[redacted] B7C

Incident #109

ATIC NO. ____ DATE OF INFO 9 Mar. 1948

AF NO. ____ LOCATION Bakerfield, calif

WEEKLY NO. ____ SOURCE Civilians

DATE OF ORIGIN ____ DATE IN TO ATIC ____

TIME OF OBSERVING 0830 COLOR orange-red flame

SHAPE very small airplane SPEED ____

TYPE very small airplane ALTITUDE 1000'

COURSE Due N of Bakerfield LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED ____

NO. IN GROUP 1 TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground (indoor)

WEATHER ____ MANEUVERS zig-zagging

PHOTOS ____ SKETCHES ____

other (FLARES)

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(1 Jan 52)

[redacted] B7C

RESTRICTED

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #109 -- Bakersfield, California -- 9 March 1948

It is extremely unlikely that the object cited in this incident was of astronomical origin. See report on incident #106.

UNCLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED

9-3913-5

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident #109

1. Date 9 March 1948
2. Time 0830
3. Location Bakersfield, California
4. Name of observers [redacted] and Mrs. [redacted]
5. Occupation of observer [redacted], Dentist, [redacted] Secretary
6. Address of observer N/S
7. Place of observation 5th Floor of business building
8. Number of objects One
9. Distance of object from observer 7 - 10 miles
10. Time in sight N/S
11. Altitude 1000 feet
12. Speed N/S
13. Direction of flight Due north of Bakersfield
14. Tactics Zig-zaging
15. Sound N/S
16. Size Appearance of a very small airplane
17. Color Orange-red flame
18. Shape Appearance of a very small airplane
19. Odor detected N/S
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails Considerable black smoke trailing for 4000 to 5000 feet
22. Weather conditions N/S
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs None
25. Manner of disappearance N/S
26. Remarks: See supplement to Incident #106

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH AIR FORCE
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
HAMILTON FIELD, CALIFORNIA

4AFDA-3/1208-I 319.1/A-2/24 14 APR 1948

SUBJECT: Investigation of Flying Disc

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: TSDIN

Attached Summary of Information forwarded in compliance with ADC Ltr 45-5, Subject: "Reporting of Information on "Flying Discs" dated 25 March 1948.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

W. J. TURNER
CWO, USAF
Actg Asst Adj Gen

1 Incl:
S/I-Inves. of
"Flying Disc"(dup)

Distribution:
AMC, Wright-Patterson - 2 cys
ADC, Mitchel Fld, N Y - 1 cy
USAF, Washington, D C - 1 cy
A-2, 4AF, Hamilton Fld file - 1 cy

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERV
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr frm Hq 4th AF, dated 11 Mar 48, subject: "Investigation of Flying Disc"

AFOIR-CO-5 1st Ind. 2 APR 1948

Department of the Air Force, Hq. USAF, Washington 25, D. C.

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

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, A-2
Intelligence
Hamilton Field, California

LAEDA-3/1208-I

SUBJECT: Investigation of Flying Disc. Mar 11, 1948

TO: Chief of Staff
United States Air Forces
Washington, D. C.
ATTN: DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE
Air Intelligence Requirements Branch

1. Incident reported on 9 March 1948, this headquarters, per telephone call from Sgt A. W. Larsen, Sheriff's office, Bakersfield, California.

2. a. Observation by Mr. [redacted] Bakersfield, California, of two objects falling to earth from unknown source on 5 March 1948 between 1610 and 1655 hours. Description of objects similar to falling aircraft with smoke and debris trailing. Observation made at Bakersfield with objects sighted southwest toward Buena Vista Lake, California.

b. Observation by Mr. [redacted], employee of the Pacific General Electric Company, Bakersfield, California, of two objects which fell to earth from unknown source north of Bakersfield, California, 8 March 1948. One object seemed to be on fire with red and black smoke trailing behind.

2. Informant [redacted] stated that searching parties, aircraft and rescue units have made numerous attempts to locate these reported objects without success.

3. Investigation of incident has been initiated by this headquarters. Report will follow.

/s/ Donald L. Springer
DONALD L. SPRINGER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
AC of S, A-2

Information to:
AMC, Mitchel Fld, N. Y.
FEAF, San Francisco
G-2, Sixth Army
PICO, San Francisco (12th Nav Dist)

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff
Intelligence
Hamilton Field, California

4AFDA-3/1208-I

SUBJECT: Investigation of Flying Discs

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

Information from the Sheriff's Office, Bakersfield, California, revealed that numerous calls from residents in Bakersfield concerning peculiar objects in the sky over Bakersfield, predicated an investigation by their office and contact with A-2 Headquarters Fourth Air Force.

On 13 March 1948, two informants, Mr. [redacted], and Mr. [redacted] stated that they observed a flying object which appeared to be consumed in fire, and left a brownish, white plume of smoke, which suddenly stopped and disappeared. Seconds later, what appeared to be a parachute, was seen to be drifting to the east.

The object, as described, appeared to be a burning fabric airplane, consumed in smoke. Observations were made in Bakersfield of object to the south and southwest, approximately ten to twelve miles distance, around 1600 hours on 5 March 1948.

On 13 March 1948, informant, Mr. [redacted] stated that he observed an object at 0830, 8 March 1948, due north of Bakersfield, approximately five miles distance. The object was a large, orange-red ball of fire, somewhat larger than a small airplane, appeared to remain static for approximately thirty seconds, then split and continued to burn; each visible as a burning half. A parachute, with a black object hanging was then observed to fall, drift to the east and disappeared into the hills east of Bakersfield.

On 13 March 1948, two informants, Mrs. [redacted], secretary, Haberfelde Building, Bakersfield, California, and Dr. [redacted] dentist, Haberfelde Building, Bakersfield, California, stated that they were in [redacted] Haberfelde Building, on the morning of 9 March 1948. Mrs. [redacted] was a patient of Dr. [redacted]. Both informants stated that they observed a flaming object which appeared at first to be a very small airplane. Orange red flames seemed to envelope the object with considerable black smoke trailing in a zigzag manner for approximately 4,000 to 5,000 feet. The object was observed at 1,000 feet, approximately due north of Bakersfield, seven to ten miles distant at approximately 0830 hours.

UNCLASSIFIED

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Summary of Information:
Investigation of Flying Discs

Informants further stated that the object disappeared behind a water tower, which was an obstruction to their view, and was near the ground. Both informants watched for an explosion, thinking that it would explode upon reaching the ground, but nothing unusual was noted.

A-2 COMMENT:

Although there is no evidence to substantiate the following, it is the opinion of this headquarters that this activity could be attributed to marker flares. Any further developments, or evidence obtained, will be forwarded this headquarters from the Sheriff's Office, Bakersfield, California.

EVALUATION

Of Source	Of Information
C	3

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

08 DEC 50 PM 5:10

[redacted]

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH AIR FORCE
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff
Intelligence
Hamilton Field, California

LAGIA-3/1208-I

SUBJECT: Investigation of Flying Discs

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EVALUATION

Of Source	Of Information
C	3

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, 66, 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.