

discouraging open reporting (e.g., Section I-F of Grudge Rept. 3), and surprisingly salty comments by the Bluebook astronomical consultant as he disparages the lack of basis for some of the negative 1952 utterances of Menzel and Liddell.

Most important of all (in my estimation), the reader will find in these once-secret pages, confirmation after confirmation of details of these outstanding early cases previously known only through the writing of Keyhoe and Ruppelt. Speaking for myself, I have always been uncomfortable about taking seriously many of the reports in, say Ruppelt's 1956 book. It simply seemed unreasonable to think that the Air Force could have in its files so many strong cases, so many derived from military observers, without responding with the greatest vigor. From a study of the following reports, we now find that Ruppelt was evidently not inventing or embellishing at all: indeed, he probably understated the situation. Here one can find Air Force documentation of such outstanding cases as Bellefontaine, Port Huron, Nenana, Mitchell AFB, Patrick AFB, Rapid City, Ft. Monmouth, and March AFB (to identify them merely by locale) and also cases the reader has probably never before heard of (cases at White Sands, at George AFB, at Moriarity, N.M., at Craig, Montana, at Larson AFB, and many others). Yet even in that two-year period of most vigorous and most open-minded UFO investigation, the birds-and-balloons type of Bluebook bias was present. (As samples thereof, study the November 15, 1952, Wichita report in Rept. 9 or the December 10, 1952, Odessa report in Rept. 10.)

In support of my assertion that these declassified Reports suggest that Ruppelt's book is really an understatement of the seriousness of the UFO problem, I might invite attention to such cases as the following (none of which Ruppelt reported in his book): 1) Larson AFB, January 8, 1953 (Rept. 10), where an Unknown "green disc-shaped object" was viewed by some sixty military and civilian witnesses over a period of about 15 minutes. 2) George AFB, May 1-20, 1952 (Rept. 7) where a series of very curious reports from base military personnel led to no adequate explanations. Ruppelt merely mentions in his book that he had gone to George AFB to check these cases; their actual content is seen to be most intriguing--and perhaps less balloon-like than some of Bluebooks comments would indicate. 3) Colorado Springs, December 4, 1952 (Rept. 10) where a military and civilian observer reported a mid-day sighting of a fast-moving round object of metallic luster which executed several right-angle turns with no speed decreases (tagged "possible aircraft" in the style that ultimately became so well-ingrained within the Bluebook office). 4) Odessa, Washington, December 10, 1953 (Rept. 10) where an F-94 had radar and visual contact for 15 minutes with a reddish-white object "larger than any known aircraft" that sometimes hovered, sometimes reversed direction, but eluded a 600-mph jet for a quarter of an hour--a neat trick for the research balloon it is asserted to have been. 5) And, to close a list that could become quite long, see Rept. 10's brief but intriguing summary of an Unknown, seen by three "mature, reliable" persons at a distance of a few hundred yards and 10-15 feet above terrain. The report mentions its biconvex shape, like "two soup bowls put together", and refers to lighted windows or portholes.

It's this kind of puzzling case, and others cited above, here made available as part of the open record, that make this NICAP publication an outstanding contribution to the UFO literature.

CROSS REFERENCES

Report Number	Date	Place	Evidence page	Ruppelt page
Report No. 1	8/25/51	Lubbock, Texas	88	130-38, 141-48
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Report No. 4	1/21/52	Mitchell AFB, N.Y.	30, 35, 149	161-64
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Report No. 5	1/20/52	Fairchild AFB, Wash.	20	21-22
Report No. 6	1/16/52	Artesia, N.M.	3, 10, 55	160-61
Report No. 7	5/7/52	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	88	
	5/8/52	Atlantic Ocean	132	177-79
	1/22/52	Nenana, Alaska	77, 118	164-69