2

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #202

ATIC NO. ____

AF NO. ____

REPORT NO. ____

DATE OF REPORT ____

TIME OF SIGHTING 1850 EST

SHAPE Disc with little or no depth

SIZE Relative to moon

COURSE SSE

NO. IN GROUP 1

SOUND ---

PHOTOS ---- SKETCHES ----

DATE OF INC 8 Nov 48

LOCATION Newark AFB, Newark, N.J.

SOURCE Ex-USAFR Capt (pilot)

DATE RECEIVED ATIC ____

COLOR ____

SPEED 800 mph

ALTITUDE 5000'-6000'

Est Lerted ____
Measured ____
Estimated ____
Measured ____

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 1 second

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

MANEUVERS Made arc toward SSE

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Capt Sirbell

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #202 -- Newark AF Base, New Jersey -- 8 November 1948

In everything but the luminosity, the object reported here answers to the description of a slow-moving fireball. Since it was in sight "one second or less," the first quarter moon and, presumably, the lights of the city and the airport, providing background and foreground illumination, may have tended to diminish the brilliance of the object. The time of day was most propitious for a slow-moving meteor. Unless a more likely explanation is forthcoming, this incident can be tentatively ascribed to the flight of a fireball.

UNCLASSIFIED

97123-12

HEADQUARTERS
AIR WEATHER SERVICE
Andrews Air Force Base
Washington 25, D. C.

In Reply
Refer To: AFS DSS

11 May 1949

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

TO : Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

1. Reference is made to letter from your headquarters, MCIAXS, dated 9 March 1949, subject "Unidentified Flying Objects," and first indorsement thereto by this headquarters, dated 31 March 1949.

2. The incident summaries 173 through 233 have been checked against routine weather-balloon ascents made by the Air Force, Navy and Weather Bureau. Comments based on this review are inclosed.

3. It is recommended that the "Guide To Investigation Of Unidentified Aerial Objects" be changed as follows: Item 13, "Direction of Flight of Object," should be clarified so that vertical and horizontal motions are distinguished if possible, and so that motion is specified as the direction towards which the object appears to move. "Relative to Radar Settings" should include a statement of the type of radar set used.

FOR THE CHIEF, AIR WEATHER SERVICE

/s/ W. A. West
W. A. WEST
Lt. Col., USAF
Adjutant General

2 Incls:
1 - Incident Summaries
2 - Comments 173 thru 233

8 Nov 49

No. 202: Time of sighting was five hours after last scheduled release time for any rawin or pilot balloon sounding, thus discounting a balloon leak, would put it far too high for easy sighting. Definitely not a weather balloon.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

At 1850 hours, 8 Nov 48, [redacted] was standing just outside Hanger #7, Newark AF Base, when glancing up toward the moon he perceived a pale luminous object race across the sky. It was about 1/3 the brightness of the moon, round like a disc with little or no depth (thickness). It appeared to be about the same relative diameter as the moon and was traveling from the north northwest in an arc toward the south southeast. Object was seen about one second or less. It passed out of sight over another hanger. No sound was heard. Speed was estimated at 800 MPH. Observer states that he had observed jet aircraft make tactical approaches at approximately 600 mph and judged the speed of the object was at least 200 mph faster. From where he stood [redacted] could see approximately 75% of the path of the object. The peak of its arc was approximately 45° above the horizon to the west southwest of his position. Altitude was judged to be 5,000 to 6,000 feet.

Mr [redacted] is a very reliable employee, highly intelligent and of excellent character.

There were no reports of commercial, private and military craft flying in the vicinity at the time.

No reports were received relative to possible releases of testing devices in the vicinity.

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

((INCIDENT SUMMARY SHEET ((

Incident No. 202

1. Date and Time of Observation: 8 Nov 48 1850 EST

2. Where Sighted: Newark AF Base, Newark, N. J. 40° 42' N 74° 10' W

3. Observer's Position: ground
(i. e., ground, air, control tower, etc.)

4. Name and Address of Observer: [redacted]
Jamaica, Long Island

5. Occupation and/or hobbies: Civilian Dispatcher, Newark AF Base. Regular participant in Reserve flying activities. Former Capt, USAFR.

6. Attention Attracted by: Was preparing to scan the sky when object was observed

7. Number of Object(s) Seen: 1

8. Size of Object(s): Same relative diameter as the moon but with little or no depth (thickness)

9. Color of Object(s): pale luminous - 1/3 brightness of moon

10. Shape (Sketch if Possible) disc - round with little or nor depth

11. Nature of Luminosity: Appeared as luminous object
(directed beam of light?)

12. Altitude of Object: 5,000 to 6,000 ft
(estimated)

13. Estimated Distance of Object from Observer: Appeared at 45° angle above horizon.

14. Estimated Speed of Object: 800 MPH

15. Time in Sight: one second or less

16. Tactics: made arc toward south southeast - performed comparatively horizontal flight

17. Sound Made by Object(s): no sound

18. Direction of Flight of Object(s) south southeast

19. Apparent Construction: N/S - luminous

20. Effect on Clouds: N/S

21. Exhaust Trail (Color of): N/C

22. Manner of Disappearance: ~~N/S~~ Passed out of sight over another hangar.

23. Weather Conditions at Time of Sighting: Moonlit night - clear

24. Peculiarities Noted: Object seemed to have no depth and maintained a steady luminosity

25. Summary of Incident: (over)
(See attached page)

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FROM MITCHELL FIELD, NEW YORK, ~~XXXXXX~~
TO AMC WPAFB ATTENTION MCIARC-3
CITE 2102 AWP 424

REPORT OF INFORMATION OF FLYING DISC. LOCATION, NEWARK, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ AFB, NJ.

TIME, 1850 EST, 8 NOV 48.

WEATHER, CLEAR.

NAME, [redacted] CIVILIAN DISPATCHER, BASE OPERATIONS, NEWARK AFB.

OBJECT SIGHTED: ONE, ROUND, LUMINOUS, ONE THIRD BRIGHTNESS OF MOON, LITTLE OR NO DEPTH, TRAVELED FROM NORTH NORTHWEST IN ARC TO SOUTH SOUTHEAST, APPROX 800 MPH, ALTITUDE ~~XXXXXX~~ ESTIMATED 5,000 to 6,000 FT., NO SOUND.

LETTER TO FOLLOW.

BAKER COMHY

202

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS 2102D AIR WEATHER GROUP
MITCHEL AIR FORCE BASE
MITCHEL FIELD NEW YORK

17 November 1948

SUBJECT: Report of Information on Flying Discs.

TO: Commanding General
Air Material Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

1. In accordance with paragraph 1, letter, Headquarters, USAF, subject as above, 6 February 1948, the inclosed statement on sighting of Flying Disc at Newark Air Force Base on 8 November 1948, is forwarded.

2. The following additional information was determined in an interview between the Station Weather Officer, the Officer of the Day and [redacted] at Newark AFB on 9 November 1948:

a. Mr. [redacted], civilian dispatcher, was on duty in the operations section, Newark AFB, on 8 November 1948.

b. Mr. [redacted] was in full control of his faculties at the time.

c. He is a former Air Force pilot and actively participates in the reserve program.

d. He is thoroughly dependable and alert.

e. No corroboration of Mr. [redacted] report could be obtained. However, Newark AFB is normally almost deserted after 1800 hours daily and there were few personnel who might have seen this phenomena.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

1 Incl
1 - Statement

Arthur W. Anderson,
Major, USAF,
Executive Officer.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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203

SECRET

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S T A T E M E N T

9 November 1948

At 1850 hours, 8 November 1948, I was standing just outside hangar #7 at Newark Air Force Base, on the south side of the hangar. It was a perfectly clear night. I looked up toward the moon and noticed a pale luminous object race across the sky. It was about 1/3 the brightness of the moon, round like a disc, with little or no depth (thickness) to it. It appeared to be about the same relative diameter as the moon. It traveled from the north northwest in an arc toward the south southeast in about one second or less, passing out of sight over another hangar. I heard no sound from the object. I estimate the speed of the object at 800 miles per hour, and its altitude at five to six thousand feet. I have seen jet aircraft make tactical approaches at this field at approximately 600 miles per hour, and judging from them, the speed of the object I sighted was at least 200 miles an hour faster. From where I stood, I could see approximately 75% of the path of the object. The peak of its arc was approximately 45 degrees above the horizon to the west southwest of my position.

[redacted]

Civilian Dispatcher

(Capt., USAFR, [redacted]

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Basic: Ltr, Hq AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, dated 29 Nov 48, subj: "Project 'Sign'"

2nd Ind.

HEADQUARTERS, 2102D AIR WEATHER GROUP, Mitchel Air Force Base, Mitchel Field, New York., 15 December 1948.

To: Commanding Officer, Newark Air Force Base, Newark, New Jersey.
ATTN: Base Intelligence Officer.

1. Reference paragraph 4 of basic correspondence. It is requested that Base Intelligence Officer, Newark AFB conduct the interview and investigation and forward all data directly to Commanding General, AMC, ATTN: MCIAXO-3, as outlined in paragraph 5, basic letter.

2. Original letter reporting sighting of "flying disc" at Newark AFB on 8 November 1948 was submitted by 1st Lt. T[redacted], [redacted], Newark AFB on 9 November 1948.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

ARTHUR W. ANDERSON,
Major, USAF,
Executive Officer.

1 Incl:
n/c

3rd Ind.

HQ, 2231st AF Reserve Training Center, Newark Municipal Airport, Newark 5, New Jersey, 29 December 1948.

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AF Base, Wright Field, Ohio, Attn: MCIAXO-3.

Attached herewith completed investigation requested in basic communication.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

GLENN T. EAGLESTON
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Acting S-2

Incl 1: n/c

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[redacted]

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DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Basic: Ltr, Hq AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, dated 29 Nov 48,
Subj: Project "Sign"

1st Ind.

13 DEC 1948

HQ, 52D FIGHTER WING, ALL WEATHER, MITCHEL AIR FORCE BASE, MITCHEL FIELD, N.Y.
TO: Commanding Officer, 2102nd Air Weather Group, Mitchel AF Base, N.Y.

1. For necessary action in view of inclosure #1.

2. Direct communication between your headquarters and Headquarters, Air Materiel Command is authorized on this matter.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL TATES:

J. E. WARREN
Capt. USAF
Asst Adjutant

1 Incl:
Message from AMC

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202

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING MESSAGE

12-95
10:33

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM 62ND AACS GP HQ MITCHELL FLD HEMPSTEAD LI NY

TO AMC WPAFB ATTN COL HOW MIKE MOODY CHIEF INTELL DEPT

INTL FIVE ONE FOUR DOG

REFERENCE LETTER YOUR OFFICE DATED TWO NINE NOVEMBER ONE NINE FOUR EIGHT CMA SUBJECT PROJECT QUOTE SIGN UNQUOTE CMA THIS HEADQUARTERS HAS BEEN UNABLE TO LOCATE THE SOURCE OR CONTEXT OF MESSAGE QUOTED IN PARAGRAPH ONE PD REQUEST COPY OF THIS MESSAGE WHICH WAS INITIATED FROM THIS STATION AND SLANT OF FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS PARTICULAR SIGHTING WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO INVESTIGATE THE MATTER MORE THOROUGHLY

1-M-2-A action

63391

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arrived 16 Dec 48

This copy will be safeguarded with the greatest care until action is completed, at which time it will be prepared for destruction in accordance with Section IV, Hq. Office Instruction No. 11-2.

MCAG Form No. 22
(Rev 25 Oct 48)

WF-L-16 NOV 48 10M

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

[redacted] RZL

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

Hq AMC Form No. 10-4A (30 Jun 48)
(Old, Hq AMC Form No. 10-513)
WF-O-10 SEP 48 250M

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

075
12-10-48

HEADQUARTERS
AIR MATERIEL COMMAND
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
DAYTON, OHIO

IN REPLY ADDRESS BOTH COMMUNICATION AND ENVELOPE TO COMMANDING GENERAL, AIR MATERIEL COMMAND, ATTENTION FOLLOWING OFFICE SYMBOL:
MCIAXO-3

MCIAXO-3/GWT/aw

NOV 29 1948

SUBJECT: Project "SIGN"

TO: Commanding Officer
Mitchel Air Force Base
New York, New York
ATTN: Base Intelligence Officer

1. Reference is made to incoming message 151944Z from Mitchel Field to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Wright Field, Ohio, regarding sighting of unidentified aerial object.

2. This office is engaged in a continuing investigation of all reported sightings of unidentified aerial phenomena, and has been authorized direct communication with pertinent military installations.

3. It is requested that Base Intelligence Officer interview all the available witnesses to the incident reported in referenced communication and obtain signed statements of the observed phenomena.

4. Inclosed herewith is a copy of our Essential Elements of Information form as an aid to the investigation officer in recording desired data.

5. All collated data and accomplished Essential Elements of Information form should be forwarded to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Wright Field, Ohio, attention: MCIAXO-3.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

William G. Lamont, Lt Col USAF
for H. M. McCOY
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Department

1 Incl
EEI

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[redacted]

073
12-10-48

202

8 December 1948

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Commanding General
Air Defense Command
Mitchel AF Base
Mitchel Fld, N. Y.
ATTN: 52d AACS Gp, Hempstead
L. I., N.Y.

C. A. GRIFFITH
Chief,
Operations Section

W. R. CLINGERMAN
Colonel, USAF
Actg Chief
Intelligence Department

HWS/jjs
65310

CITE CLN NIKE DOG LOVE MCA FIVE ONE FOUR DOG PD COMMUNICATION REFERRED TO IN PARA ONE OF LETTER FROM THIS OFFICE DATED TWO NINE NOVEMBER FORTY EIGHT IS TWO ONE ZERO TWO ABLE WILLIAM GEORGE FOUR TWO FOUR PD SUBSEQUENT REFERENCE IS LETTER HQ TWO ONE ZERO TWO AIR WEATHER GROUP DATED ONE SEVEN NOVEMBER NINETEEN FORTY EIGHT SUBJECT REPORT OF INFORMATION ON FLYING DISCS WHICH CONCERNS REPORT BY [redacted] OF OBJECT SEEN EIGHT NOVEMBER FORTY EIGHT AT NEWARK AIR FORCE BASE PD

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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[redacted]

MCIAXO-5 MCIAXO MCIAO MCIA [redacted]

202

HEADQUARTERS
52D FIGHTER WING, ALL WEATHER
Mitchel Air Force Base
Mitchel Field, N. Y.

10 December 1948

SUBJECT: Project "Sign"

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

ATTN: Chief, Intelligence Department

Reference letter your headquarters, subject as above, dated 29 November 1948 together with TWX #AF 5191, dated 9 December 1948. This matter has been referred to the CO, 2102nd Air Weather Group, this station, for necessary action inasmuch as subject report was originally submitted by them.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

J. E. WARREN
Capt. USAF
Asst Adjutant

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted] 22

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION
(Re Sightings of Unidentified Aeriel Objects)

PROJECT "SIGN"

1. Date of Sighting: 8 November 1948.

2. Time of Sighting: 1850 hours.

3. Where Sighted:

a(1) Newark, New Jersey

a(2) Approximately three (3) miles southeast of downtown section of Newark

a(3) South side of Hangar #7, Newark Air Base

a(4) Latitude 40° 42 min. north
Longitude 74° 10 min. west

b. Not applicable.

c. Not applicable.

4. Number of objects: Single object.

5. Distance of object from observer:

a. Horizontally

b. 45° above the horizon

c. Five to six thousand feet

6. Time in sight: A second or less.

7. Appearance of object:

a. Pale luminous object about one third the brightness of a bright moon.

b. Perfectly round in shape.

c. Solid object.

d(1) About the same diameter of the moon.

d(2) Flat, with little or no depth.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

202

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8. Direction of Flight: Object appeared in an arc from the north north-west toward the south south-east.

9. Tactics or maneuvers: None. Comparatively horizontal course.

10. Evidence of exhaust:

    a. None

    b. Could not determine

    c. None

    d. None

    e. There was no sound

11. Effect on clouds: There were no clouds.

12. Lights:

    a. None

    b. Object appeared to be luminous

    c. Maintained steady luminosity.

13. Support: Not applicable.

14. Propulsion: No visible means of propulsion.

15. Control and Stability:

    a. None

    b(1) None

    b(2) Solid disc-like object

    b(3) Not applicable

16. Air ducts: None visible.

17. Speed: Estimated to be going about 800 mph.

18. Sound: There was no sound.

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[redacted]

[redacted]

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19. Was any radio antenna to be observed: No.

20. Manner of disappearance: Disappeared behind hangar immediately in front of the observer.

Relative to the Observer

1. Name: [redacted]

2. Address: [redacted]

3. Occupation: Civilian Dispatcher.

4. Place of business: 2231st AFRTC, Newark Municipal Airport, Newark 5, N. J. (Civilian employee).

5. Hobbies: Regular participant in Reserve flying activities.

6. a. Excellent

   b. Excellent

   c. Excellent

7. Mr. [redacted] is a very reliable employee.

8. a. Not applicable.

   b. How attention was drawn to object: Preparing to scan the sky when object appeared from the position it started, and followed it through in the arc of motion.

9. Witnesses: Observer inquired from the tower, but they did not notice or sight anything unusual. There were only two men on actual duty and they reported that it was a slow night. Air traffic at that particular time was very slow.

10. Mr. [redacted] is a highly intelligent individual, of excellent character.

Relative to Radar Sightings

Not applicable.

General

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions. Inclosure #1.

2. Winds aloft report. Inclosure #2.

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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3. Local flight schedules of commercial, private and military aircraft flying in vicinity at the time: None reported.

4. Possible releases of testing devices in vicinity sent aloft by Ordnance, Navy, Air Force, Army, Weather Units, Research Organizations or any other: None reported.

5. Not applicable.

6. Not applicable.

7. Not applicable.

8. Signed statement. Inclosure #3.

9. Not applicable.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

202

THE FOLLOWING TELETYPE SEQUENCE REPORTS WERE RECEIVED AT NEWARK AFB WEATHER STATION AT THE TIMES INDICATED:

8 NOV 48	1730E	-⊙/5K 281/55/431↖8/035
8 NOV 48	1830E	-⊙/5K 284/52/42↑9/036
	1930E	-⊙/8 274/49/40↗↑8/033

CERTIFIED CORRECT ACCORDING TO RECORDS OF THIS WEATHER STATION:

Thomas J. Heavey, Jr.

THOMAS J. HEAVEY, JR.
1ST LT., USAF
STATION WEATHER OFFICER

202

THE FOLLOWING WINDS ALOFT REPORTS WERE RECEIVED AT NEWARK ON 8 NOVEMBER;1948:

TIME	ALTITUDE	DIRECTION	SPEED (MILES/HR)
1500Z(1000E)	4000 FT MSL	280 DEG	1-3
	6000 " "	280 "	8-12
	8000 " "	280 "	13-18
	10000 " "	250 "	19-24
0900Z(0400E)	2000 FT MSL	320 DEG	13-18
	4000 " "	300 "	19-25
	6000 " "	290 "	25-31
	8000 " "	290 "	32-38
	10000 " "	280 "	39-46

CERTIFIED CORRECT ACCORDING TO RECORDS OF THIS
WEATHER STATION:

Thomas J. Heavey, Jr.

THOMAS J. HEAVEY, JR.
1ST LT., USAF
STATION WEATHER OFFICER

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

28 December, 1948

S T A T E M E N T

At 1850 hours, 8 November, 1948, I was standing just outside hangar #7 at Newark Air Force Base, on the south side of the hangar. It was a perfectly clear night. I looked up toward the moon and noticed a pale luminous object race across the sky. It was about 1/3 the brightness of the moon, round like a disk, with little or no depth(thickness) to it. It appeared to be about the same relative diameter as the moon. It travelled from the north-northwest, in an arc, toward the south-southeast in about one second or less, passing out of sight over another hangar. I heard no sound from the object. I estimate the speed of the object at 800 miles per hour, and its altitude at five to six thousand feet. I have seen jet aircraft make tactical approaches at this field at approximately 600 miles per hour, and judging from them, the speed of the object I sighted was at least 200 miles an hour faster. From where I stood, I could see approximately 75% of the path of the object. The peak of its arc was approximately 45 degrees above the horizon to the west-southwest of my position.

[redacted]

Civilian Dispatcher
(Capt., USAFR [redacted]

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[redacted]

2 of 2

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, 62, 58, 61, 82, 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.