



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

INTRA-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

2

4-52

OTTAWA, Ontario, September 10, 1952

PLACE

DATE

YOUR FILE

SUBJECT

OUR FILE

MEMORANDUM

In order to ascertain the reliability of random observations and reports from the public and press of objects seen in the sky a flare of approximately 1,000 candle power was burned for one minute over the outskirts of Ottawa. Two simultaneous observations of the flare were made by transit from two locations. Location A was at the Ottawa Monitoring Station and Location B was at Uplands Airport.

At 21.45 EST September 8, 1952 a balloon and fused flare were released from Location A. At 21.51 EST the flare ignited and burned for one minute or until 21.52 EST. The bearings obtained were as follows:

<u>Azimuth</u>	<u>Elevation</u>
Location A 46.35° E. of N.	20°
Location B 3.5° W. of N.	12.5°

These angles would place the balloon over the Rideau Canal near Dow's Lake at an elevation of 1.1 miles.

The flare was clearly visible from Ottawa and did not resemble a meteor or northern lights. It could not be mistaken for a star and could not be associated with the moon which was on the eastern horizon. It could not be mistaken for a plane, since it was soundless and flashed only for a short time from an almost stationary position.

There was no mention made of this object in the newspapers.

(J.H. Thompson)