley at least found the data interesting enough to warrant a close look.

3 April. Walter Winchell's Sunday night broadcast.

Radio news commentator Walter Winchell enjoyed considerable national influence. When he made the following announcement on the air the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, he raised quite a few eyebrows around the country:

"WASHINGTON. THIS WILL NOT BE CONFIRMED BY ANYONE IN AUTHORITY IN WASHINGTON AT THIS TIME BUT IF ANYBODY DENIES IT THE DENIER WILL BE A LIAR. THE FLYING SAUCERS, NEVER EXPLAINED BY ANYONE IN AUTHORITY ARE NOW DEFINITELY KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN GUIDED MISSILES SHOT ALL THE WAY FROM RUSSIA."

Ruth Cowan, representing the Associate Press, was one of the first reporters to request an explanation from the Pentagon the next day. The Air Force Directorate of Public Relations immediately contacted the Directorate of Intelligence for help. Reaction by the Intelligence department was swift. An inter-office note recommended a non-committal reply. A statement was prepared for General Cabell's signature within 24 hours. (See document on page 36)

The flap over Winchell's broadcast generated further discussions in the Pentagon about the release of UFO information. (See document on page 37)

Cabell fails to stop Shallet.

As UFO researchers Michael Hall and Wendy Connors state:

"Cabell displayed caution not just in regard to flying stories but all such sensitive Air Force Intelligence matters. However because Shallet's backing eventually came all the way from Secretary of Defense James V.

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AFOAI  
4 April 1949MEMORANDUM FOR RECORDPROBLEM:

1. To prepare comments on Walter Winchell's broadcast of 3 April 1949, for the Directorate of Public Relations.

FACTS AND DISCUSSION:

2. Major Stuy of the Directorate of Public Relations requested the Directorate of Intelligence to furnish comments on Walter Winchell's broadcast of 3 April 1949. The following comment was furnished:

"To date there has been no tangible evidence which would support a theory that any incidents are attributed to activity of a foreign nation. On the other hand, there is no evidence to categorically deny such a possibility, particularly since some incidents which occurred overseas could have involved foreign aircraft. The possibility of foreign devices becomes more remote in the case of domestic incidents. Many of the reported incidents have been definitely determined to be meteorological balloons or natural celestial phenomena. However, there are ~~some~~ incidents reported by reliable and competent observers which are still unexplained."

ACTION REQUIRED:

3. For signature of General Cabell and forwarding to DCS/O and Chief of Staff.

COORDINATION:

General Moore, Chief, Air Intel Division, Ext 2542  
Colonel Walsh, Deputy, Air Intel Division, Ext 5988  
Colonel Sturdivant, Executive, Air Intel Division, Ext 5988

RESTRICTED

Record Group 34.1  
 Director of Intelligence, HQ USAF  
 Decimal File 1000.9

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6 Apr

Colonel Smith,

Believe there is some correspondence in your files on this subject. Several weeks ago I wrote a note to Col. Welch advising him that since Mr. Shalet of Saturday Evening Post had been given some information on this subject and since Mr. Shalett was planning a magazine piece, I felt that the AF should be in a position to release essentially the same information either simultaneous with or immediately subsequent to the appearance of the SEP piece.

The attached piece has been prepared by AMC in accordance with that note.

Mr. Leo is familiar with the project. There has been no request made for any final decision on the desirability of release of the attached material nor the security classification, if any.

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Forrestal –Cabell was thwarted in his efforts to kill the story. This was largely due to Leo himself who had a rapport with Forrestal.” (xx.)

(xx.) Michael David Hall and Wendy Ann Connors. *Captain Edward J. Ruppelt*. Rose Press International: Albuquerque, N.M., 2000. pp.13-14.

If he failed to convince Forrestal, General Cabell could still hope politics would change the situation in his favor.

After a victory over Dewey in the November presidential elections, Truman was to begin a four year term as of January and a lot of new appointments were anticipated. Many of the people inherited from Roosevelt regime were to be replaced with “Harry’s men.”

As was customary, resignations were automatically submitted, so the Chief Executive could have a free hand in putting together a new administration. Right after the inauguration, Truman informed Forrestal his job was safe, something Forrestal didn’t expect since during his years as Secretary he had made many enemies. Some say Truman really wanted Louis Johnson as Defense Secretary from the beginning, but January and February passed and the hard-working millionaire Wall Streeter remained in the Cabinet. Those who hated Forrestal stepped up their campaign to get rid of Forrestal. Among others, commentators Walter Winchell and Drew Pearson tried to force Forrestal to resign and launched relentless verbal assaults on him. *The Saturday Evening Post* (please note) came to the defense of Forrestal, calling the attacks “reckless and sadistically savage.” One example was that Forrestal opposed the “Morgenthau Plan” which was the proposed total destruction of Germany’s industrial base so that nation could never again make war. For that stand, Forrestal was called a “bedfellow of I.G. Farben.” (Farben was the German company that made the poison gas used in Nazi death camps).

A heavy workload and the pressure of constant vituperation took its toll. By March 1949 Forrestal was described by friends as dazed and depressed. An address by Forrestal at a St. Patrick’s Day dinner generated public doubts about his mental health. Truman quickly asked for Forrestal’s resignation and Louis Johnson was sworn in as the new Secretary of Defense on April 1, 1949. By then it was a little late to foil any publication of Shallet’s work without drastic action.

Extraordinary speculations.

Forrestal’s last days were strange. Wild theories abound, but the bare facts are odd enough. Four days after Johnson’s swearing in, Forrestal was admitted to Bethesda Naval Hospital with a condition that was diagnosed as “occupational fatigue,” perhaps not unusual for an exceedingly active man who never took a vacation.

For some reason Mrs. Forrestal left for Europe on April 12<sup>th</sup>. That left only two people to check on Jim Forrestal’s well-being: Henry Forrestal, his brother; and Monsiegnor Maurice S. Sheehy, of Catholic University, Washington D.C.

One of Forrestal’s closest friends, Father Sheehy was helping facilitate the ex-Defense Secretary’s return to the church after complications arising from a divorce.

Since Bethesda was a Navy hospital, two officers were assigned to care for Forrestal. Both were doctors. One was a Capt. Raines and the other a Capt. Hogan.

Forrestal was put in a room on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor and spent much of his time alone. He made a

request to see Father Sheehy the first day but the request was denied. No explanation was offered by Capt. Raines, the psychiatrist in charge.

On the other hand, Henry Forrestal was allowed to see his brother and he found Jim apparently doing better. Capt. Raines agreed his patient seemed to "fundamentally OK." Henry expressed concern over his brother's isolation on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor and wanted to see him given more freedom.

In spite of visiting the hospital six times over a period of a month, Father Sheehy was still denied permission to see his friend and provide spiritual comfort. Captains Raines and Hogan kept insisting the priest wait. By mid-May Father Sheehy became convinced the two Navy officers were acting under orders so he appealed to the Secretary of Navy, John L. Sullivan. Sullivan phoned Capt. Raines and was assured a visit by the priest would take place "in time."

Henry wasn't satisfied with things so he decided to seek his brother's release from the hospital, but while Henry was arranging a trip to Washington on Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup> to work for Jim's discharge from Bethesda, he received word his brother had fallen to his death from an open window on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor at 1:45 that very morning.

The investigative report of Forrestal's death has never been released. Moreover, Forrestal's papers have been kept secret. Not even a formal demand on the Navy by members of Congress elicited an explanation why Jim Forrestal was repeatedly denied a visit by his spiritual advisor. (xx.)

(xx.) Huie, William Bradford. "Untold Facts in the Forrestal Case." *The NEW American Mercury*. December 1950. pp.643-652.

8 April. Dr. Joseph Kaplan meets with the Director of Air Force Intelligence.

Dr. Kaplan had a conversation with the Director of Intelligence on April 8<sup>th</sup>. He said he needed more information and expressed a hope he could acquire what he needed during his upcoming lecture tours. He felt more data was needed to provide some basis to judge the claims of Dr. La Paz. If the phenomenon was not natural, as La Paz asserted, then Kaplan would recommend investigative action by GRUDGE. (xx.)

(xx.) Memorandum For Record. AFOAI-DA. Major Boggs /at/5867. Wrtn 28 June 49. Record Group 341. Director of Intelligence, HQ USAF. Decimal File 000.9 Copy in author's files.

9 April. Tucson, Arizona. (Between 4 and 5:00 p.m.)

"Bright object."

The following is a written statement on file with CUFOS:

### Mystery Surrounds Forrestal's Condition

WASHINGTON, April 11 (INS).—Strange mystery today surrounded the condition of former Defense Secretary James V. Forrestal who is in the U. S. Naval Hospital at nearby Bethesda, Md.

A high cabinet member said Forrestal had suffered a "complete nervous breakdown" while vacationing at Hobe Sound, Fla.

When Forrestal was flown to the hospital last week, according to well-informed sources, Louis Johnson, his successor, called a conference of top service officials, particularly the Navy. Johnson reportedly swore them to secrecy about Forrestal's condition and what happened in Florida.

"Looking from a second story window of the guest house at the David Monthan Air Force Base; Tucson, Arizona between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m., Friday April 9, 1949, I sighted a bright orange object at approximately 65 degrees East of due North. The evening was clear with a few scattered high clouds. The object, when first noted, seemed to be resting on a telephone line a few miles from the point of sighting. It suddenly moved from right to left forming an arc of approximately 10 degrees and back to its original position. At first I thought it a phenomena of the telephone or rural power line it was sighted on. This assumption was wrong because the next time it moved it appeared to pass behind a telephone pole and drop from the top line to between the bottom and the next line. This time the arc was increased slightly. It then returned to its original position. Its next movements were quite varied and erratic, moving above and below the lines and to the right and left. It finally started an ascent of approximately 10 degrees/second to 15 degrees/second. As it approached a cloud it gradually faded and disappeared into it and was again sighted coming out the other side continuing or possibly increasing its rate of ascent. As it continued up, its color changed from bright orange to a brilliant white as a star and disappeared as a pin point in the heavens.

"The size of the object when first seen was approximately equivalent to a ¼ inch diameter circle seen at a distance of 18 inches. This sighting lasted approximately two or three minutes.

"I had called my wife as soon as the object started moving but she hadn't heard me. I told her about it before supper. It wasn't mentioned again until supper when the base chaplain asked me if I had seen any flying saucers. When I told him what I had seen he was not a bit surprised but said there were few men on the base who had not seen them. Upon questioning him as to what others at the base thought they were, he told me the general opinion seemed to be that they were rockets fired from White Sands, New Mexico. This I discarded for rockets do not act in this manner." (xx.)

(xx.) Report: "Sighting of a Bright Object at Tucson, Arizona." Joseph A. Bova. 15969 South Roselle, Lawndale, California. CUFOS archives.

12 April. Eau Claire,  
Wisconsin.  
(night)

"Queer objects seen."  
(See clipping right)

8. EAU CLAIRE LEADER THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 14, 1949.

### Flying Saucers?

## Moon Watchers Report Seeing Queer Objects

Four watchers at the Gillette tire plant of the U. S. Rubber co. here reported yesterday that while viewing the eclipse of the moon Tuesday night they saw, traveling across the heavens, luminous objects which they said answered the description of flying saucers.

They were sure that others also must have seen the same phenomenon, for they appeared as the moon went into total eclipse. One could hardly help seeing them if he had been watching the moon, they said.

The four agreed in their stories as to the number of the objects and the direction and manner of their flight. The first they saw

were four of these objects, somewhat in formation or in a line, appearing from the southern horizon, traveling across the heavens in a northerly direction and disappearing behind some clouds.

Almost immediately two more of the same luminous nature, but looking as if they were fastened together, dove into sight from the southwest and moved across the heavens in a northeasterly direction and disappeared. Their rate of travel was comparatively slow, and not speedy like a meteor, they agreed, and they left no trail of light, smoke or vapor in their wake.

They were perfectly round, they said, and were a luminous red.

12 April. General Cabell initiates a paper for the Joint Intelligence Committee, or "Getting ready for Shallet."

Since it was now apparent Shallet's *Saturday Evening Post* UFO article would be published come Hell or high water, General Cabell had to make preparations. For the first time the public would hear the "facts" about the UFO mystery from a source that had received official cooperation. The "official cooperation" part wasn't something the Air Force wanted known, but since Shallet broke his promise to keep his source confidential, the military had no choice but to try some damage control. As Jan Aldrich states, the Air Force had to make: "...a concerted effort to spread its position in both official circles and to the public." (xx.) This needed to be done before the *Post* hit the streets April 29<sup>th</sup>.

(xx.) Aldrich, Jan L. "New Top Secret Document Revealed. Report by the Director of Intelligence, USAF, to the Joint Intelligence Committee on Unidentified Aerial Objects." Project 1947. FOIA UFO Documents -1949. p.1. E-Mail message 5/18/98 7:54 PM. Copy in author's files.

The first step was to prepare a briefing for the Joint Intelligence Committee. The JIC consisted of representatives from the Army, Navy, Air Force, State Department, FBI, and the CIA. Orders went out to arrange the presentation for April 27<sup>th</sup>, two days before the Shallet article was to appear. (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

The same day (April 27<sup>th</sup>) the Air Force's Director of Intelligence, General Cabell, planned to meet with the USAF Deputy Chief of Staff and his staff to explain the situation.

The Top Secret "Analysis of Flying Object Incidents in the United States" (AIDS 203) now proved useful. Lacking any significant ET speculations, which the SIGN people had arrived at by the process of *reductio ad absurdum*, AIDS 203 was just the document to offset Shallet's suggestions that the UFO problem could be dismissed out of hand, even as a possible Russian threat or a domestic black project, which is known in Pentagon argot as a "Special Access Program."

The December 1948 approved document was dusted off and a new date slapped on: "28 April 1949." The date change was a curious bit of deception since AIDS 203 was not meant for civilian eyes.

The Air Force didn't have an answer to the UFO mystery. It only had a "position" to state, which required carefully chosen words carefully arranged.

12 April. General Cabell meets with Dr. von Karman.

According to an Air Force memo:

"On 12 Apr 49, the Director of Intelligence conferred with Dr. von Karman. The 'green fireball' matter was discussed including the action to be taken by Dr. Kaplan. Dr. von Karman felt that it was a matter for scientific investigation

under upper atmosphere research but indicated that the results of Dr. Kaplan's interviews would indicate what action would be appropriate by the Director of Intelligence." (xx.)

(xx.) Memorandum for Record. AFOAI-DA Maj. Boggs/at/5867 Wrtn 28 Jun 49  
Coordination: Colonel Allen, AFOAI, Extension 5853. Files. Record Group  
341. Director of Intelligence, HQ USAF. Decimal File 000.9. Copy in  
Author's files.

17 April. Fourth Army Camp Hood Report. (See page 43)

18 April. Green fireball over "Frisco" Peaks. (See page 44)

18 April. Fourth Army Camp Hood Report. (See page 45)

18 April. Order to prepare JIC paper received and a Major Gamber assigned responsibility.

20 April. AIDS 305 reviewed and information revised and brought up to date. (See memo on pages 46-47)

21 April. A special "Memorandum to the Press" titled "Project 'SAUCER'" was prepared and submitted to the Director of Public Relations, Stephen F. Leo, for his approval. (The initial title of the material was "The Flying Saucer Story." (See page 48)

23 April. General Cabell has to make some changes. (See page 49) Time is getting short.

24 April. El Cajon, California. (1:15 p.m.)

UFOs flying in formation. (See clipping on page 50)

24 April. New Mexico Charles Moore UFO report.

This was an impressive case because of the conditions surrounding the observation and the quality of the witnesses. Fortunately for the military it did not receive publicity immediately. It was fortunate because it would have surely complicated all the public relation activity being rushed to completion at that time. In fact, no one in authority ever approached Moore about the sighting. Moore took it on himself to visit an Air Force Intelligence office at Holloman in April (BLUE BOOK records give the date of his report as April 27, 1949) and volunteered all the details to an "opened-mouthed untrained" OSI agent (Moore's description). Moore wrote Keyhoe:

"I am inclined to believe that the reason I was not interrogated was that some responsible agency in the Government knew all that was significant about our observations, that some responsible agency was aware of the actual object and therefore our limited observations added nothing in which they were interested." (xx.)

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 SUMMARY OF INFORMATION
 

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Date: 25 April 1949

Preparing Office

Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Subject:

UNUSUAL PHENOMENON

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 Summary of Information
 

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The following information was received in this office 23 April 1949:

On 17 April 1949 between 2005 and 2030 hours, the following named personnel of Company "D", 82nd Reconnaissance Battalion, 2d Armored Division, Camp Hood, Texas, who were members of the Alert Force reported the presence of between 40 to 50 Unusual Phenomenon. These men, Sgt Ress Mills, ASN ERC 7023250, Corporal Joseph Morgel, RA 17154460, Pvt Cleo LaCroix, US 57448033, Pvt Marvin Elrod, US 57430842, Pfc William Johnson, UC 57200227, and Pvt Roger Troutman, US 57543081 all stated that they saw objects which appeared to them as being some type of flare. All stated substantially as follows; they did not notice the flares until they were in the air, they traveled at a very slow rate of speed, but did not appear to be parachute flares. Previous statements by these men led the reporting officer to believe that these flares left a red streak behind them as they went up. On further questioning it was ascertained that none of these men actually saw these objects leave the ground. The location at the time of sighting was (910.5362.0). Due to the darkness none of the informants were able to make a statement as to the approximate location where the flares were seen. Readings taken by a compass gave an azimuth of 325degrees. It was estimated that they were between four and six miles from their position.

After the report of the flares were given to the Alert Force Commander, he went personally to the general area to attempt to ascertain if he could find any or persons who might have been the cause of these flares being shot into the air. Informants described the flares as being white in color; there were no red or color flares reported.

Representatives of Killeen Base, and Mr. Lee Golden, FBI, Waco, Texas. Any presence of these unidentified phenomenon will be reported.

It was further ascertained that members of the 48th Armored Medical Battalion located in the vicinity of (909.2-863.7) during the period these unidentified phenomenon were reported by the Alert Force. Investigation revealed that these personnel did not see anything unusual. Further investigation revealed the 92nd Field Artillery Battalion was located in the vicinity of (911.2-372.5) and its personnel failed to notice any unusual phenomenon. Neither of these units had in their possession any flares. Further investigation revealed that there were no units on this post has of recent drawn any large amount of flares. Attached hereto is position of Alert Force observers. Disregard position (906.9-863.3) overlay.

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 RI, Santex, ONO, Santex: OSI (10th), Kelly AFB, AMC, Wright Patterson AFB;
   
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"The Home Evening Newspaper of Northern Arizona"

# ARIZONA DAILY SUN

Published Every Evening Except Saturday and Sunday

Monday, April 18, 1919

Price 5c

FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA

Phone 21

Vol. 3—No. 183

## Large Fireball— Seen In North

### Seemed To Be Over 'Frisco Peaks Traveling Toward The Northwest

A large green "fire-ball" or meteorite was sighted going in a northwesterly direction high above the San Francisco peaks at 1:18 a. m. today, according to George D. Thompson, assistant at the American Meteorite Museum.

The museum is 40 miles east of Flagstaff on Highway 66.

"It was the biggest and brightest I have ever seen," Thompson said. "It woke me up. It cast shadows all through the museum and lit up the entire area."

He asks other persons who may have witnessed it to contact the museum and report the direction from which it came, where it went, and other data, so that a search may be started for the meteorite or fragments of it.

Persons at Garnd Canyon, Williams, Gray Mountain, Tuba City, Cameron and Flagstaff are most apt to have seen it, Thompson said.

APR 18 1919  
24-5

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**SUMMARY OF INFORMATION**Date: 19 April 1949

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Preparing Office

Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

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Subject:

"Aerial Phenomena"  
452.1 AKADB

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**Summary of Information**

Beginning at 2005 hours, 18 April 1949, and ending at 2030 hours on the same date, 50 flare-like bursts were seen by 2nd Armored Division security observers at Camp Hood, Texas. The bursts formed white clusters and are believed to have been flares. The bursts were in groups of 8 to 10 during the 25-minute period. There were 6 observers located at 910.5 - 862.0. Magnetic azimuth of the center of the burst pattern was measured and found to be 325°. Estimated distance from observers was between two and six miles. All units and supply points have been checked. No ammunition or pyrotechnical devices were fired or issued. Neither security personnel of Site Baker or personnel of any other unit of the 2nd Armored Division observation team have reported this sighting; however, at about 0300 hours, 19 April 1949, the 92nd FA Bn, from a position in the vicinity of CR 257, reported what appeared to be "arcing lights" northwest of them in the vicinity of Antelope Mountains. Antelope Mountain is in the same general direction as the "clusters" seen by the 2nd Armored Division on 18 April.

Nothing further is present known. FBI at Waco and San Antonio have been notified. Full written report of incident by AC of S, G-2 will follow.

(B-2)

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**Distribution**

C/s, Hq Fourth Army; DI, GS, USA; CG, AMC, Dayton, Ohio; FBI, Santex; OSI Kirtland AFB, ONI, Santex; OSI, Kelly AFB, File

WD AGO FORM 568

A COPY 

**TOP SECRET**

DAFCAI-AE  
 MajGamber/mrp/72230  
 w/20 Apr 49

2-7051-A  
 7

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORDPROBLEM:

1. To prepare a JIC paper summarizing the Air Force findings on unidentified aerial objects and to set forth the organization for further investigation and solution of the problem.

FACTS AND DISCUSSION:

2. Cover sheet directing the preparation of a JIC paper on above subject was initiated by Gen. Cabell on 12 April. Project received in Study and Analysis Section of Air Estimates Branch on 18 April and assigned to Major Gamber for completion by 20 April.

3. A study of the discussion and conclusions of Air Intelligence Division Study No. 203, "Analysis of Flying Object Incidents in the United States" was made. Information was revised where necessary, brought up to date and summarized in the attached proposal for a JIC paper.

CONCLUSIONS:

4. The following conclusions are drawn from the discussion of the subject:

a. The majority of reported incidents are reliable to the extent that they have involved the sighting of some object or light phenomenon.

b. In spite of the lack of accurate data provided by witnesses, the majority of reported incidents have been caused by mis-identification of weather balloons, high altitude balloons with lights and/or electronic equipment, meteors, bolides, and the planet Venus. X

c. There are numerous reports from reliable and competent observers for which a conclusive explanation has not been made. Some of these involve descriptions which would place them in the category of new manifestations of probable natural phenomena but others involve configurations and described performance which might conceivably represent an advanced aerodynamical development. A few unexplained incidents surpass these limits of credibility.

d. It is unlikely that a foreign power would expose a superior aerial weapon by a prolonged ineffectual penetration of the United States.

**TOP SECRET**

DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority *NND 813055*  
 By *K.C.* NARA Date *7/21/97*

16

**TOP SECRET**

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

5. Signature of the Director of Intelligence, USAF, and forwarding to JIC for comments.

Coordination:

- Col. F. P. Sturdivant, AFOAI, Ext 5988
- Col. B. E. Allen, AFOAI-AE, Ext 6043 *[Handwritten initials]*
- Col. L. S. Harris, AFOAI-AE, Ext 71016 *[Handwritten initials]*
- Maj. K. S. Gamber, AFOAI-AE, Ext 72230 *[Handwritten initials]*

**TOP SECRET**

**SECRET**

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Intelligence, DCS/Operations

THROUGH: ~~Assistant Vice Chief of Staff~~ *Smith*

SUBJECT: "Flying Saucer" Story

1. Your comments on the releasability of the attached Flying Saucer story are requested.

2. The information contained therein is very similar to that which was made available to Sid Shallett for publication in Saturday Evening Post.

3. Mr. Shallett's article is in two parts and will begin on April 30, 1949.

4. It is requested that this office be notified by Friday, 22 April 1949, so that proper preparation might be made to release the story at the same time Mr. Shallett's story will appear.

STEPHEN F. LEO  
Director of Public Relations

Incl:  
Subj story

**SECRET**

COVER SHEET

a. RECORD OF BASIC CORRESPONDENCE OR REQUEST		b. CLASSIFICATION:	
FROM: Stephen F. Leo SPR	DATE: 21 Apr 49	<b>SECRET</b>	
	TYPE: Memo		
SUMMARY:  "FLYING SAUCER" STORY		<u>SUSPENSE</u> DATE 21 Apr 49 ASGD BY _____ NO. CSS 3293	
DATE RECEIVED DIR/INT 21 Apr 49 <i>mm</i>			

c. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS - REMARKS

DATE 23 April

Suspense CSS 3293 OAI - See my attached redraft. If you still disagree with that, please advise me.

Date 21 APR 49

*CPC*

(Use other side this sheet for additional remarks)

TO DOWN	BR.	TO UP	TO DOWN	DIV.	TO UP	TO DOWN	DIR/INT	TO UP
_____	OIP-PP	_____	_____	AFOIP	_____	<i>ASST</i>	ASST EXEC	_____
_____	OIP-FL	_____	_____		_____	<i>21 APR</i>		_____
_____	OIP-SP	_____	_____		_____		ASST EXEC	<i>22 Apr</i>
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Action  
 Coordination

**OUT**  
25 APR 1949  
DIR/INT  
HQ USAF

*228*

e. DATE REC'D BR _____	f. DISPATCH <i>✓</i> <i>mm</i> FILE _____
ACTION ASGD T _____	DISPATCHED BY <i>Coy</i> TO _____
SIGNED _____	DATE DISPATCHED _____

# El Cajon Sees Disks Flying in Formation

APRIL 24, 1949 By LLOYD H. WILKINS

Four "flying disks," traveling in a tight, boxlike formation, streaked across El Cajon Valley at 1:15 yesterday afternoon and opened speculation that they may be a new type aerial target for air gunners from Muroc Airbase, in the Mojave Desert.

The disks, watched for as long as 15 minutes by some residents of an El Cajon trailer court, were described as silvery, lightning fast and, in the distance, about as big as large dinner plates.

## TARGETS BEING TESTED

It is known, however, that the Air Force has been experimenting with saucer targets answering the general description of the disks. The aerial targets, designed to replace towed sleevecones, presumably are rocket powered and controlled by radio.

Among 12 persons spotting the objects from a trailer court at 460 Chambers St., El Cajon, were James R. Bennett, former Air Force fighter pilot, and Dale Griswold, retired Air Force lieutenant colonel and a flier 17 years.

"I was watching a plane take off from Gillespie Field when I spotted them," Bennett said.

## FOUR IN FORMATION

"There were four in a flat formation, coming like a bat out of Hades across the ridge." (The ridge was the east one of El Cajon Valley, about 8 miles from Bennett.)

"They flew south in the Valley at about 2000 feet," Bennett said. "They were in a perfect box formation, never varying from the formation even when they banked. I'd say they were about 3 miles away from me at the closest point."

Bennett said the objects, considering the distance, must have been 30 feet each in diameter and were of a bright, silvery color. "They flashed and the sun glistened on them like it would on a mirror when they banked," Bennett said. "Then they'd flatten out, become a thin, black line and go like a bullet."

Bennett called his wife, Barbara, when he first saw the disks, and within a few minutes a dozen residents of the court had witnessed the objects.

Griswold, commander of the California State Guard in the eastern section of the County during World War II, admitted he previously had been dubious about "flying disk" stories. But yesterday's performance convinced him.

"I watched them for about 3 minutes," he said. "They must have been connected in some way, or all controlled by the same radio wave, to stay in perfect formation through such maneuvers."

## FAIRLY EVEN COURSE

Mrs. Bennett said the disks at times darted suddenly, as a kid might do, but maintained a fairly even course down the valley except for occasional banks.

Then, she said, they appeared to hang momentarily in the air before leveling and shooting off at high speed. The formation finally disappeared to the south of the Valley.

Bennett estimated top speed of the objects at "1000 miles an hour," but admitted it was only a guess. Both he and Griswold pointed out that the disks, highly reflective, would be misleading in size when seen from a distance.

## NOT SEEN BY FLIERS

Several pilots in the surrounding area at the time the disks were seen, but Gillespie Field personnel said none of the pilots had reported spotting the objects.

The targets reported being tested by the Air Force at Muroc are circular, semi-flat disks ranging up to 3 feet or more in diameter, according to reports. They are silvered and reportedly have reached up to 200 miles an hour. It is not known, however, whether radio control has been so perfected as to allow them to fly in close formation.

(xx.) "C.B. Moore File: Flying Saucers & Unidentified Objects Reports 1952-53."  
Draft of Letter to Donald Keyhoe from Charles Moore. Copy in author's files.

Furthermore, Moore comments:

"What I am trying to say is that the object was not phenomenal except its rate of travel, but that we did see an object...I personally feel that, while we did not see anything spectacular, the fact that we cannot identify it and since we were working in conjunction with Army and Navy blockhouses at WSPG [White Sands Proving Grounds] who were surprised and keenly anxious to get data from our observations, we feel that there was nothing going on at the Proving Ground that Sunday, which would explain the object we saw." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

Commander R.B. McLaughlin's later story about this UFO sighting, that made a such big splash when it was published, irked Moore who denounced the Navy officer's version of events as "not based on any facts, and containing irresponsible conclusions, assertions, and unscientific claims." (xx.) McLaughlin, in charge of the Navy unit at the Proving Grounds, calculated

(xx.) Ibid.

that the object Moore observed had traveled in front of a mountain range, was 40 x 100 feet in size, and reached an altitude of almost 300,000 feet while speeding along at 7 miles per second.

"Tangential" meteor?

Barry Greenwood discussed the incident with Moore and suggested a possible answer to the mystery. Greenwood believed that the object may have been an atmosphere-skimming, or what is called "tangential," meteor. Such space visitors are rare but they should be considered a legitimate possibility, according to Greenwood. Nothing Moore reported could eliminate the possibility. (xx.)

(xx.) Greenwood, Barry. "Retrospective: The 1949 General Mills Incident." *Just Cause*. Number 46. December 1995. pp.1-5. Greenwood's sources: Air Force technical report (4362-7, Vol. 2) This report discusses the spectacular August 10, 1972 meteor That passed over Salt Lake City. Also: Povenmire, Harold. *Fireballs, Meteors and Meteorites*. (JSB, 1980). Also: Jacchia, Luigi. "A Meteorite that Missed the Earth." *Sky and Telescope*. July 1974.

25 April. A request to confer with project GRUDGE at Wright Field and to have conferences. (See Staff Message on page 52)

25 April. General Cabell approves the "Flying Saucer Story." (See memo on page 54)

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

DECLASSIFIED  
Authority NND 923007  
By JWF NARA Date 7/20/97

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION  
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

*file*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

FROM: KIRTLAND AFB, NEW MEXICO.  
TO : CHIEF OF STAFF USAF, WASHINGTON, DC. ATTN: DIRECTOR OSI  
NR : OSI-4-26C 27 APRIL 1949

Reurtel AFCSI 53773 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Re our TWX 4-23-C dated 25 April 1949, request for authority for representative this Headquarters to visit AMC Headquarters concerning conference with Col. Clingerman on unknown aerial phenomena. Disregard same. Conference this date at Kirtland AFB with Dr. Joseph Kaplan of scientific advisory board USAF. Kaplan here at request of General Cabot to determine advisability of scientific investigation of subject. Complete report following.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIR, KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF  
BY Historian  
1891 , 8 DEC 1975  
DATE

OSI SECURITY 28 APR 1949  
IN SECURITY 28 APR 1949  
IN SECURITY 28 APR 1949  
IN SECURITY 28 APR 1949

*File*  
*KAT*

ACTION COPY  
27/115-138  
APR 28 9 20 AM '49

ACTION: CSI  
INFO : NONE

CAP IN 2370 (27 April 1949) DTG

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
DECLASSIFIED

While Cabell claims the release of the "Flying Saucer Story" was for the benefit of writers other than Shallet who wanted UFO information (for which he saw no grounds for denial), an unspoken fact is that the "Flying Saucer Story" was a clever way of achieving his desire of controlling what the Fourth Estate was told. There would be no more writers visiting Wright Field asking embarrassing questions. "Everything" a writer "needed to know," the "whole story," was in the prepared document. (Cabell didn't count on someone like Donald Keyhoe who would have his own excellent sources)

27 April. Memorandum to the Press released titled "Project 'Saucer,'" also called "Digest of Preliminary Studies." (See front cover on page 55)

27 April. Brief news releases appear in the nation's newspapers.

The Air Force's true "position," as opposed to the impression given in Shallet's article in the *Post*, is made plain. The Air Force seeks a balance view by stating: "The 'saucers' are not jokes. Neither are they a cause for alarm to the population." (See sample clippings on page 56)

27 April. "Air Brief - Special Study."

The Air Force also felt it necessary to present a paper to the DCS/O Staff meeting to clear up rumors (Walter Winchell generated) circulating in the media about devices from Russia. (See pages 57-58)

27 April A request to involve AMC Wright Field (Project GRUDGE).

Concern about the "strange lights" seen in the U.S. Southwest was so strong authorities at Kirtland wanted to confer with the UFO project at Wright Field. A request was made on April 25<sup>th</sup>, but when it was learned Dr. Kaplan was to visit New Mexico on the 27<sup>th</sup> with the expressed purpose of looking into the matter, the request was withdrawn. The request was a waste of time anyway since Hq USAF considered the involvement of GRUDGE to be premature. (See page 59)

27 April. Dr. Kaplan investigates. He finds the "luminous aerial phenomena" a mystery of "extreme importance" and "related to the National Defense of the United States." (See pages 60-63)

27 April. Report to the Joint Committee on Intelligence (JIC) by the Air Force Director of Intelligence.

The report to the JIC on the 27<sup>th</sup>, with an appendix that contained a summary of Air Force investigative activity up to that date, states in a simplified manner the UFO problem. It is quite similar to the "Air Brief - Special Study" paper submitted to the DCS/O Staff the same day.

UFO researcher Jan Aldrich feels the JIC document had the "seeds of the later Project Grudge Report," and that it marked a major shift from much of what was said in the "Analysis," or Air Intelligence Division Study No. 203 (AIDS 203) (xx.)

SECRET

Flying Saucer Story

Director of Public Relations, OSAP

25 APR 1949

Director of Intelligence, DCS/O

0009 Flying Saucer

1. In view of the facility given to Mr. Shallet in the preparation of his Saturday Evening Post article, the Director of Intelligence can see no grounds for denial of a similar facility to other correspondents. Although Mr. Shallet was urged not to attempt his article, he elected to continue. Presumably others also will be so inclined.

2. Since the attached article includes essentially the same material made available to Mr. Shallet, there do not appear to be any grounds for denying this material to others, similarly interested and equally responsible. On the other hand, it is certain that the release of this article on any broad basis would result in a flurry of "crank" reports and a consequent flooding of our investigative resources. The end result would be a disservice to our effectiveness in eliminating the presently remaining question marks. Our efforts must be based upon reports by other than "cranks" who will make their reports without the spur of widespread press speculations.

3. The Director of Intelligence does not consider himself the most competent one to judge the effect that this release would have as a result of intrusions into the privacy and rights of individuals mentioned in the files.

4. In conclusion then, the Director of Intelligence does not object to the eventual release of all the information contained in the attached article. It is strongly urged however that the release be metered in such a way as to reduce its use on a broad scale. As one way to accomplish this aim, it is suggested that the material of this article be made available for study, within the Public Relations Office, by such correspondents who care to study it there, but that it not be issued as a prepared release. It is recommended that minor changes and/or deletions indicated on pages 44, 46, 47, 48, and 50 be accomplished.

FILE COPY DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

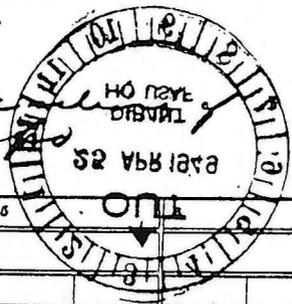
1 Incl

Memo for AFOIN, 21 Apr, subj as abv, w/incl

W. H. ... General, USAF Director of Intelligence

unorig

✓ 000.76 General  
✓ 1015 Shallet  
✓ 350.012 Police



OFFICE SYMBOL	1 AFOA1	2 AFOIN	3	4	5
SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>			
INTERNAL OFFICE COORDINATION	<i>[Signature]</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>			

SECRET

NATIONAL MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION  
Washington 25, D. C.

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESS;

NO, M 26 - 49

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 27, 1949

RE 6700 Ext, 3201

The following report is a digest of preliminary studies made by the Air Materiel Command, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio on "Flying Saucers."

PROJECT "SAUCER"

RETD JUL - 6 1966  
2 SC

On Tuesday, June 24, 1947, a Boise, Idaho businessman named Kenneth Arnold looked from his private plane and spotted a chain of nine saucer-like objects playing tag with the jagged peaks of Washington's Mt. Ranier at what he described as a "fantastic speed."

Arnold's report set off a veritable celestial chain reaction. And within a few days, the fabulous "flying saucers" had spun into the national spotlight. Observers reported sighting flying "chromium hub caps," flying "dimes," flying "tear drops," flying "gas lights," flying "ice cream cones," and flying "pie plates."

But to military intelligence, this sky potpourri came under a single heading -- that of "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena." Exhaustive investigations of each reported sighting were launched. And Project "Saucer" was born.

Now, almost two years later, Project "Saucer" is neither gone nor forgotten so far as the U. S. Air Force's Air Materiel Command at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, is concerned.

The New York Times  
APRIL 27, 1949  
P. 29

4-28-1949 Journal-Every Evening, Wilmington, Del

# Standard Questionnaire Used If You Sight 'Flying Saucers'

## Air Force Says Every Case Is Carefully Checked And While 60 Per Cent Have Been Cleared Normally Others Still Have Question Marks

WASHINGTON, April 28 (AP)—If you think you've seen a flying saucer, the Air Force has a standard questionnaire for you to fill out. It is part of "Project Saucer," the two-year-old search of the technical intelligence division into the sources of the stories that have spread about the country as swiftly as the rumored flying discs.

The Air Force, in a 9,500-word "Digest of Preliminary Studies," says it has found normal answers for about 60 per cent of the 270 cases it has investigated. But it has left a question mark behind the other 40 per cent.

Some of these latter cases involve reported sightings by experienced airmen. One National Guard pilot died because he pursued something too high and, running out of oxygen, suffocated and crashed.

### Workings Explained

Saying that the inquiry — begun after the first reported sighting of a flying saucer in the summer of 1947 — is "neither gone nor forgotten," the Air Force report says this is how the individual inquiries work:

"When an incident comes to the attention of 'Project Saucer' personnel, it is first investigated by existing intelligence agencies in the vicinity of the sighting — usually from a nearby Air Force base, the FBI or the local police. In some cases, personnel from the Air Materiel Command's technical intelligence division fly to the scene themselves for on-the-spot interrogation.

"A standard questionnaire is filled out by the observer under the guidance of interrogators and any supplementary information available is gleaned by the investigators.

"Standard questions are stated simply and phrased so that they may be answered with reasonable accuracy by the most inexperienced observers. In each case, time, location, size and shape of object, approximate altitude, speed, color, maneuvers, length of time in sight, sound, etc., are carefully noted.

### Headquarters Get Data

"This information is sent in its entirety, together with any fragments, soil specimens, photographs, drawings, etc., pertinent to the incident, to headquarters, AMC. Here, highly trained evaluation teams take over. The information is broken down and filed on summary sheets, plotted on maps and graphs and integrated with the rest of the project material, thus giving an easily comprehended over-all picture of Project Saucer."

The report dismissed the possibilities of atomic powered flying saucers, visitors from other planets and space ships.

The number of saucer observers is dropping off sharply, it seems. From a high peak in July, 1947, the reports coming in have reached a current low level of about 12 a month.

# FLYING SAUCERS HELD 'NO JOKE' TO AIR FORCE

DAYTON, Ohio, April 28 (AP)—The Dayton Journal-Herald said tonight that the Air Force, after an extensive investigation, had decided that flying saucers "are not a joke."

The paper stated that its story was based on a report in the files of Wright-Patterson Air Force base here. The report stresses that the flying saucers are not "a cause for alarm to the population," the paper added.

The Air Force, it was learned, still is receiving about twelve reports a month from persons who say they have sighted flying discs. The technical intelligence section of the Air Materiel Command is continuing the investigation.

So far, the Journal-Herald asserted, 240 domestic and thirty foreign reports of flying saucers had been probed.

Intelligence section officers declared that 30 per cent of the reports had been traced to conventional aerial objects, such as weather and cosmic ray research balloons. Commonplace answers are expected to be found for another 30 per cent. But 40 per cent remain a mystery.

Toledo (Ch) Times  
Apr 28 1949

# No Cause Seen For Alarming Nation

## 60% Of 270 Reports Explained, Rest Mystery; 3 Deaths Blamed On Probes; Martians Discounted

WASHINGTON, April 27, 1949—Flying saucers can't yet be stacked neatly away in the cupboard of the commonplace.

The Air Force admitted so today, although it said that reasonable explanations have been worked out for many of the "saucer" phenomena reported in the last couple of years.

It has checked 240 reports from widespread sections of the United States and 30 from overseas, with the following conclusions:

Thirty per cent were "conventional aerial objects," such as birds and balloons.

Thirty per cent were "astronomical phenomena" such as meteorites.

Forty per cent were—???????

Explanation Given  
"The 'saucers' are not jokes," the Air Force said.

"Neither are they a cause for alarm to the population. Many of the incidents already have answers—meteors, balloons, falling stars, birds in flight, testing devices, etc.

The investigations, begun by intelligence officers at Wright-Patterson Field, O., is continuing.

In discounting the possibility that the earth was a sightseeing attraction for beings from another planet, they reasoned that it is difficult to believe that "any technically established race would come here, flaunt its ability in mysterious ways over the years, but each time simply go away without establishing contact."

factory:  
Three of the planes closed in on the object and reported it to be metallic and of tremendous size. One pilot described it as "round like a tear drop, and at times almost fluid." The flight leader, Capt. Thomas E. Mantell, contacted the Godman tower with an initial report that the object was traveling at half his speed directly in front of him at his altitude.

### Going At 300 MPH

"It's going up now and forward as fast as I am, that's 360 miles per hour," Captain Mantell recorded from his F-51. "I'm going up to 20,000 feet and if I'm no closer I'll abandon the chase."

"That was the last radio contact made by Mantell with the Godman tower.

"Later that day his body was found in the wreckage of his plane near Fort Knox.

"Subsequent investigations revealed that Mantell had probably blacked out at 20,000 feet from lack of oxygen and had died of suffocation before the crash.

"The mysterious object which the pilot chased to his death was first identified as the planet Venus. However, further proings showed the elevation and azimuth readings of Venus and the object at specified time intervals did not coincide.

"It is still considered 'unidentified.'"

Then, as the Air Force told the

*Shelley*  
*10/2*

SECRET

SECRET  
Auth by CS, USAF

PART TWO

*Eay*  
27 Apr 1949

AIR BRIEF - SPECIAL STUDY

000.9

Flying Discs

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

During the past six months very few reports have appeared in the press on the subject of flying saucers. However, recent allegations on the radio and in the press that the saucers are actually Soviet guided missiles find no real support in the continuing, exhaustive investigations and analyses which have been conducted as project "Grudge" (formerly project "Sign") by the USAF Air Materiel Command. Realistic treatments of the subject will appear this week in the Saturday Evening Post.

A total of 294 incidents involving unidentified aerial objects have been recorded. The majority of these are domestic observations but there are many reports from foreign sources. Data on unidentified aerial objects places them in several distinct groups; disc, spherical, elliptical, or cylindrical shaped objects, winged objects, and light phenomena. The extreme lack of accurate observed details and the unpredictable occurrence of incidents have made positive identification difficult. However, extensive checks by field investigators, project personnel and such agencies as Air Weather Service and the Rand Corporation in addition to the study of incidents by specialists such as Dr. G. E. Valley (USAF Scientific Advisory Board) and Dr. Hynek, Ohio State University astro-physicist, point to the following conclusions:

1. The majority of reported incidents are reliable to the extent that they have involved actual sighting of some object or light phenomena.
2. The majority of reported incidents have been caused by mis-identification of weather balloons, high altitude balloons with lights or electronic equipment, meteors, bollides, and celestial bodies.
3. There are numerous reports from reliable and competent observers for which a conclusive explanation has not been possible. Some of these involve descriptions which would place them in the category of new manifestations of probable natural phenomena, but others involve configurations and described performance which might conceivably represent an advanced aerodynamical development. A few unexplained incidents surpass these limits of credibility.

Representative of an unexplained incident which has credible features, but which has defied definite proof or denial, was the sighting by two

This paper was presented to the DCS/O Staff Meeting on 27 April.

SECRET

**SECRET**

Eastern Air Lines pilots in the air near Montgomery, Alabama, of an object resembling a V-2 in horizontal flight. While the cigar or torpedo-shaped body represents an efficient form for the fuselage of an airplane or of a guided missile, it has not been used as a primary lift-producing surface. It is estimated, however, that a fuselage of the dimensions reported by the Eastern Air Lines pilots, could support a load comparable to the weight of an aircraft of this size at speeds in the subsonic range. Although the craft sighted by these pilots was reported to be without wings and fins, it is possible that such a craft could be equipped with extensible wings for take-off and landing. The propulsion system of this type of vehicle would appear to be by jet or rocket, and the specific fuel consumption of such engines for this type craft would be rather high. This, coupled with the fact that aerodynamic lift on such a body would be accompanied by high drag, places a serious limitation on the range of this type of craft for any particular gross weight. If this type of unidentified aerial object has extremely long range, a method of propulsion far in advance of presently known engines would be required. It is believed unlikely that this and similar unexplained incidents represent a foreign craft. It seems improbable that a foreign power would expose any superior aerial weapon by a prolonged ineffectual penetration of the United States, and there is no basis on which to speculate that advanced civilizations exist outside the earth and are responsible for any such activity.

Recently, the repeated occurrence of green fireball phenomena in New Mexico was given special attention by Dr. Joseph Kaplan, Member of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board. This phenomena has caused considerable concern on the part of Hq. Fourth Army, and has occupied the interests of Dr. Lincoln LaPaz of the University of New Mexico. Dr. LaPaz believes that the phenomena are not meteorites. Because of Dr. LaPaz' outstanding ability for accurate observation and his experience in identification of meteoric phenomena, Dr. Kaplan expressed the belief that the green fireball phenomena should be further investigated. Dr. Kaplan's views were discussed with Dr. Theodore von Karman, Chairman of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board, who feels that the problem might belong more properly in the field of upper atmosphere research than the field of intelligence.

Investigations continue in an effort to find definite explanations for the many unidentified aerial objects which have been reported during the past two years.

**SECRET**

[REDACTED]

Priority

Hq USAF  
AFCSI

72231

27 Apr 49

Maj HJ Fellner

XX

District Commander, 17th OSI District, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico

From AFCSI reur OSI 4-23-C dated 25 Apr 49

5-3967

Authority for conference at this stage disapproved. ~~as proposal considered~~  
~~premature.~~ Meanwhile, you are requested to continue transmitting reports  
on unidentified serial objects to Air Materiel Comd in accordance with Air  
Intelligence Requirements Memorandum No. 4, 15 Feb 49. Copies of prescribed  
AMC guide supplementing this Memo are being transmitted to you.

Apr 27 20 18 149  
File of Gordon

OSI 4-23-C in GAF-IN 2719, 26 Apr 49

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY	
BY [Signature] KUNZE Capt. USAF	
DATE	3 DEC 1975
WILLIAM M. TURNER, Lt. Colonel, USAF	

AUG 10 1945

OFFICE SYMBOL	1.	2. AF OAT-DA	3.	4. JUN 18 1945	5.
GRADE AND SURNAME OF COORDINATING OFFICERS	[Signature]	[Signature]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

OSI files

CSI

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF  
17TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

DR/MEN/web

File No: 24-8

12 May 1949

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena), *Review of file*

TO: Director of Special Investigations  
Office of The Inspector General USAF  
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to TWX from this district, OSI 4-26-C, dated 27 April 1949, pertaining to file number 24-8 of this district.

2. On 27 and 28 April 1949, Dr Joseph Kaplan, University of California, Member of the Scientific Advisory Board, USAF, visited this district office and other Governmental and military installations in the area. The purpose of this visit was to review the reports of investigation and the circumstances surrounding the unidentified aerial phenomena that have been observed in this area during the last five months and to thereby make recommendations as to the advisability of making a scientific investigation of these occurrences. The investigation of Dr Kaplan was conducted under orders transmitted to him by Dr Theodore Von Karman, Secretary of the Scientific Advisory Board, USAF.

3. Dr Joseph Kaplan, accompanied by Lt Col Doyle Rees and Captain Melvin E. Neef, of this office, and Dr Lincoln LaPaz, Institute of Meteoritics, University of New Mexico, visited Sandia Base, New Mexico, and Los Alamos, New Mexico.

4. Present at the conference at Sandia Base on the morning of 27 April 1949 were:

- Lt Col Herbert L. Crisler, Armed Forces Special Weapons Project
- Lt Col Fredrick J. Clark, Armed Forces Special Weapons Project
- Mr Matthew J. Doyle, Armed Forces Special Weapons Project
- Comdr R. E. Mandelkorn, Armed Forces Special Weapons Project
- Dr Joseph Kaplan
- Dr Lincoln LaPaz
- Lt Col Doyle Rees
- Captain Melvin E. Neef

UNCLASSIFIED  
 BY: KURT K. RUSSELL, Historian  
 DATE: 13 DEC 1975  
 OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION  
 8 57 AM '49

24-185-89

R# 44488

[REDACTED]

BASIC: Letter, Hq 17th District OSI (IG) USAF, dated 12 May 1949  
file number 24-8, subject, "UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena)"

a. At this conference Dr Kaplan reviewed developments of interest in the aerial phenomena on the part of the Scientific Advisory Board, following his report to Dr Von Karman concerning information given him early in February by Dr LaPaz, Lt Col Doyle Rees, Major William H. Godsoe, Fourth Army Intelligence Liaison, Sandia Base, and Captain Melvin E. Neef. Additional evidence, concerning not only specific incidents, but relating to the very intense interest felt in the aerial phenomena in the area covered by the represented agencies, was then given by Lt Col Crisler, Lt Col Rees, Commander Mandelkorn and Captain Neef. At the conclusion of the testimony given by the individuals listed above, Dr Kaplan stated that it was his intention, on the basis of the information so far made available to him, to recommend that a full scale scientific investigation of the aerial phenomena be undertaken as a project set up at the Institute of Meteoritics of the University of New Mexico, The Institute to receive full cooperation from other interested agencies in the area. Dr Kaplan stressed that this project was to be separated completely from Project "Grudge" (old Project "Sign").

b. Dr LaPaz outlined the program to be undertaken in the event the project suggested by Dr Kaplan was approved by the Scientific Advisory Board. Dr LaPaz separated the problem into two parts: first, the collection of observation data; and second, the evaluation of such data.

- (1) Collection of Data: Under this heading Dr LaPaz recommended that attempts be made to secure systematic visual, photographic, spectographic and radar observations of the aerial phenomena occurring in the vicinity of at least the following three centers: first, the Atomic Energy Commission installation at Los Alamos, New Mexico; second, the Atomic Energy Commission installation at Sandia Base; and third, the USAF Guided Missile installation at Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, New Mexico. Lt Col Rees emphasized that provision should be made to secure systematic coverage at the Fourth Army installation at Camp Hood, Texas, where a number of incidents have occurred recently. Dr LaPaz also recommended that field searches be made after appropriate air reconnaissance, such searches to employ drag-magnets for the collection of any ferro-magnetic materials that may have been thrown down by the fireballs; meteor detectors in areas where larger, buried fragments were thought to be located and, if possible, systematic search of the earth's surface in well-determined strewn-fields by use of man power from

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BASIC: Letter, Hq 17th District OSI (IG) USAF, dated 12 May 1949, file number 24-8, subject, "UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena)"

military installations. Dr LaPaz also recommended that, in connection with air search, an attempt be made to collect fine dust and tiny spheres resulting from the volatilization of the fireballs, which conceivable require several days to fall down through the atmosphere to the earth after the appearance of a fireball. It was his recommendation that the collection of such dust be attempted by use of the collection techniques recently devised by Dr William Crozier of the New Mexico Proving Ground.

- (2) Evaluation of Data: In connection with the evaluation of the observational data secured and any material specimens that may be recovered, Dr LaPaz recommended that arrangements be made permitting Dr Edward Teller of the University of California Group at Los Alamos, Dr William Crozier of the New Mexico Proving Ground, Dr Kent and his ballistics staff at Aberdeen Proving Ground, and Professor Clyde Tombaugh and his associates at White Sands Proving Ground, to act as consultants for the project. At the conclusion of Dr LaPaz's remark, Commander Mandelkorn recommended that the staff of the Harvard College Observatory Meteor Program installation, near White Sands Proving Ground, also be made available for consultation purposes. Dr LaPaz agreed that this was desirable, but pointed out that it has been impossible to secure cooperation from Mr. Carroll of the Harvard College Observatory Group in the past. This point was confirmed by Captain Neef, and Commander Mandelkorn then volunteered to insure that in the future there would be no difficulty in securing cooperation from the HCO Meteor Staff.

5. On the afternoon of 27 April 1949, Dr Kaplan studied the files of the 17th District Office of Special Investigations as pertained to the occurrence of aerial phenomena, and was further briefed by Lt Col Rees, District Commander, Captain John J. Stahl, Jr, Deputy District Commander, Captain Neef, Supervisor of the Security Division, Special Agent Jack L. Boling and Dr LaPaz. No new recommendations arose as a result of this conference, but it was felt that the incidents studied rendered imperative initiation of such a systematic program of investigation as Dr Kaplan had proposed at the Sandia Base conference during the morning.

6. On 28 April 1949 Dr Kaplan, Dr LaPaz, Lt Col Rees and Captain Neef met at the Atomic Energy Commission installation, Los Alamos, New Mexico, with the following:

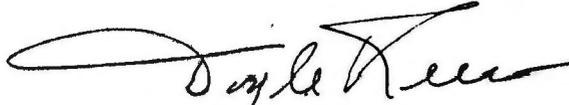
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BASIC: Letter, Hq 17th District OSI (IG) USAF, dated 12 May 1949,  
file number 24-8, subject, "UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena)"

Mr B. O. Wells, Director of Security  
Mr Sidney Newberger, of the Security Office  
Mr John A. Carroll, AEC Security Service  
Mr Earle D. Hightower, of the Security Office  
Mr Henry R. Hoyt, University of California  
Mr Abner Schreiber, AEC Security Service

This conference was held at the request of Dr Kaplan in order that he might ascertain the nature of the observations made by members of the Atomic Energy Commission and the AEC Security Service Inspectors at Los Alamos, and that he might personally determine the degree of concern felt by the Security and scientific personnel at the installation. Dr Kaplan personally interviewed a number of University of California personnel and AEC Security Service Inspectors, who had personally observed anomolous luminous aerial phenomena. No further recommendations were made at this conference. Dr Kaplan stated that he would immediately submit his report to Dr Von Karman, setting out his findings and make the recommendations set forth above.

7. Dr Kaplan expressed a great concern, as these occurrences relate to the National Defense of the United States. He advised that he felt that this was of extreme importance and should be investigated scientifically.



DOYLE REES  
Lt Col, USAF  
District Commander

- (xx.) Project 1947. FOIA UFO Documents – 1949. “New Top Secret Document Revealed. Report by the Director of Intelligence, USAF, to the Joint Intelligence Committee on Unidentified Aerial Objects.” By Jan L. Aldrich. E-Mail 5/18/98 7:54 PM. Copy in Author’s files.

The JIC presentation was important because the committee members included representatives from the Army, Navy, Air Force, State Department, FBI, and CIA.

The critical part, of course, is the conclusion that deals with unexplained sightings:

“There are numerous reports from reliable and competent observers for which a conclusive explanation has not been made. Some of these involve descriptions which would place them in the category of new manifestations of probable natural phenomena but others involve configurations and described performance which might conceivably represent an advanced aerodynamical development. A few unexplained incidents surpass these limits of credibility.

“It is unlikely that a foreign power would expose a superior aerial weapon by a prolonged ineffectual penetration of the United States.” (xx.)

- (xx.) Deputy Director of Intelligence, USAF. Records Group 341, Entry 214A, Top Secret Control #2-7051-A, National Archives II, College Park, Maryland. p.8. Jan Aldrich’s files.

2 May. Elko, Nevada. (10:15 a.m.)

Three objects in V-formation.

Mr. Marvin Small, Airplane Communicator, Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada, was interviewed by Special Agent Clyde Edwards and the following statement was obtained:

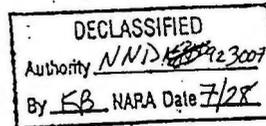
“At approximately 10:15 Pacific Standard Time on 2 May 1949 I was working on my car located in front of my house at 789 Carlin Court, Elko, Nevada. I glanced at the sky North of Elko and noticed three objects in an inverted vee formation proceeding in a south-westerly direction. The objects were approximately ¼ inch across to my naked eye; were roughly circular in shape and seemed to be made of metal with the appearance of oxidized aluminum. Based on my contact with aircraft at the Elko airport, I judged the objects to be flying about 5 miles from town at an altitude of 14,000 feet. On this basis they would be approximately 30 feet in diameter and traveling at a speed of 250 or 300 miles per hour. I could see no indication of exhaust, or vapor trails and heard no sound and there were no extensions or projections on the objects. I entered my house and returned with a pair of binoculars, but before I use them (the binoculars), the three objects seemed to veer left to a more southerly direction; all three tilted at an angle, in what seemed a precision movement and disappeared from my sight. The speed of the objects seemed to increase as they started to veer and upon tilting they seemed extremely thin and flat. I was unable to again locate the objects with either the binoculars or my naked eye. The objects were within my vision for approximately two minutes and upon their disappearance I immediately notified my superior at the Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada, by telephone.” (xx.)

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DECLASSIFIED  
 Authority *NND 88-2309*  
 By *KB* NARA Date *7/28*

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO. <i>24-39</i>	DATE 29 April 1949
TITLE ✓ AERIAL PHENOMENA PROJECT GRUDGE		REPORT MADE BY R. R. LUMSDEN	REPORT MADE AT DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas
		PERIOD 6 March - 21 April 1949	OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas
		STATUS PENDING	
CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY			
REFERENCE Ltr. from Headquarters OSI, 21 April 1949, Subj: Project "Grudge"			
SYNOPSIS <p>Beginning 6 March 1949, and continuing through 27 April 1949, aerial phenomena of unknown origin have been observed in the vicinity of the restricted area within Camp Hood, Texas. Some ground light activity has also been observed in this area during the same period. On 6, 7, and 8 March 1949, several unusual light occurrences were observed. On 17 March 1949, a special Security Patrol observed eight (8) bursts, and upon being plotted, the center line of the bursts coincided with the center line of the aircraft runway, with the bursts alternating as "over" and "shorts". On 16 April 1949, the Security Patrol within the restricted area reported two sightings. On 18 April 1949, there were approximately fifty (50) sightings reported between the hours of 2005 and 2030. On 19 April 1949, arcing lights of an unknown character were observed in the same general area. On 27 April 1949, three (3) cases of aerial phenomena at low level were observed and reported. Phenomena may be classified into four general categories; the first being a circular shaped luminous object which moves and hovers; the second being a luminous circular body which moves at a high rate of speed. Both of the first two classes have been observed with and without a fiery tail. The third category is an explosive burst of high luminosity. The fourth category consists of luminous bursts in clusters somewhat similar to flares. The phenomena observed at Camp Hood are similar in general characteristics to those which have been observed in the Sandia and Los Alamos areas of New Mexico.</p> <p>On 9 April 1949, military sentinels observed two civilians in the immediate vicinity of the restricted area, who stopped their car and removed objects from the roadside in a suspicious manner, and departed. The F.B.I. upon investigation reached the conclusion that these men were hiding and then recovering cans of beer.</p>			
DISTRIBUTION	ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP	
✓ Hq. OSI 2 (9 Incls.) File 2 (9 Incls.)	Hq. OSI	CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY AUTHORITY OF THE INSPECTOR OF SPEC INV BY <b>KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF</b> Historian 9 DEC 1975	
	APPROVED <i>R. R. Lumsden</i> R. R. LUMSDEN Lt. Colonel, USAF DISTRICT COMMANDER	DATE	

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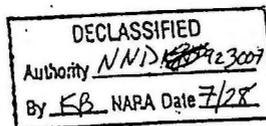
DETAILS:

1. This report is based upon letter from Headquarters, OSI, 21 April 1949, Subject: "Project Grudge - Special Inquiry", and was predicated upon conversation between the District Commander, 10th District OSI, and the Deputy Director, Headquarters OSI, in Washington, D. C. on 14 April 1949. It is essentially a summary of information received from the G-2 Section, Headquarters 4th Army, and a series of weekly conferences held between representatives of the F.B.I., G-2, 4th Army, ONI and OSI.
2. Camp Hood, Texas, is located approximately 50 miles north of Austin, Texas, and is primarily a Ground Force installation. Inside the boundaries of Camp Hood is an area devoted to a restricted project of a highly sensitive nature. This interior area is encompassed by a fence, and within this area security is a joint responsibility of the Air Force and AEC. Additional security is furnished by the presence of the 2nd Armored Division in the Camp Hood area surrounding the restricted area.
3. On the nights of 6, 7, and 8 March 1949, Security Patrols within and without the restricted area observed certain aerial phenomena of unknown origin in the skies adjacent to the restricted area. Reports of these phenomena were made to G-2, 4th Army, who collated and evaluated them. Copy of the 4th Army summary is attached to this report as Inclosure No. 1.
4. In the belief that the aerial phenomena might be ground projected flares and the observation distorted by nervous tension or lack of experience on the part of observers, 4th Army planned to simulate such occurrences on the night of 17 March 1949, and have trained observers present. It was planned that flares would be fired and that observing details would then carefully plot the observations and check such observations with those of the Security Patrols who had not been informed of the maneuvers. However, upon placing the observation details in position, it was found unnecessary to simulate the occurrences as the phenomena occurred. On this night, 17 March 1949, eight (8) bursts occurred and were carefully plotted. The plot of these observations on an overlay, together with a map of the area, were delivered to the Deputy Director, OSI, on 14 April 1949, by District Commander, 10th District OSI. Copies of 4th Army reports concerning these occurrences are attached to this report as Inclosures No. 2 and 3. The apparent coincidence of the flares being mistaken for aerial phenomena was explained by 4th Army in that the detail under Captain McCULLOCH was a group separate from the Security Patrols which were already in position to observe the firing by his (McCULLOCH'S) party. The reports of 4th Army do not clearly indicate this and may tend to confuse the reviewer. 4th Army has informed 10th District OSI that the 82nd Reconnaissance Battalion, Combat Command "A", did not fire flares on the night of 17 March 1949. Report of occurrences on 18 - 19 March 1949 is attached as Inclosure No. 4.

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5. On 16 April 1949, two (2) sightings of aerial phenomena with no details given were reported by the Internal Security Patrol of the restricted area. No further information is available on the sightings at present.

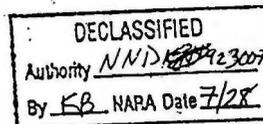
6. On 18 April 1949, approximately fifty (50) bursts were observed and reported to G-2, 4th Army. These bursts were of a flare-like nature and were in clusters and were observed between the hours 2005 and 2030. Copies of G-2, 4th Army reports are attached as Inclosures No. 5 and 6. Coordinates and cross-roads mentioned in 4th Army report may be located on the map furnished Deputy Director on 14 April 1949.

7. On 28 April 1949, G-2, 4th Army, received a telephonic report from Camp Hood relative to four (4) sightings made on the night of 27 April 1949. The first sighting was at 2120 hours; the object was about the size of a fifty cent piece; the color was violet to dull violet, and had no glare; altitude 6 to 7 feet above ground, and was approximately 10 to 12 feet away from observer when first noted. Second sighting was at 2135 hours, 27 April 1949, and consisted of a bright white light approximately the size of a baseball; had no glare, was approximately 6 to 7 feet off the ground; was approximately 200 yards away from observer, and time of flight was approximately 30 to 40 seconds; and a speed of 60 to 70 miles per hour. This object had a cone of a metallic nature 3 to 4" long behind it, point to the rear. This observation was made by four people. The third sighting was at 2137 hours; the object was about the size of a silver dollar; was lusterless white with no glare. It was approximately 6 to 8 feet off the ground, travelling in a zig zag manner. It was observed by four people. The fourth sighting was at 2139 hours, object observed was of dull white color; 100 yards from observer; 6 to 7 feet off the ground, travelling slowly and lasting 20 to 30 seconds. Complete report of these sightings will be forwarded upon receipt from 4th Army.

8. On 9 April 1949, sentry of the 2nd Armored Division observed a blue Ford Sedan at approximately 1200 hours stop at the side of a road adjacent to the restricted area and approximately 25 yards from the cross-road. This car appeared to be having mechanical trouble, was occupied by two men in civilian clothes, remained for a few moments, then drove away. At approximately 1700 hours, the vehicle returned and stopped at the same point, again apparently due to mechanical difficulties as the men got out, raised the hood and engaged in a discussion. The sentry approached the car, but not being aware of the over-all situation, did not question them as to their actions. At 0945, 10 April 1949, the same vehicle returned to the same spot, with two men in it, and repeated the actions of the previous day. In addition they searched the edge of the roadside and picked up two objects, one roughly circular in shape, about 8" in diameter, and the other of the approximate size and shape of

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a beer can. After placing the objects in the car, they departed at a fairly high rate of speed. These actions were observed by a sentry approximately 300 yards away, who conducted his observations through field glasses. This car carried a 1949 Texas license, No. C/U 8551, and a Camp Hood tag 2104. This license was issued to MIKE J. BIRD, civilian employee of the Roads and Grounds Section, Engineer's Division, Camp Hood. The F.B.I. conducted an investigation and ascertained that BIRD had not been allowed to drink or store beer in his home due to his wife's objections. In order to circumvent this restriction, he had been in the practice of hiding beer in the range area and then going out in his car to drink it. The actions observed by the sentry were in connection with BIRD'S recovery of one of his beer caches.

9. Observations made by personnel in the Camp Hood area indicate the phenomena to be similar to those which have been seen in the vicinity of Sandia and Los Alamos, New Mexico. Attached to this report as Inclosures No. 7 and 8 are Minutes of a meeting held between representatives of the interested agencies at Los Alamos on 16 February 1949, and summary of the meeting. A report of a phenomenon occurring at Sandia on 8 March 1949, is attached as Inclosure No. 9.

10. In the observations made in the Camp Hood area, no sound or odor has been connected with any of the phenomena, and no debris has been located. Reports of the incidents have been sent to AMC at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base on the prescribed report form whenever possible and the summaries of information have also been forwarded to AMC by 4th Army.

11. A review of all reports indicates that the phenomena observed may be broken down into four classes or categories; the first being an oblong, torpedo shaped, or tear-drop shaped object which has been reported as being seen with or without a tail or exhaust train. This object has been observed to move and to hover. The second category of these objects is one of a circular or spherical shaped body of high luminosity, ranging in size from that of a baseball to larger than a basketball. This category has been seen both with and without a tail or exhaust train. This particular category has been observed to move at a high rate of speed. The third category or classification is a fixed point flash of high intensity which has been compared to a "ball of fire". This category has not been observed to move but merely to burst with an attendant light display. The fourth category which was observed on 18 April, consists of multiple bursts of a flare-like nature, occurring in groups or clusters of eight to ten. Color on all four categories has ranged from pure white to deep orange, and in various combinations of colors. The color green has been reported in a number of instances.

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(xx.) Report of Investigation. Title: AMC Project 'Sign' Elko, Nevada. File No. 24-11. Thomas Scanlan, DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, Calif. 19 May 1949. Reference: TWX fr Dist Comdr, DO#16 Hill AF Base, Ogden, Utah. Copy in author's files.

(xx.) Ibid.

3 May. Sidney, Ohio. (about 9:00 a.m.)

When some UFO reports began appearing in the local newspapers, project GRUDGE could hardly ignore them. Col. W.R. Clingerman, Chief, Analysis Division, Intelligence Department, Headquarters, Air Material Command, WFAFB, Dayton, Ohio, personally requested the investigation of the sightings. OSI Agent Roscoe Page contacted the editors of the *Dayton Daily News* and the *Sidney Daily News* to obtain additional information. The witnesses were identified and interviewed.

The May 3<sup>rd</sup> Sidney observations were these:

"Mr.[deleted] was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and he stated that he had observed an unidentified aerial object at approximately 0900 hours on 3 May 1949, just as he was opening his jewelry store for business. [deleted] stated that he was watching some birds on a high wire that crossed the street in front of his store when the bright shiny silver object appeared high in the sky. The object was shaped like a disc, approximately five inches in diameter and appeared to be traveling at a fast rate of speed. The object appeared at approximately eighty-five degrees overhead and was traveling northeast. [deleted] lost sight of the object when the building obstructed his view. [deleted] stated that the object wavered in flight, climbed and descended slightly and was in sight for approximately two minutes. The weather was clear, no wind was blowing and no planes were in the vicinity at the time the object was in sight. The object didn't make any sound or leave any trail. [deleted] did not take any photographs of object.

"Mr. [deleted] was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and he stated that he saw the object when [deleted] called his attention to it. [deleted] stated that the time was between 0900 and 0915 hours on 3 May 1949. The object was oblong in shape and appeared to be about the size of a softball. The object was in sight for approximately two minutes and was traveling north in a straight line leaving a grayish-colored trail behind." (xx.)

(xx.) Report of Investigation. Title: Project 'Grudge.' Incident, 7 May 1949. Sidney, Ohio. File No. 5D 24-21K. Roscoe Page, DO #5, W/P AFB, Dayton, Ohio. 26 May 1949. Copy in author's files.

4 May. Maplewood, Ohio. (6:30 p.m.)

Another fast-moving bright object:

"Mrs. [deleted] Maplewood, Ohio was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and she stated that at approximately 1830 hours, 4 May 1949, while she was working in the

garden of her farm which is approximately three miles northwest of Port Jefferson, Ohio and four and a half miles west of Maplewood, Ohio, she was attracted by the sudden glare of an unidentified object. The object reflected very bright light when the sun hit it and it was whirling and traveling through space at a great rate of speed. The object appeared to be six inches in diameter, a bright, silver color and had a flat round or flat oblong shape. Mrs. [deleted] sighted the object at a high altitude, traveling northeast. The object appeared to be between her farm and Port Jefferson. The object was in sight for less than two minutes and disappeared by fading out in the sky. The object did not make any sound or leave any trail. The weather was clear, no wind was blowing and no planes were in the vicinity at the time the object was in sight. No photographs were taken of the object." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.2.

6 May. Sidney, Ohio. (8:30 a.m.)

Three witnesses sight a fast-moving bright object over Sidney again:

"Mr. [deleted] Sidney, Ohio was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and he stated that he observed object at approximately 0830 hours on 6 May 1949, in front of Cook's Spot Restaurant, located at the corner of South Ohio and West Court Streets, Sidney, Ohio. The brightness of the object attracted [deleted] attention. [deleted] was unable to determine the shape of the object due to its bright reflection, but appeared to be approximately five inches in diameter. The object was about a half mile west and traveling south at a great altitude. The object was in sight approximately two minutes, appeared to be traveling at a fast rate of speed and faded out in the sky. The object traveled in a straight line and was very brilliant against a clear blue sky. The object did not make any sound or leave any trail. [deleted] could not see any projections as the object was too bright and too far away. [deleted] is the owner of the camera store at the above address but did not take any photographs of the object.

"Miss [deleted] Sidney, Ohio was interviewed on 18 May 1949 and she stated that she saw the object when [deleted] called her attention to it. The object appeared to be five inches in diameter, one inch in thickness and was probably larger due to the great distance. The object had a flat, circular shape. [deleted] stated that she lost sight of the object once but that it reappeared in the same position. The rest of [deleted] statement corresponded to that of [deleted].

"Mr. [deleted] Spot Restaurant, Sidney, Ohio stated that he saw the object but couldn't give any description other than that it was a round, bright, shiny object traveling south through space at a fast rate of speed." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.2.

2 May. Camp Hood. The Army takes action.

Reports of unusual lights in the vicinity of Camp Hood in late April reach Fourth Army headquarters. The Army becomes alarmed and insists on Air Force help. A plan to deploy an Army force on a "field exercise" is ordered.

4 May. Field Force "training mission" is quickly organized. (See below and on pages 72-70)

"HEADQUARTERS DIVISION ARTILLEY  
2d ARMORED DIVISION  
Camp Hood, Texas

4 May 1949

SUBJECT: Artillery Training Force.

TO: All Members, Artillery Training Force.

1. You are familiar with the fact that there have been numerous reports within the past year of a phenomena appearing in several parts of the United States commonly called 'flying discs' or 'flying saucers.'  
Sufficiently authentic reports of this condition have been received by the Department of the Army to justify a detailed study.
2. In the past several weeks, this condition has been reported as occurring, intermittently, over the southern portion of the Camp Hood Military Reservation. You have been designated as a part of a force to determine accurately the following information.
  - a. Does this condition exist and, if so, to what extent?
  - b. Description of the phenomena.
  - c. Its location, altitude, and duration.
  - d. If it is produced by any individual or machine on the ground, to apprehend such individuals.
3. This entire project has been classified as 'Confidential' and, as such, you will not discuss any phase of the operation, or your work in connection with it, with anyone except as is required by your work. If asked what you are doing, you are a member of the Division Artillery Training Force on a classified mission and can give no further information.

P.? V.? [not clear] Brown  
Col FA  
Commanding" (xx.)

(xx.) Copy in author's files.

5 May. Joint conference held at Camp Hood.

Lt. Col. R.R. Lumsden of the Air Force OSI is convinced "positive action is mandatory" and that "the sensitive nature of the area [nuclear bomb storage] necessitates a positive determination of facts." (See pages 77-78)

HEADQUARTERS DIVISION ARTILLERY  
2d ARMORED DIVISION  
Camp Hood, Texas

4 May 1949

Training Memorandum

Number 8

ARTILLERY TRAINING FORCE1. Installations and Units:

- a. The units of the Division Artillery are to engage in a field exercise in conjunction with units of Killeen Base, and the Field Force.
- b. The Artillery Training Force will consist of a Plotting Center, four (4) OPs and an Artillery Patrol. (Locations as shown on attached overlay.)

2. Command:

- a. The Artillery Training Force is under command of Off. designated by this Hq's. (Responsible to CO Div. Arty).
- b. The Artillery Patrol is under command of Artillery Training Force Commander.

3. Personnel:

- a. Officers to command the Artillery Training Force and the Artillery Patrol will be obtained by roster as maintained by this headquarters. Artillery Training Force Commander will report with his Force to S-2 Division Artillery at 1500 hours of day he is go to into the field and will post said relief force personally.
- b. Personnel to compose the Force will be cleared by respective S-2 sections. (Battalion)
- c. Personnel to be furnished by each unit:
- (1) 508th AFA - 2 NCOs, 4 EM at OP #1  
2 Plotters at Plotting Center (EM)
  - (2) 14th AFA - 4 NCOs, 8 EM split between OP #2 and OP#3.  
1 (776) Radio Operator at Plotting Center
  - (3) 92nd AFA - 2 NCOs, 4 EM at OP #4.  
4 Plotters at Plotting Center (EM)  
1 NCO, 1 Driver, 1 Radio Operator, and 1 guard.
  - (4) Hd. Btry - 2 EM Recorders at Plotting Center  
Div. Arty - 1 Driver, 1 Radio Operator, and 1 guard.  
1 EM Medic---atPlotting Center
  - (5) Detailed instructions regarding desirable MOS numbers of personnel and duties are contained in paragraphs 7 and 8 of this Memorandum.
- d. Battalions will so rotate personnel to permit each relief to be at their respective installations one week. The seventh night will be a "break in" period for the succeeding relief.
- e. Battalions will be responsible to provide latrine facilities, and to continually better sanitation and living conditions for the units in the field at their respective installations.
- f. Units will be responsible for installations and maintenance of areas and communication as follows:
- (1) 508th AFA - OP#1 and Plotting Center
  - (2) 14th AFA - OP #2 and OP#3
  - (3) 92nd AFA - OP #4
  - (4) Hd Btry Div Arty - Patrol tent
- g. Units will mess personnel in the field, or as otherwise convenient to the unit.
- h. Before going on duty, all personnel will be informed of the "Confidential" nature of their mission. Letter written by CO, Division Artillery will be read to all involved personnel before said personnel go on their scheduled relief.
- i. Personnel at present on duty will be considered as the 1st relief and will be augmented by their respective units Monday, 9 May 1949 at 1830 hours. Monday night will then constitute the 2d relief's "break in" period, and the 1st relief will be physically relieved at 0630 hours, 10 May 1949.

CLASSIFICATION CAN BE CANCELED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV  
KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF  
BY Historian  
DATE 2 DEC 1975

The 2d relief will be augmented Sunday, 15 May 1830 by the 3rd relief, etc.

4. Responsible Areas:

a. Activity within Killeen Base, as reported by Plotting Center, will be reported by radio or phone to Killeen Base and acted upon by Killeen Base.

b. Activity South of the road encompassing RJ's 202, 207 and 106, as reported by the plotting center, will be reported by radio or wire to Field Force and acted upon by Field Force.

c. Activity on and North of the Road encompassed by RJ's 202, 207 and 106; within the military reservation and excluding Highway 190, will be reported to Artillery Patrol and acted upon by Artillery Patrol.

5. Reports:

a. Reports are to be made out according to 2nd Armored Division "guide to Investigation" form (Restricted), and submitted to S-2, Division Artillery daily on preceding night's activity by Artillery Training Force Commander. Copies of this form may be received from S-2 section, Division Artillery.

6. Coordination:

a. The activities of Field Force, Killeen Base, and Artillery Training Force within this area makes coordination during hours of darkness mandatory. All personnel must be thoroughly familiar with actual locations, routes of approach, blackout conditions, and signs and countersigns effecting artillery installations before venturing into the area. Clearance and pertinent information may be received at S-2 Division Artillery.

b. The Field Force Commander and Killeen Base will be contacted daily at 1830 hours by Commander Artillery Training Force for coordination of patrol activities.

c. The Commanders Artillery Training Force, and Artillery Patrol will contact S-2 Division Artillery for instructions at 1500 hours daily.

7. Observation and Plotting Phase:

a. General:

- (1) The Artillery Training Force Commander will be stationed at the plotting center.
- (2) There will be four (4) observation posts and one central plotting center.
- (3) The observation and plotting sections will operate during all hours of darkness.
- (4) Observation posts will occupy designated commanding terrain, the position of which will be found by inspection of the 1/25,000 scale photomap.

b. Observation Posts:

- (1) Equipment for each installation:
  - (a) Plane table and tripod.
  - (b) Alidade with attachment to be furnished by Div Arty.
  - (c) One pair field glasses.
  - (d) One Battery Commander's Scope.
  - (e) One flash light; blacked out except for a very small hole to emit a small ray of light.
  - (f) A large scale of a 6400' circle, 9 inches in radius. This scale to be made on stiff paper and mounted on the plane table. (Figure 1)
  - (g) 3 telephones and 3 head and chest sets.
  - (h) One large tent, the sides of which can be rolled up.
  - (i) Plotting pins.
  - (j) Personal equipment of personnel.
  - (k) Sidearms and ammunition.
- (2) Personnel:
  - (a) 1 NCO in charge and alternate; grade 4. (MOS-577)
  - (b) 2 teams, each team consisting of an observer and a reader. (MOS-288, 645)
  - (c) Personnel as listed above provide 2 reliefs.
  - (d) Personnel will be especially alert during the hours 1830-2130.
  - (e) There will be a communication check daily at 1830 hours.
- (3) General Location:
  - (a) Plotting center and OP #1 -----913.390 - 858.700
  - (b) OP #2 913.985 - 855.330
  - (c) OP #3 911.000 - 854.400

- (a) OP #4  
 (4) Communications - See Figure 3  
 (5) Procedure:

(a) Upon arrival at the OP, the plane table and all observer instruments will be oriented at each OP so that the "0" (zero) of all scales is toward the red light on top of West Tank at Camp Hood. A stake will be set up at each OP approximately 20 yards from the instruments and in line with West Tank for orientation in inclement weather. Open sided tents will be erected over the plane tables where terrain permits.

(b) The telephones will be connected so that the observer has a head and chest set on circuit #1, observer circuit; the reader has a head and chest set on circuit #2, plotter circuit; the NCO has a hand set on circuit #3, administration circuit.

(c) Each circuit will be checked every 15 minutes, from 1830 hours until 0530 hours, unless a target has been sighted during the time interval.

(d) The NCO will report "ready to observe" to the Plotting Center not later than 1900 hours each evening. The NCO will operate the BC Scope.

c. Plotting Station:

- (1) Equipment for the installation:

- (a) Large plotting table to be constructed by Division Artillery; complete with scales and equipment necessary for operation, (Figure 2) and 1/2 track with 506 and 508 radios.  
 (b) Large tent capable of being blacked out.  
 (c) Personal equipment of men.  
 (d) Head and chest for each plotter and recorder. (3 extra)  
 (e) Two hand telephones  
 (f) 1 stop watch

- (2) Personnel:

- (a) 1 Officer---Artillery Training Force Commander  
 (b) Two teams each consisting of a "plotter" for each observation post being operated and a "recorder". (MOS 28, 645-plotter, MOS-645, 076 recorder)  
 (c) Personnel as listed above provide 2 reliefs.  
 (d) Officer to be on alert all night.  
 (e) Personnel will be especially alert during the hours 1830-2130.

- (3) General Location: Plotting center - 913.390-858.700, Camp Hood Photomap, scale 1/25,000.

- (4) Communications - See Figure 3.

- (5) Procedure:

- (a) The Artillery Training Force Commander will check into the Killeen Base and Field Force radio and wire nets daily at 1830 hours.  
 (b) The Artillery Training Force Commander will cause the communications of his Force's nets to be checked at 1830 hours.  
 (c) The plotting table will be set up in the plotting room tent. Tracing paper will be oriented over the expected target area.  
 (d) The OPs and West Tank will be plotted. Scales in mils will be superimposed over each OP and oriented with the "0-3200" (zero thirty two hundred) line toward the plotted point of West Tank. Plotting strings will extend from each plotted OP to the plotter stationed on the opposite side of the table. (See Figure #2)

d. Processing a "call":

- (1) Observation Posts:

(a) As soon as the observer sights a target, he will command "light" and repeat the command at intervals of 1 or 2 seconds until the target disappears, at which time he will command "dark". The observer who first sights the target will be the only one to speak on the observer circuit until his command of "dark" is heard. If at this time an observer at one of the other 3 OP's can still see the target, he will continue the command of "light" until the target disappears for him, and then he will command "dark".

(b) As soon as the command of "light" is heard, all observers will alert their readers and attempt to get on the target.

(c) All observers seeing the target will immediately line up their alidade on the target and follow it until it disappears.

- (d) Reader:

As soon as the target is sighted at his post and the observer has aimed his alidade at the target, the reader will, by aid of his flash light, announce the scale reading in mils to his corresponding plotter at the Plotting Center. He will continue readings at 1 or 2 second intervals even though there is no change. When the target is out of sight,

## 7. d. (1) (Continued)

for his observer, he will relay the command "dark" to his commanding plotter.

## (e) NCO:

As soon as the target is sighted, he will attempt to find it with the BC Scope and place the center of his cross-hairs on it. He will follow the target as accurately as possible, observing it for description purposes. At the command "dark" by his observer, he will stop traversing his instrument and send the mil readings to the Plotting Center over the administration telephone along with a brief description. Both horizontal and vertical angles will be included in this report.

## (2) Plotting Station:

(a) The recorder on the observer circuit, will be the first man to hear the command "light". He will repeat the command once, the first time it is given, and then the command "dark" when it is given, he will not repeat the command continually since the purpose of his command is to alert the Plotting Center personnel and the plotters will be receiving readings to indicate that the light is in view at their corresponding OPs.

(b) As soon as an intersection of two or more plotting strings takes place, the recorder will trace the path of the intersection, or center of the triangle, on the plotting board.

(c) When the command "dark" is heard the recorder will wait to see if any other OP takes up the command of "light", and if not, he will draw a line connecting the plotted points, an arrow to indicate direction, and a target number. See Figure 2 for an example.

(d) The Commander Artillery Training Force will be equipped with a stop watch and will record the time from "light" to "dark". He will also receive descriptions and BC Scope readings from the OPs. He will be in charge of the recorder sheets and record all information thereon.

(e) There will be a separate overlay and set of recorder sheets for each 24 hour period.

(f) Recorder will also read the coordinates of the target to the Commander for transmittal to the Patrol Sections.

(g) There will be a plotter for each OP. A string attached at one end to the plotted coordinates of the OP will be moved by the plotter around a mil scale on the plotting board. The plotter will receive readings from the OP readers at intervals and the readings will be set off.

## 8. Patrol Phase:

a. The Artillery Patrol will be stationed conveniently close to the Plotting Center. If the patrol is dispatched, the Patrol cmdr. will lead the patrols of one of the 1/4 ton vehicles; the remaining vehicle to be led by the Asst. Patrol Commander. (NCO of 1st or 2d grade.)

b. The Patrol Commander will remain at the Plotting Center to assist in its function when not actively on patrol.

## c. Equipment:

- (1) 2 1/4 ton vehicles.
- (2) 1 - 510 radio per vehicle with one pre-set channel (See Div Arty Commo.)
- (3) 1 calibre .45 pistol per Officer and NCO
- (4) TE weapon per driver, radio operator, and guard.
- (5) Ammunition—unit of fire per weapon
- (6) 1 flashlight per vehicle
- (7) 1 tent
- (8) 1 pair of field glasses per vehicle
- (9) personal equipment
- (10) 1 compass (M-2 or Lensatic)

## d. Personnel:

- (1) 1 Officer designated as Patrol Commander.
- (2) 1 NCO of 1st or 2d grade designated as Asst. Patrol Commander
- (3) 2 radio operators
- (4) 2 guards.
- (5) 2 drivers

## e. Procedure:

(1) All personnel will be awake and alert from 1830 to 2130 hours daily. From 2130 until 0530 hours the following day, there will be at least 1 man on guard for the two 1/4 ton vehicles.

(2) Upon being alerted by the Artillery Training Force Commander, the Patrol Commander will dispatch vehicles and crews to points on or North of the road running generally NW and SE, and passing approximately 750 yards to the North of Crossville Mt. (Road encompassing RJs 202, 207, and 106.)

## 8. e. (2) (continued)

The Artillery Patrol will be prepared to establish road blocks as indicated by the Plotting Center. Detailed instructions will be received daily by the Patrol Officer from the Arty Training Force Commander.

(3) The Artillery Patrol will be prepared to move in blackout.

(4) The Artillery Patrol, when on patrol mission will place cartridge clips in weapons. Rounds will not be in the chambers. Members of the Patrol are functioning as Military Police in that they are armed and may have to apprehend individuals. Weapons are not to be used except in self defense. Personnel apprehended are to be handled in a courteous manner; in so far as the situation permits and are to be held until the AC of S (G-2) or his authorized representative, 2d Armored Division, can arrive at the scene.

(5) Patrol activity will not interfere with traffic on Highway 190, nor with traffic on Clear Creed County Road.

(6) Signs and countersigns for the day will be given all personnel by the Arty Trng Force Cmdr.

9. An Example Problem: ("Call")

a. Observer #1 sees a target. He sights his alidade on the target and commands "light, light, light"----- (at 1 or 2 second intervals)

b. Reader #1 reads 5010, 5000, 4990, 4980----- (at 1 or 2 second intervals) to plotter #1.

c. Observers 2, 3 and 4 all try to find the target. Number 2 sees it and sights his alidade on it. His reader reads, 0, 10, 20, 30, 40, 40, 40, ---- (1 or 2 second intervals)

d. Plotter #1 sets off 5010, 5000, 4990, 4980----- successively on his scale by pulling his string tight from the plotted OP.

e. As soon as plotter #2 receives readings, he pulls his string tight and follows the readings received on his scale. This will give an intersection between #1 and #2.

f. Recorder says "light" as soon as the command is received, and when #1 and #2 intersect, he plots the intersection on the grid sheet.

g. Plotters #3 and #4 give approximate readings from the plotted OP to the intersection to try to orient Observers #3 and #4.

h. When Observer #1 gives the command "dark", recorder repeats the command. If in this case OP#3 has now picked up the target and it is still visible to him, he will say "light" (1 or 2 second interval) and continue the commands previously given by OP #1 until the target disappears from him, and then he will command "dark".

i. Recorder will repeat the first "light" command in all series and all "dark" commands.

j. At the command "dark", each person on the BC Scope will send his reading to the Plotting Center together with a brief description of the target.

k. The Arty Trng Force Cmdr will alert the Patrols as to the location of the target and action to be taken.

l. All recorded data will be turned in daily at 0630 hours.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL BROWN:

3 Incl  
#1 Plotting Center & OP Sketch  
#2 Commo. Sketch  
#3 Position Overlay

A. S. POWERS  
Capt FA  
Adjutant

Distribution  
"A"

CS1

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON

RRL/bl

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF  
10TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, KELLY FIELD, TEXAS

6 May 1949

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena in the Vicinity of Camp Hood, Texas

TO: Director, Special Investigations  
The Inspector General  
USAF  
Washington 25, D.C.

ATTENTION: Deputy Director

1. Reference is made to conversation between Deputy Director, OSI, and the Commander, 10th District, in Washington on 14 April 1949, relative to unknown phenomena occurring in the vicinity of Camp Hood, Texas.

2. On 20, 27 April and 4 May 1949, regular weekly conferences were held with representatives of the FBI, ONI, Fourth Army, and OSI. At each of these conferences the question of investigative jurisdiction relative to the phenomena at Camp Hood was discussed. It was the consensus of the other agencies present that OSI had a definite interest in this matter and should actively participate in the investigation of the occurrences. G-2, Fourth Army specifically requested assistance in the matter, stating that since their number of trained Agents was small, the assistance of Agents from OSI would materially augment the coverage which could be afforded the area. This office tactfully declined to actively participate in the investigation pending receipt of instructions from your Headquarters. Fourth Army is now becoming insistent upon receiving assistance, and a definite answer to their request must be made.

3. On 5 May 1949, at the request of G-2, Fourth Army, Lt. Colonel JAMES R. SMITH of the 3rd Region OSI and the writer attended a joint conference at Camp Hood, in the role of observers. This conference was between representatives of Camp Hood, Fourth Army, Killeen Base, ONI and the FBI. A full report of the meeting will be forwarded upon receipt of the minutes from Fourth Army. During the conference the main subject discussed was the unknown phenomena occurring and plans were made to increase the accuracy and degree of observations.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV

BY

DATE

DEC 1975

24 V. 85 1086  
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

AUG 12 1949

MAY 10

12:51 PM 74974 78

Ltr. from Hq, 10th District, Subj: Aerial Phenomena in the Vicinity  
of Camp Hood, Texas, 6 May 1949

It was stressed in the conference that the air strip immediately adjacent to Killeen Base was very important for any proposed utilization of the area and was, by its nature, vulnerable. It was pointed out that although the security within Killeen Base is the responsibility of AFSWP, the air strip itself was under the control of Eighth Air Force and was located upon ground which had been turned over to the Air Force by the Ground Force. Following this line of reasoning, representatives of the other military services felt that OSI as investigative agency of the Air Force should take an active part in ascertaining the nature of the phenomena occurring on and around the runway. The representatives of OSI did not commit themselves.

4. As more sightings had been made on the night of 4 May 1949, it is the opinion of this office that the matter has reached a fairly serious stage and some positive action is mandatory. It is therefore requested that this office be granted permission to actively participate in an investigation in the Camp Hood area, limiting the activity to the area upon which the runway is located and terrain immediately surrounding. It is further requested that your Headquarters determine at the highest level which agency has primary jurisdiction in this matter and that this office be advised. It is realized that the possibility of a hoax or explainable natural phenomena may be the basis for the unusual occurrences, but the sensitive nature of the area necessitates a positive determination of facts.

  
R. R. LUMSDEN  
Lt. Colonel, USAF  
District Commander

5 May. Conference at Camp Hood, Texas.

On May 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. an conference was convened at Camp Hood to formulate plans to increase accuracy and degree of observations being made. Those who attended included:

“O.L. Golden, F.B.I.  
 Williard B. Harris, C.O., 520<sup>th</sup> CIC Detachment  
 John M. Scioli, Capt., S-3, Killeen Base  
 R.L. Johnson, F.B.I., Waco  
 Herbert D. Hoover, Major, S-1, Killeen Base  
 Carol M. Harris, 1<sup>st</sup> Lient., Acting S-2, Killeen Base  
 H.L. Gandy, Lieut. Colonel, C.O., Killeen Base  
 P.T. Smith, ONI  
 J.R. Smith, Lt. Colonel, 3<sup>rd</sup> Region, OSI  
 R.R. Lumsden, Lt. Colonel, 10<sup>th</sup> District OSI  
 M.P. Childs, Asst. Agent in Charge, San Antonio F.B.I.  
 Max H. Gooler, Colonel, G-2, 4<sup>th</sup> Army, Executive  
 Horace W. McCulloch, Capt., Killeen Base  
 R.G. Schaefer, Major, Asst. G-2, 2d Armored Div., Camp Hood  
 Perry H. Winn, Major, Chief, Intelligence Div., G-2, 4<sup>th</sup> Army  
 Duncan C. Perkins, Capt., Asst G-3, 2d Armored Div., Camp Hood” (xx.)

(xx.) Report of Investigation. Title: “CHANGED” AERIAL PHENOMENA, VICINITY CAMP HOOD, TEXAS. File No. 24-39. R.R. Lumsden. DO#10, Kelly AFB, Texas. Date of report: 27 May 1949. p.5. Copy in author’s files.

7 May. Los Alamos, New Mexico. (approximately 7:40-7:41 p.m.)

Strange moving light.

While sightings of strange lights were being made at Camp Hood in Texas, there were also sightings being made in New Mexico. Information taken from official UFO questionnaires suggest normal air traffic and stars were responsible for sightings on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 6<sup>th</sup>. A May 7<sup>th</sup> incident was different. Army Task Force commander Lt. Mardell Ward, stationed at an observation post located at map coordinates 917500-855200, spotted a brilliant diamond-shaped object at 1940 hours. The thing remained in view for 57 seconds and covered 20 miles as it traveled north and west. The luminous object appeared to be some 5,000 yards away and at an altitude of 1,000 feet. The phenomenon exhibited three colors during its passage: white, reddish, and greenish. The UFO, or whatever, moved north and seemed to go lower before it grew dim and vanished. No sound was heard. Two observer posts obtained readings on the object, providing an approximate fix on its location in the sky. (xx.)

(xx.) Report of Investigation. Title: UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena) Jack L. Boling. DO#17, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. File No. 24-8. Date of report: 7 June 1949. Copy in author’s files.

8 May. Los Alamos, New Mexico. (10:08-10:17)

Strange moving light.

Lt. Ward reported another mystery light the next evening. On this occasion the light was seen from the observation post located at map coordinates 906000-8510000. The weather conditions were good. It was clear with bright moonlight. The thing appeared to the west and seemed to be a very brilliant diamond shape. The UFO was at 1,600 feet and moved north and east (west? --- document not clear) while it slowly decreased its altitude. It was in view some nine minutes before growing dim and vanishing. No sound was heard. Three of the Army Artillery stations obtained fixes with an error of triangulation of approximately 100 yards. However, the figure showing the distance away is not clear in the official report on the case. The number might be 3,000, 5,000, or 8,000 yards. The first digit is blurred. One would like an exact distance since there was this interesting note under "additional information" in the report on the incident: "Force Able reported very bad radio interference during [the time the] target was in sight. Afterward of [sic] target good communications was reported." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

9 May. Tucson, Arizona. (about 2:30 p.m.)

"I can think of no possible explanation as to what these objects were nor what kept them in the air."

This witness was a Master Sergeant with the 43<sup>rd</sup> Air Refueling Squadron, 43<sup>rd</sup> Bomb Wing, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona. His statement to Air Force's OSI reads:

"On 9 May 1949 at approximately 1430 hours, while reclining on the front lawn of my residence at 939 Benton Blvd, Tucson, Arizona, I had occasion to notice two objects in the air overhead, these objects came into view from a south-westerly direction traveling northeast. When approximately directly overhead, the objects banked to the left and went in an approximately in a northwesterly direction, continuing in this direction for approximately one mile and then banking abruptly to the right and headed northeast towards the Catalina mountains. They continued in this northeast direction, gradually fading from view until they finally disappeared from my sight.

"The size of these objects, to my estimation, was approximately 25 feet in diameter with a thickness of approximately one foot and their size in relation to a known object as they appeared to be in the air was approximately the size on a tub. I would place their altitude at approximately 10,000 feet. There was no discernible variation in this altitude during the time they remained in my sight. The distance between these two objects, which did not vary considerably, was approximately 50 feet. When I first saw them, they were directly overhead and perfectly round. When they banked to the left and then to the right I was able to see both sides of them.

"There was no apparent means of motivation, no vapor trail, exhaust and absolutely no sound. The surface appeared to be smooth and symmetrical. They did not appear to vary in thickness toward the center from the outer edge. The color appeared silvery and very shiny when reflecting the sun. This particular day was a very clear sunshine day. The objects seemed to be traveling between 750 and 1,000 miles an hour.

"I have been associated with aircraft the major portion of my life, having spent the last eight years in actual duties connected with aircraft and presently as a flight engineer on flying status. I have observed all conventional types of aircraft and jet fighter aircraft in the sky and this object seemed to be considerably faster than I have ever seen any aircraft travel. My home is located in the residential section of Tucson in the northeast portion of that city. Approximate distance from my home to the Catalina Mountains in a northeast direction is six miles. From the direction I first sighted the objects come from, they would have come over a more densely populated portion of the city of Tucson, but not necessarily over the business center. Upon initially sighting these objects in the air, I called to my wife to come out of the house, but she did not get out until they disappeared. The whole occurrence from the time I initially sighted the objects until I lost sight of them was between 6 and 10 seconds.

"To my cognizance, none of the neighbors in the vicinity of my house sighted the objects. However, I have made no inquiry of the neighbors. I did tell my nearby neighbor who were not home at the time, about this occurrence.

"I reported this to my Squadron Officer on Tuesday, 10 May 1949. I have read various comments and articles concerning objects of this nature but never put much stock in the information.

"These objects appeared opaque in nature. I can think of no possible explanation as to what these objects were nor what kept them in the air or how they could travel at such an excessive rate of speed. I was fully awake when I saw them and can vision them perfectly in my mind at this time.

(Signed) Troy L. Putnam" (xx.)

(xx.) Report of Investigation. Unknown Object(s) (Aerial Phenomenon) Report compiled by Irwin L. Bailey, DO #17, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. 19 May 1949. Copy in author's files.

9 May. Eighth Air Force contacted.

Air Force officers Lt. Colonels James Smith and R.R. Lumsden were convinced enough to approach their immediate superiors:

"On 9 May 1949, Lt. Colonel James R. Smith, 3<sup>rd</sup> Region OSI and the writer [Lt. Col. Lumsden] contacted Lt. Colonel Kirten, A-2, Eighth Air Force, in an attempt to ascertain if any instance of aerial phenomena had been reported to that organization. Information was elicited that no such instance had been reported from Camp Hood area, but that they had a report of sightings made at Fort Worth of high speed aerial objects. Colonel Kirten stated that he would offer any co-

operation and assistance, and that in his opinion OSI should conduct an investigation on this matter, particularly as applied to the area adjacent to the air strip at Camp Killeen." (xx.)

(xx.) Report of Investigation. Title: "Changed Aerial Phenomena, Vicinity Camp Hood, Texas. R.R. Lumsden. DO#10, Kelly AFB, Texas. File No. 24-39. Date of report: 27 May 1949. p.7. Copy in author's files.

11 May. Houston, Alaska. (10:30 a.m.)

The following case may be suspect because the witness uses the word "ship" and claims more than one sighting. Still, the witness does not get too carried away:

"During my employment with the Houston Coal Mining Company at Houston, Alaska, which is located 74 miles north of Anchorage, I saw four saucers flying north on the morning of May 11, 1949. It was approximately 10:30 a.m. They were not in a formation as I have any knowledge of formations. I noticed that the top half was thicker from top to center line than the lower portion and that they flew with a decided list to port side, and their speed was in excess of 1,000 mph and that their diameter as between 80 to 100 ft. and thickness approximately 15 to 20ft."

(xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: CUFOS? (No address on photocopy) From: George A. Mertz, Rt.1 Box 474. Camarillo, California. 17 November 52? (date hot clear) CUFOS Archives. Copy in author's files.

11 May. The April 28 Fourth Army report received.

The Fourth Army turned over the impressive report of nine mysterious "light" sightings on April 28<sup>th</sup> to Colonel Lumsden of the Air Force OSI office at Kelly AFB, Texas. The Colonel was alarmed by the data. (See below)

12 May. The green fireballs. "We need help."

While the 10<sup>th</sup> OSI District was pushing an investigation into the manifestations at Camp Hood, the 17<sup>th</sup> OSI District at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, was attempting to get approval of an investigation of the green fireballs from Headquarters USAF. A letter outlining the request was sent to Washington on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

12 May. Commander McLaughlin and the April 24<sup>th</sup> Arrey case.

Some weeks after the April 24<sup>th</sup> Arrey, New Mexico (Charles Moore case) incident, Commander R.B. McLaughlin mentioned the UFO observation in a letter to Dr. J. A. Van Allen. Note that McLaughlin attributes calculations of velocity and altitude to an "unnamed ballistics man." (See letter on pages 83-84)

U. S. NAVAL UNIT  
 WHITE SANDS PROVING GROUNDS  
 LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO



AIR MAIL

12 May 1949

JUL 8 - 1969

Dr. J. A. Van Allen  
 Applied Physics Laboratory  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Silver Spring, Maryland

*See page 2 "The UFO Evidence" NICAAG*

Dear Van:

No doubt you have read some of the reports in the papers and magazines about these so-called flying saucers. We were fortunate enough a few weeks ago to pick up one of these objects in a theodolite and tracked it for a period of almost one minute. The man doing the tracking was Mr. C. B. Moore of the New York University, now with the General Mills Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mr. Moore has probably flown more balloons than any other living man. In addition to which he is a recognized authority on weather and is so employed at the present time by Project Skyhook. In addition to this, he had been head of Project Mogul for the Air Force. In his words the object was not a cloud, a plane, a bird, a balloon, or a meteor. He is quite positive about this. It was white as if it had been painted, traveled across the sky at a traverse of about five degrees per second, and it was first sighted to the west, rose to an elevation of about 45 degrees, traveled to the east to an elevation of about 25 degrees and then took on a sudden burst of speed and disappeared at an elevation of about 29 degrees. The time from 25 degrees to 29 degrees where it disappeared was approximately ten seconds. A ballistics man attached to the Skyhook group made some calculations on the missile and figured the velocity to be in the order of three to five miles per second, altitude between 35 and 40 miles. This would make the object 500 to 1,000 feet in diameter from the Mill scale on the theodolite. The object appeared to be somewhat egg shaped with one edge a faint orange or burnt brown color.

By coincidence, a few days ago I too managed to see one of these flying saucers along with three other officers during a Wac B firing. Although the object passed within a few degrees of the sun I was clearly able to see the white outline of the object with the naked eye. This object appeared almost directly overhead at the White Sands Proving Ground, gradually gaining a velocity to the west and disappearing in a blinding burst of speed to the west. Not having a theodolite I could naturally not tell whether it followed the plane of elliptic or not.

U. S. NAVAL UNIT  
 WHITE SANDS PROVING GROUNDS  
 LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO



JUL 8 - 1969

All of this, of course, has been every interesting to me and I have done a little research along the lines of finding out who, why, where and what. My first assumption led me to the conclusion that the object must have means of accelerating itself. The second assumption naturally is that no one on this planet is sufficiently far advanced to fly such an object. The next best bet seems to be the Planet Mars. By some strange quirk of fate the Planet Mars was quite close to the earth on July 16 when the first atomic bomb was exploded in the New Mexico desert. As a matter of fact, the bomb must have made the whole side of the globe light up like a neon sign according to Clyde Tombaugh. Incidentally, Mr. Tombaugh is the discoverer of the Planet Pluto and is a pretty sharp person. His specialty in astronomy has been observation of the Planet Mars for a period of about fifteen years. On August 27, 1941 Mr. Tombaugh saw a flash on the surface of the Planet Mars and now ascribes this flash to an atomic explosion of some sort.

All of this probably sounds pretty far fetched and crazy at this point. However, I feel that the information at hand would justify a slight amount of thought on the matter. Being in the rocket business my first concern was how in the world could they manage to propel such a large object in free space. I then recalled a light intensity device which I remembered as a child. This device was silvered on one side, blackened on the other and was caused to rotate in a vacuum by means of radiant pressure. It looks like that certainly would be a lot better than any of our present means of giving ourselves a push under such a situation. I imagine the rays are probably way up in the ultra-violet region beyond the optic range. How in the world they can get enough photons together at one time to give themselves a push is slightly beyond my comprehension but at least it is an idea and possibly there might be something to it.

Anyway, some of this is food for thought. Let me know if you have any ideas along this subject.

Hope to see you out here soon.

Best regards,

*Bob*

*(R. B. McLaughlin)*

13 May. U.S. Highway 20 between Caldwell and Boise, Idaho. ((between 1100 and 1119 hours)

An Air Force officer who scoffed until...

After viewing something unbelievable, the witness sat right down and wrote a letter to Wright Field the same day:

"For the last two years I have scoffed at people and their alleged flying discs. This morning, however, I became a convert. Please do not consider this letter as something from a crank or a publicity stunt--- I merely wish to inform you of an honest experience this morning with these nebulous flying discs.

"Before I outline the facts, may I point out that I logged more than 900 hours as first pilot on a B-24, and I hold a 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant's commission in the air force reserve. My serial number, incidentally, is [deleted]. If it will add credulity, my occupation is a newspaperman, currently being a writer for the Idaho State Board of Publicity. At any rate, here are the facts:

"This morning, May 13, 1949, I was driving from Caldwell to Boise, Idaho, on U.S. Highway 20. At 1100 hours my eye was attracted by a silvery object in the western sky. The object had no more disappeared when five (5) 'discs' hove into sight, flying a Vee formation. The discs were apparently in a slow spiral let down, circling to the left. It was very apparent they were a silver and black color. When they were on the inside of their turn, their underside was toward me and was a black color, making the discs hard to track with the eye. When they reached the outside of their turn relative to my position, they were a bright silver, reflecting brilliantly the sunlight. The day was clear, about 80 or 85 degrees with less than 3/10<sup>th</sup> cloud covering. The terrain was level over the Boise valley area in which they were flying. After making two spiral let downs, they shot upward in a southwesterly direction, actually changing from a Vee formation to an echelon to the left. They made another spiral let down, returning to a Vee formation. They again shot upward and were lost from sight. I observed these discs from 1100 to 1110 hours. They must have been man controlled, for they moved intelligently and changed or left formation well. Their size was problematical as was their altitude. I would estimate however, the altitude at 1? [not clear],000 to 15,000 and their size at comparable to a B-29. They appeared relatively large and were not as high speed as previous accounts I have read except when they shot upward. Their speed I would estimate at 350 to 440 mph. while in the spiral and easily double that when they climbed. They were of an elliptical shape as I will indicate in the attached rough sketch [Drawing missing from official files]. Their distance from me was probably 5 to 9 miles, however, when they reflected the sun I'm certain I would have caught them in a camera to at least verify my observation.

"As I have said, Sir, I'm no crank. I merely hope this information will be of some help to the Air Force and my country. What I saw is God's honest truth--- and I'll swear to it on judgement day! If there is any other information that I've overlooked, please call on me."

Sincerely,  
Robert F. Smith  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Air Force Reserve." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Commanding Officer, Wright Army Air Field, Dayton, Ohio. From: Robert F. Smith, Room 442, Yates Building, Boise, Idaho. 13 May 49. Photocopy in author's files.

14 May. Houston, Alaska. (9:10 a.m.)

Mr. George Metz's second sighting: "Three days later on the fourteenth at 9:10 a.m. two ships traveled the same route at a slightly higher elevation [of] approximately 2,000 ft." (xx.)

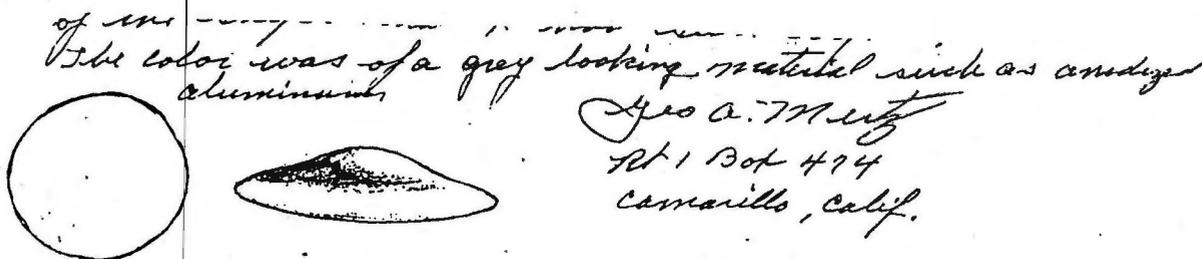
(xx.) Letter: To: CUFO? From: George Mertz. 17 November 52?

15 May. Houston, Alaska. (about noontime?)

Mr. Mertz's third observation:

"On the following Sunday morning just before lunch a ship much larger and at approximately 10,000 ft traveled what appeared to be toward the same destination as the rest of the ships that I had seen before. The color was of a grey looking material such as anodized aluminum." (xx.) (See drawing by witness below)

(xx.) Ibid.



19 May. The Camp Hood manifestations and the Air Force OSI.

"You definitely should participate."

The OSI Commander at Kelly AFB, Texas, apparently Lt. Col. R.R. Lumsden, asked the OSI Inspector General to approve involvement of the Air Force in the Camp Hood investigations. A letter was sent to Washington on May 6<sup>th</sup> and a reply was received about a dozen days later. The IG responded by saying:

"You definitely should participate in any conference on this subject and your Agents should be directed to investigate any incidents concerning or any information received about aerial anomalies.

"Inclosed is a copy of the form that should be used as a guide for reported information concerning flying discs or aerial phenomena. Reports on this subject should be sent direct to the Commanding General, Air Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, attention Director of Technical Intelligence. One information copy each will be sent to the Director of Intelligence, USAF, this Headquarters and to OSI Headquarters." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: District Commander, 10<sup>th</sup> OSI District, IG, Kelly AFB, San Antonio, Texas. From: Col. W.E. Carpenter, USAF, Deputy Director, Special Investigations. The Inspector General, USAF. 19 May 49. Copy in author's files.

21 May. Hanford Atomic Plant, Washington. (1:30 p.m.)

"Flying Saucer over the East 200 area."

Los Alamos and Camp Hood were not the only nuclear sites having "visitors." A report came in from Hanford. Unfortunately details are few and the object, whatever it was, left the area before a jet could get close:

"At 1330 a call was received from the Hanford Area (Concrete) that a Flying Saucer was over East 200 area approximately 4 (four) miles east of the Hanford Atomic Plant, Washington. The operator at Hanford stated that the Disk was standing still and then took off in a south easterly direction at a speed greater than that of a jet fighter. The available aircraft was called for by the Hanford operator and the aircraft was scrambled. The Hanford operator cleared the aircraft into their prohibited area (authorization coming from the Assistant Chief of the Security Section at Hanford). The scopes were instructed to search the southern sector with no results. Crew personnel and the controller searched the sky, visually, and noted a round, white or silver object traveling in a north easterly direction at a speed greater than that of jet fighters at approximately 10,000 to 15,000 feet.

"The base weather section [Moses Lake AFB] was then contacted to see if any weather balloons were sent up and they reported in the negative. Base weather section stated that they do not utilize weather balloons. At 1420 [This would be almost an hour after the UFO was first reported] an F-82, Gertrude 20, pilot Gardner was airborne and reported in to Torch controller." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Chief of Staff, United States Air Force, Washington, 25, D.C. Attn: Director of Intelligence, Requirements Division. From: Robert K. Fluitt, 1<sup>st</sup>.Lt. USAF, Adjutant. 637<sup>th</sup> AC&W Squadron, 505<sup>th</sup> Aircraft Control and Warning Group, Moses Lake AFB, Washington. Subject Project "SIGN." 23 May 1949. Copy in author's files.

A search of the area by the jet found no UFO but a small commercial aircraft dropping some

leaflets advertising auto racing at Pasco was discovered. This airplane, a PT-19 piloted by a Mr. Don Wise, caused a second alert since some of the paper fell into the prohibited Hanford Reservation. Lt. Fluitt stated in his report that two separate alert conditions existed on the afternoon of May 21<sup>st</sup>. One was a UFO alert and the other the paper drop by a civilian. As Lt. Fluitt states: "It is believed that there is no connection between the two events." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid, p.2.

For the record, the initial sighting apparently was made by Max Segoinns, who used a telescope while manning a meteorologist tower at a site designated "200 West." (xx.)

(xx.) Ibid.

It should be noted that in this Hanford case the failure to use a standard issue UFO report form (which would have provided more useful information) and the reference to Project "SIGN," a code name out of date since December 1948 [See the footnote], shows how ill prepared security forces were in sensitive nuclear areas. It no wonder UFO investigations took so much time in places like Los Alamos and Camp Hood.

24 May. The Air Force OSI takes note of developments in New Mexico.

Although the Air Material Command [Project GRUDGE] was "monitoring" things in New Mexico, whatever that amounted to, the OSI urged its people to take an interest and provide information. The OSI Inspector General wrote the 17<sup>th</sup> OSI District at Kirtland AFB on May 24<sup>th</sup> to thank that office for a letter concerning the latest developments:

"This refers to your letter of 12 May 1949, concerning the conference held on 27 and 28 April 1949 for the purpose of reviewing the circumstances surrounding the unidentified aerial phenomena that have been observed in the New Mexico area during the past five months.

"The report appears to be complete and is certainly clear. However, for your information the Air Material Command is monitoring this program and should be informed of any future meetings, so that a representative of the Director of Technical Intelligence may be present. A copy of the report has been submitted to the Air Material Command and to the Director of Intelligence, USAF.

"Any future sightings of those phenomena should be reported to the Commanding General, Air Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, attention of the Director of Technical Intelligence. One information copy each should be forwarded to the Director of Intelligence, USAF, and to OSI Headquarters." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: District Commander, 17<sup>th</sup> OSI District, IG, Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, New Mexico. From: Lt. Col. William M. Turner, USAF, Executive, Special Investigations, The Inspector General, USAF. 24 May 49. Copy in author's files.

29 May. Elko, Nevada. (2:00 a.m.)

Unfortunately, the witness in this incident, Mr. Russell Henrich, a Yard Clerk for Western Pacific Railroad, had no training which could provide a logical basis for his assumptions as to speed, distance, height, or spacing. The case does take on some interest in light of an earlier UFO report at Elko by a more qualified observer back on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Henrich's statement reads:

"At approximately two A.M. on the morning of May 29, 1949, while attending to routine duties in the freight yard of the Western Pacific Railroad Company in Elko, I noticed five amber colored lights approximately five miles distant and at an altitude of 1,000 feet. The lights were in a vee formation about 150 feet apart and heading West at a speed of over 500 miles per hour. I could hear no sound and there were no visible signs of exhaust. The lights were steady, giving the appearance of being seen through a window, rather than that of a ray or beam. When they disappeared it was as if an obstruction or projection on an aircraft had come into my line of vision.

"I do not know how long the lights were within my sight or the distance they covered during that period. I could not distinguish any outline around them and do not know whether they came from one very large aircraft or five smaller ones flying in formation." (xx.)

(xx.) Report of Investigation. Title: AMC Project "Sign." Elko, Nevada. Thomas J. Scanlan, DO#19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB. 13 June 1949. Copy in author's files.

1 June. Some confusion about UFOs.

Rep. Gardner R. Withrow of Wisconsin questioned Johnson. (See letter on page 90)

2 June. Editorial in the *Infantry Journal*. (See below) (xx.)

000.9 Flying Discs

000.76 General

2 June 1949

FRM: Air Intell. Div., D/I

TO: DCS/O, C/S

SS

Subj: Editorial in June Issue of *Infantry Journal*

1. The Sec. of AF has requested the C/S's opinion of an editorial, "The Implication of Flying Saucers", which appeared in the June issue of the *Infantry Journal*.

\*

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(xx.) Record Group 341. Director of Intelligence, Hq USAF. Decimal File 000.9.

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Washington, D.C.

June 1, 1949

Honorable Louis Johnson  
Secretary of Defense  
National Military Establishment  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I would appreciate it very much if you would advise me as to what I can tell my constituents concerning the so-called "flying saucers".

Ever since Mr. Winchell's broadcast of two weeks ago in which he said that the Air Force people are convinced the flying disc is real; that the Air Force had a picture (which they had just recently acquired) of three discs flying in formation over Stephenville, Newfoundland; that some Air Force men believe the discs are a new type flying machine, utilizing gyroscopic principles, we have been receiving scores of letters from the home District asking for the "truth" about these saucers. Apparently, the primary concern is why our Armed Forces do not know anything about these saucers; also, how could we be so far behind in our knowledge and research development. These are truly embarrassing questions and I would like to have some practical information with which to answer the queries of my constituents.

Thanking you in advance, I remain

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Gardner R. Withrow

Gardner R. Withrow, M.C.

GRW/jmd

Serious official action?

Colonel H. M. McCoy, Chief, Intelligence Department, Headquarters AMC, Wright Field, Ohio, forwarded the Fourth Army's investigative UFO plan to Headquarters USAF, Washington D.C. with his recommendation that the situation in the U.S. Southwest be taken seriously:

"It is suggested that this plan be brought to the attention of the [Air Force] Scientific Advisory Board inasmuch as the phenomena observed in the Killeen Base area is similar to the fireballs occurring in the Albuquerque, New Mexico, vicinity.

"It is further suggested that the Air Force bases near Camp Hood, Texas, be made aware of this situation and be requested to offer any possible assistance in this investigation." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Hq USAF, Director of Intelligence, ATTN: Air Defense Branch, Major Boggs, AFOIN, Washington 25, D.C. From: H.M. McCoy, Colonel, USAF, Chief, Intelligence Department. 6 June 1949 (Bse Ltr, 19 May 49, fr Hq Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to CO AMC, subj: "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena.")

The problem was McCoy's request had to go through Major Jeremiah Boggs, Air Force Office of Air Intelligence Defense Air (AFOAIDA), who acted as liaison between AMC (GRUDGE) and the USAF Scientific Advisory Board, especially the two board members taking an active role as UFO advisors, Dr. George E. Valley and Dr. Joseph Kaplan. Maj Boggs wrote up many crucial Intelligence directives and also happened to be "violently anti-saucer."

In the meantime, Army authorities at Camp Hood explained to its superiors why it needed Air Force aid. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division contacted the Commanding General's office at Fourth Army Headquarters at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. To say:

"Facilities presently available at Camp Hood are deemed inadequate to procure additional information regarding certain aerial phenomena sighted in this area.

"Request that technical personnel equipped with scientific apparatus be made available for accomplishment of the mission." (xx.)

(xx.) Letter: To: Commanding General, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Attn: A C of S, G-2. SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena. From: H.R. Hurst. Capt, AGD. Asst. Adj. Gen. Headquarters 2D Armored Division. Office of the A C of S, G-2 Camp Hood, Texas. 15 June 1949. Copy in author's files.

Waiting for Dr. Kaplan.

Headquarters USAF did not know what action to take. General Cabell and Dr. Von Karman had left an evaluation of the problem in the hands of Dr. Kaplan who was taking his time looking into the situation during a lecture tour in the region. As of late June, Dr. Kaplan had not made a report. Confusion over the matter shows up the document dated June 10<sup>th</sup> with General Cabell's

note added on June 19<sup>th</sup>. (See document on page 93)

Major Boggs prepared a reply to Col. McCoy at AMC Wright Field (GRUDGE) which was not encouraging. His second (the first one is not available) draft dated 20 June 49 was more negative than the final one dated the same day that has the signatures of his superiors. (See document on page 94) The second draft mentions Dr. Hynek's adverse recommendations, the lack of "firm evidence," and the opinion project GRUDGE should not help the Army.

The apparent final draft is more favorable. Since the quality of the photocopy is poor, Boggs' final draft is retyped here:

"CONFIDENTIAL

AFOAI-DA  
Maj Boggs/at/5867  
Wrtn 20 Jun 49

B/L 19 May 49, fr Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to CO, AMC,  
subj: 'Unidentified Aerial Phenomena.'

AFOAI-DA

2d Incl

Department of the Air Force, Hq. USAF, Washington 25, D.C. ["23 JUN 1949"  
(rubber stamp)]

TO: Commanding General, Air Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force  
Base, Dayton, Ohio.

1. The necessity for investigative measures suggested in inclosure to basic letter is considered warranted only as it may serve as a field exercise for the Artillery Training Force. This is substantiated by recommendations in final report, Project 364 [Hynek]. In addition, Dr. Joseph Kaplan has recently visited installations in New Mexico where the 'green fireball' phenomena have been observed. It is understood that as a result of these visits, Dr. Kaplan will advise the Director of Intelligence and USAF Scientific Advisory Board on any further investigative action that appears appropriate.

2. In light of the aforementioned facts, it is not considered advisable at this time to bring the proposed field exercise to the attention of the Scientific Advisory Board.

3. Adequate directives and instructions are in effect to allow the collection of reports on unidentified aerial objects for investigation and analysis by Project Grudge. However, there is no objection to AMC informing air bases in the Camp Hood, Texas, area of the confidential training exercise being conducted at that installation.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

John M. Schweizer, Jr.  
Colonel, USAF. Executive, Director of Intelligence." (xx.)

(xx.) Copy in author's files.

g. TO: ~~AF~~ AFOIR-CO SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS - REMARKS (Continued)

1. It is recommended that this document be called to the attention of Gen. Cabell inasmuch as he had discussed the subject with Dr. VonKarman and Dr. Kaplan prior to this reported action.

DATE 10 June 49

NO. 2

2. Undoubtedly, Dr. Kaplan will report to Dr. VonKarman and Gen. Cabell on his findings but this is the first information on his investigative activities which have reached AFOAI.

*J. P. Poon (OAI-DA)*

OIR-

*Please see above note.  
mm  
OIR-CO*

*13 June  
#30*

h. TO: OAI:

DATE 19 June

NO. 4

*Do you think we should sit here - wait for Kaplan or VonKarman to come to us? Or should we seek out one or the other + on what basis? In other words - what do we do next?*

*CPC*

AFOAI-DA  
 Maj Boggs/st/5867  
 Wrtn: 16 Jun 49  
 Rewrtn: 20 Jun 49

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

PROBLEM:

1. To prepare a reply to certain Hq. AMC suggestions for activities connected with investigation of "green fireball" phenomena occurring in Texas.

FACTS & DISCUSSION:

2. Hq. AMC, by 1st Ind to letter 19 May 49 from Hq. Fourth Army, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas, subject: "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena", transmitted information on an artillery training force at Camp Hood, Texas which will watch for unidentified aerial objects. AMC suggested that this be brought to the attention of USAF Scientific Advisory Board and that Air Force Bases in the Camp Hood area be informed of the investigation and requested to offer assistance.

3. Recommendations in final report, Project 364, which were the result of a study of unidentified aerial objects by Mr. J. A. Hynek of Ohio State University Research Foundation do not indicate the necessity for participation in investigative efforts of this nature.

4. The "green fireball" phenomena is receiving personal investigative attention from Dr. Joseph Kaplan member of USAF Scientific Advisory Board who has said that he will make recommendations for further action to the Director of Intelligence.

5. There is no firm evidence to disprove the possibility that the "green fireball" observations involve celestial phenomena.

6. It is believed that in view of the foregoing facts it is untimely to bring the matter to the attention of the USAF Scientific Advisory Board.

7. Since the investigative procedures of Project Grudge are still in effect, a directive for the participation of Air Force units in the Camp Hood exercise appears to be unwarranted at this time.

8. On 20 Jun 49 attached 2d Ind was prepared.

ACTION REQUIRED:

9. Approval, signature, and forwarding.

COORDINATION:

Col. Schweizer, AFOIN, Ext. 4738

AFOAI-914

28 June. Why hasn't Dr. Kaplan contacted us?

"It is indicated Dr. Kaplan has reached a conclusion."

In Major Bogg's opinion, Dr. Kaplan had come to a conclusion that the phenomena in question was one of minor significance that could be attributed to natural causes. Why then, had not such a conclusion been finalized? At the urging of General Cabell a letter was prepared by Boggs to ensure Kaplan submitted his recommendations without further delay. What Boggs didn't know was that Dr. Kaplan wasn't that sure about the natural cause solution. (See pages 96-97)

SECRET

AFOAI-DA  
Maj Boggs/st/5867  
Wrtm 28 Jun 49

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

PROBLEM:

1. To prepare a personal letter to Dr. Joseph Kaplan expressing interest in his investigations and conclusions concerning "green fireball" observations in New Mexico.

FACTS & DISCUSSION:

2. Dr. Kaplan's investigation was undertaken after a conversation between him and the Director of Intelligence on 8 Apr 49. Dr. Kaplan stated that he would, in the course of his travel for lectures, contact persons who were involved in the "green fireball" incidents and investigations. From this he hoped to acquire some basis for judging the claims made to him by Dr. Lincoln LaPaz that the "green fireballs" did not appear to be normal meteors. Dr. Kaplan indicated that he would then advise the Director of Intelligence of his opinions. It was anticipated that Dr. Kaplan's opinions would then be used to determine any future activity under Project Grudge concerning the "green fireball" phenomena.

3. On 12 Apr 49, the Director of Intelligence conferred with Dr. von Karman. The "green fireball" matter was discussed including the action to be taken by Dr. Kaplan. Dr. von Karman felt that it was a matter for scientific investigation under upper atmosphere research but indicated that the results of Dr. Kaplan's interviews would indicate what action would be appropriate by the Director of Intelligence.

4. An information copy of a letter, subject, "Unknown Aerial Phenomena", dated 12 May 49, from the District Commander, 17th District, OSI, Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico, to the Director of Special Investigations, Hq. USAF, has been received by AFOAI. This letter states that Dr. Kaplan recently visited Kirtland AFB and Los Alamos, New Mexico, where he discussed the incidents with observers and investigators of the incidents. It is indicated that Dr. Kaplan has reached the conclusion that the "green fireball" phenomena should not be included in the category of "flying saucers" and should be investigated separately by the Institute of Meteoritics, at the University of New Mexico. It appears that Dr. Kaplan has found no support for Dr. LaPaz' intimations that the fireballs are man-made. Project Grudge analyses and investigations never revealed any reason to believe otherwise. Since the scientific investigation of natural phenomena is beyond the scope of Project Grudge, it may be possible to eliminate future "green fireballs" reports from intelligence consideration on the basis of Dr. Kaplan's recommendations.

5. No communication is known to have been received by the Directorate of Intelligence from Dr. Kaplan since he commenced his interviews and investigation on this problem. It was, however, expected that, in accordance with the discussion held with him on 8 Apr 49, he would inform the Director of Intelligence of his views when they have been finalized.

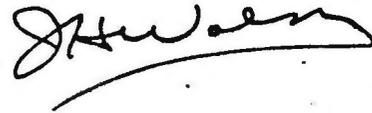
6. To ensure that Dr. Kaplan furnishes his views to the Director of Intelligence, a personal letter was prepared on 27 Jun 49 from the Director of Intelligence to Dr. Kaplan.

ACTION RECOMMENDED:

7. Approval, signature, and forwarding.

COORDINATION:

Colonel Allen, AFOAI, <sup>51</sup> Extension 5853



SECRET

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