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PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD Incident #70A

UNCLASSIFIED

ATIC NO. - - -

DATE OF INFO 6 Aug 47

AF NO. - - -

LOCATION Philadelphia, Penn.

REPORT NO. - - -

SOURCE Retired Cop

DATE OF REPORT - - -

DATE IN TO ATIC - - -

TIME OF SIGHTING 2245 EST

COLOR - - -

SHAPE Big Firecracker

SPEED High

Estimated
Measured

SIZE Large

ALTITUDE - - -

Estimated
Measured

COURSE 180 degrees S

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED Gone in split sec

NO. IN GROUP 1

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

SOUND - - -

MANEUVERS - - -

PHOTOS - - -

SKETCHES - - -

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

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Incident #69, 69a -- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania -- 6 August 1947

The reports of this incident and those of #70 refer to the same object and are typical of descriptions of relatively slow moving meteors. The speed, trail, hissing sound (after passage -- although this could easily have been a subjective reaction), and color all check with the object's having been a fireball, bolide, or large meteor.

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR
INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY
DECLASSIFIED. DOD DIR. 5200.10

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[redacted]

Incident #70, 70a -- Philadelphia, Pennsylvania -- 6 August 1947

The descriptions given of this object are typical of those of relatively slow moving meteors. See report on incident #69 for details.

[redacted]

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TO: Director, FBI

DATE: September 18, 1947

FROM: SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: Flying OBJECT REPORTED OVER PHILADELPHIA
AUGUST 6, 1947
SABOTAGE

Remytel August 7 last.

Miss [redacted], Philadelphia, who is employed by the GEORGE R. GREENWALD MANUFACTURING COMPANY, 1524 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, advised as follows:

DEFERRED RECORDING

Between 10:30 and 10:45 p.m. on August 6, 1947, she was sitting on the steps of her home with [redacted]. She was facing north and observed a large white object traveling at a very fast rate of speed to the south. There was a buzzing sound, not too loud but plainly audible, just after this object passed through the air. This white object left in its trail a thin streak of smoke, which was grayish in color.

Miss [redacted], Philadelphia, who is employed by the PRESSMAN & GUTMAN COMPANY, INC., Room 1140, P.S.F.S. Building, Philadelphia, stated she was sitting on the steps of Miss [redacted] home on the evening of August 6, 1947, around 10:45 p.m. engaging in conversation with Miss [redacted], when Miss [redacted] abruptly stopped in the middle of her conversation and appeared to be frightened. Miss [redacted] at that time was sitting in a position in which she was facing south. She did not see any object in the sky after noting Miss [redacted] change of expression, but she did hear a slight buzzing sound.

[redacted], Philadelphia, an insurance agent, who was a former pilot of B-24's in the Army Air Corps, advised as follows:

He was sitting on the steps of his home around 10:45 p.m. on August 6, 1947, with his wife; and his neighbors, the [redacted] family, were sitting on their steps next door to the residence of [redacted]. All of the above parties were facing east. [redacted] noticed at this time an object, emitting a bluish-white flame, passing quickly through the air. The object was traveling from northeast to southwest. Using his experience in the Army Air Corps as a guide, [redacted] estimated the above object was between 1000 and 3000 feet in the air and traveling at a rate of between 400 to 500 miles an hour. This object did not lose elevation as it passed through the air and left either smoke or a condensation trail in its former path, which lasted for about two seconds. A hissing sound accompanied the passing of this object. This sound was moderate and not nearly as loud as the noise accompanying the passage of a rocket ship.

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

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Director, FBI September 18, 1947

[redacted], who is a retired police officer of the Philadelphia Police Department, advised as follows:

Around 10:45 p.m. on August 6, 1947, he and his wife were sitting on the steps of their home, when [redacted] noticed an object, resembling to him a giant firecracker, pass quickly through the air. [redacted] heard no noise, but the object had completely passed from view in a southern direction within a split second. It left a fiery trail for about 100 feet. August 6, 1947, was a clear night, and no storm was brewing. [redacted] was sure the object he saw was no falling star, and he noted the above object did not seem to be falling but maintained the same altitude.

The wives of [redacted] and [redacted] verified the accounts of their husbands as to the above-mentioned object.

It is to be noted that the [redacted] and the [redacted] live in Northeast Philadelphia near Oxford Circle, which is about ten miles removed from the residence of Miss [redacted]. Miss [redacted]'s residence is located in the western part of Philadelphia. The Misses [redacted] and [redacted] are not known to the above-mentioned [redacted] and [redacted]. It is further noted the observation of Miss [redacted], the [redacted] and the [redacted] roughly correspond. All of the above persons seem reliable and not the type to seek publicity or to spread rumors.

Miss [redacted] and [redacted] called the "Inquirer", Philadelphia newspaper, and inquired if it could offer any explanation as to what they had seen. A representative of that paper had advised Miss [redacted] and [redacted] that the object they saw may have been some product of an oil refinery or chemical company in their neighborhood.

Both the Offices of Naval Intelligence and Army Intelligence in Philadelphia were requested by the Philadelphia Office to ascertain if either the Army or the Navy was doing any experimental work on new types of planes or equipment, in the vicinity of Philadelphia. Such was done with negative results. The Office of Naval Intelligence indicated that an explosion had occurred at the CHARLES LENNIG CHEMICAL COMPANY on August 6, 1947.

S. A. GIMBEL, Safety Department of the CHARLES LENNIG CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC., 5000 Richmond Street, Philadelphia, advised as follows:

The above company is a manufacturer and distributor of chemicals. A fire had occurred on a dump of the company on August 6, 1947, but was quickly gotten under control. Such fire was confined to the company's premises and could not have been observed from outside the plant. The CHARLES

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LENNIG COMPANY is about two and one-half miles southeast from Oxford Circle. The account of the fire does not seem to fit into the general pattern of the above-mentioned flying object, for it is noted that the flying object was allegedly traveling from a position northeast of Oxford Circle to a southwesterly direction in Philadelphia. GIMBEL pointed out that, to the best of his knowledge, there are no oil refineries and chemical companies located around Oxford Circle or north of such, but that all of the companies of this type are several miles south of Oxford Circle.

All logical investigation having been conducted, no further action will be taken on the instant matter unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

FFB/ctg
98-1762

[redacted]

Between 10:30 and 10:45 P. M. 6 Aug 47, Miss [redacted] was seated on the steps of her home with [redacted]. She was facing north and observed a large white object traveling at a very fast rate of speed to the south. There was a buzzing sound, not too loud but plainly audible just after the object passed thru the air. The object appeared white in color and left a thin streak of smoke which was grayish in color.

[redacted]

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CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

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Incident # 69

1. Date 6 Aug 47
2. Time 2230-2245
3. Location Philadelphia, Pa.
4. Name of observer [redacted]
5. Occupation of observer employed by Geo A. Greenwald Mfg Co.
6. Address of observer [redacted] Pa.
7. Place of observation At observer's home
8. Number of objects 1
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight N/S
11. Altitude N/S
12. Speed Very fast
13. Direction of flight South
14. Tactics N/S - apparently straight flight
15. Sound slight buzzing after passage of object
16. Size large
17. Color white
18. Shape N/S
19. Odor detected N/S
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails Thin streak of grayish smoke
22. Weather conditions N/S
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs none
25. Manner of disappearance N/S
26. Remarks: (over)

UNCLASSIFIED

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she observed that Miss [redacted] appeared frightened. As she was facing south she did not see the object after she noticed her companion's change of expression but she did hear a slight buzzing sound.

[redacted]

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CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 69a

1. Date 6 Aug 47

2. Time 2230-2245

3. Location Philadelphia, Pa.

4. Name of observer Miss [redacted]

5. Occupation of observer Employed by Pressman & Gutman Co., Inc.

6. Address of observer [redacted], Phila, Pa.

7. Place of observation [redacted]t., Phila, Pa.

8. Number of objects 1

9. Distance of object from observer N/S

10. Time in sight N/S

11. Altitude N/S

12. Speed N/S

13. Direction of flight N/S

14. Tactics N/S

15. Sound slight buzzing sound

16. Size N/S

17. Color N/S

18. Shape N/S

19. Odor detected N/S

20. Apparent construction N/S

21. Exhaust trails N/S

22. Weather conditions N/S

23. Effect on clouds N/S

24. Sketches or photographs None

25. Manner of disappearance N/S

26. Remarks: Miss [redacted] was sitting on the steps of Miss [redacted]s home the evening of 6 Aug 47 around 10:45 P. M. engaged in conversation when

(over)

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[redacted]

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[redacted], a former pilot of B-24 in the Army Air Corps advised that he was sitting on the steps of his home around 10:45 P. M. the night of Aug 6, 1947 and that his neighbors, the [redacted] family, were also sitting on their steps. All parties were facing east. [redacted] noticed an object which emitted a bluish-white flame pass quickly thru the air. It was traveling NE to SW. Using his experience in the Army Air Corps he estimated the speed as between 400 to 500 MPH. The object did not lose elevation and left either a smoke or condensation trail in its former path. The vapor lasted for about 2 seconds. A hissing sound accompanied the passing. The sound was moderate and not nearly as loud as that occasioned by a rocket ship.

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[redacted]

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

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Incident # 70

1. Date 6 Aug 47
2. Time Around 2245
3. Location Philadelphia, Pa
4. Name of observer [redacted]
5. Occupation of observer Insurance agent (former B-24 pilot)
6. Address of observer [redacted]., Philadelphia, Pa.
7. Place of observation above address
8. Number of objects 1
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight N/S
11. Altitude 1,000 - 3000 ft
12. Speed between 400-500 MPH
13. Direction of flight from NE to SW
14. Tactics N/S
15. Sound hissing
16. Size N/S
17. Color N/S
18. Shape N/S
19. Odor detected N/S
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails Smoke or condensation - also emitted bluish white flame
22. Weather conditions Clear
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs None
25. Manner of disappearance N/S
26. Remarks: (Over)

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[redacted]

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Around 10:45 on the night of 6 Aug 47, [redacted] and his wife were sitting on the steps of their home when [redacted] noticed an object resembling (to him) a giant firecracker which passed quickly thru the air. He heard no noise and the object completely passed from view in a southerly direction within a split second. It left a fiery trail for about 100 feet. The object did not lose altitude so he was sure it was not falling star.

NOTE: It is to be noted that the [redacted] and the [redacted] live in NE Phila, near Oxford Circle (about 10 miles removed from the residence of Miss [redacted] - Inc 69) It is further noted that the observations of Miss [redacted] the [redacted] and the [redacted] roughly correspond. All seemed reliable and were not the types to seek publicity or to spread rumors.

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CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 70A

1. Date 6 Aug 47
2. Time Around 2245
3. Location Philadelphia, Pa.
4. Name of observer [redacted]
5. Occupation of observer retired police officer
6. Address of observer [redacted]
7. Place of observation above
8. Number of objects 1
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight gone in a split second
11. Altitude N/S
12. Speed ~~Smooth~~ Very rapid
13. Direction of flight South
14. Tactics N/S
15. Sound No noise
16. Size large
17. Color N/S
18. Shape "like giant firecracker"
19. Odor detected None
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails "fiery trail for about 100 ft"
22. Weather conditions clear
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs None
25. Manner of disappearance N/S
26. Remarks: (over)

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Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. **Astronomical**

   a. High probability:
   #26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 68, 69, 70, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140, 147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216, 219, 238.

   b. Fair or low probability:
   #19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100, 112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192, 199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

   a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:
   #3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115, 126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

   b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:
   #4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107, 108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

   c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):
   #39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

   a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:
   #38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118, 125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213, 229, 232, 233.

   b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:
   #1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.