Incident #259

DATE OF INFO 25 Feb 1949

LOCATION Little Rock, Ark.

SOURCE Civilian Couple

DATE TO ATIC - - -

COLOR - - -

Several times that of conventional A/C

ALTITUDE 10,000'-12,000'

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 1/2 hour

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

MANEUVERS Highly manueverable. Appeared to stop and reverse direction several times.

NAME: - - -

ADDRESS: - - -

NO. IN GROUP 1

SOUND - - -

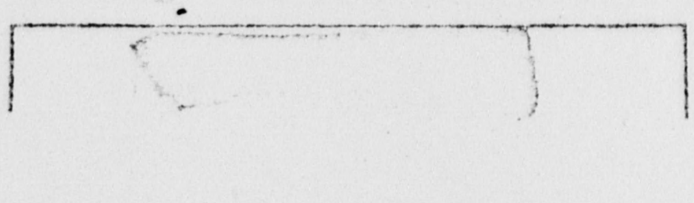
SHAPE: Disc-Flat & Round

SIZE: 30' - 60' diameter

COURSE: SSE

REMARKS: - - - SKETCHES - - -

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jun 52)



Balloon

[redacted]

4-183

2

UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr Hq AMC, MCIAXS, 15 Mar 49, subj, "Unconventional Aircraft"

452.1 AKADB 4th Ind

112th CIC Detachment, Hq Fourth Army, Ft Sam Houston, Texas, 4 April 1949

TO: A C of S, G-2, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

J. H.

4 Incls
Incl 1 n/c
Added 3 Incls
2. Photograph
3. "Pibal" Form
4. Map of Pulaski County

452.1 AKADB 5th Ind

Headquarters Fourth Army, Office of the AC of S, G-2, Ft Sam Houston, Texas
5 April 1949

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AF Base, Dayton, Ohio. ATTENTION: Chief, Intelligence Department

Inviting attention to 3d Indorsement and inclosures thereto.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

4 Incls
n/c

MAX H. GOOLER
Colonel, GSC
Actg. AC of S, G-2

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

[redacted]

51-3178

4-15

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

MCIAXS

HEADQUARTERS

Air Materiel Command

UNCLASSIFIED

MCIAXS/GWT/atw

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
DAYTON, OHIO

MAR 15 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Fourth Army
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

1. Reference is made to "Summary of Information" dated 25 February 1949 from Branch Intelligence Office, Little Rock, Arkansas, subject "Sighting of Unconventional Aircraft" forwarded by confidential letter from Hq, Fourth Army, dated 2 March 1949, file number 452.1 AKADB, subject "Unconventional Aircraft".

2. Additional information is requested regarding the sighting reported in referenced communication. A copy of "Guide to Investigation" is inclosed as an aid in obtaining desired information.

3. It is particularly desired that weather units in the area be contacted for schedules of release and probable trajectory of lighted synoptic balloons.

4. It is requested further that a check be made to determine whether lighted beacons or searchlights were in the vicinity at the time.

5. All collected data should be directed to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attention: MCIAXO-3.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

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

UNCLASSIFIED

1 Incl
Guide to Inves

H. P. CLINGERMAN
Colonel, USAF
Actg Chief, Intelligence Department

Hq AMC Form No. 9
(Rev 17 Nov 48)

WE-O-22, DEC 48 400 M

This form replaces Hq AMC 9 and 10-4A (30 Jun 48), Hq AMC 10-513 and 10-514, existing stocks of which will be used until exhausted.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr Hq AMC, MCIAXS, 15 Mar 49, subj, "Unconventional Aircraft"

452.1 AKADB 1st Ind

Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, 21 March 1949

THRU: Commanding Officer, 112th CIC Detachment

TO: Branch Intelligence Officer, 153 Federal Building, P. O. Box 106, Little Rock, Arkansas

For compliance.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL HANDY:

Eustis L Poland

1 Incl
n/c

EUSTIS L. POLAND
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

452.1 AKADB 2d Ind

112th CIC Detachment, Hq Fourth Army, Ft Sam Houston, Tex, 22 March 49

TO: Branch Intelligence Officer, P. O. Box 106, Little Rock, Arkansas

1 Incl
n/c

J. H.

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

D676

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Ltr Hq AMC, MCIAXS, 15 Mar 49, Subj: "Unconventional Aircraft"

452.1 AKADB 3rd Ind

Branch Intelligence Office, Little Rock, Arkansas, 30 March 1949

THRU: Commanding Officer, 112th CIC Detachment

TO : AC of S, G-2, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

1. In compliance with basic communication, the following added information regarding sighting of unconventional aircraft is submitted:

a. Individual interviews with persons sighting object on 25 February 1949 disclosed no discrepancies in stories of the three witnesses. They are well known in the community and are of good character and average intelligence.

b. According to witnesses, object was first noticed by them at a magnetic bearing of 225°. During period of observation, object appeared to be maneuvering between a bearing of 225° and 255°. Object, although originally reported as being "almost directly overhead" was maneuvering at an elevation of 45° to 60°.

c. Distance of object from the observers could not be accurately stated because of darkness and lack of a reference paint. One witness estimated altitude of the object at 10,000" to 12,000" and all witnesses estimated elevation of the object as being between 45° and 60°.

d. The Little Rock office of the US Weather Bureau, located at Adams Air Field, Little Rock, Arkansas, releases four synoptic weather balloons daily. They are released at 0300, 0900, 1500 and 2100 hours, CST. Balloons released at 0300 hours and 2100 hours are lighted. Attached hereto as Enclosures 3 and 4 are mimeographed US Weather Bureau "Pibal" form and map of Pulaski County Arkansas showing observation time, altitude, trajectory and velocity of the weather balloon released at 2100 hours on 24 February 1949.

e. A lighted airway beacon is located approximately 11 miles from the point object was sighted at a magnetic bearing of 225°. No evidence could be found of any searchlight being operated within the area at the time.

f. Teletype local weather sequences for the period, 1830 hours 24 February to 0330 hours 25 February, are as follows:

UNCLASSIFIED

Time 24 Feb	Clouds	Visability	Wind	MPH	Temperature	Dew Point
1830	Thin, Scattered, 25,000 ft	12 Mi	West	6	61°	52°
1930	Clear	12 Mi	WNW	5	59°	52°
2030	Clear	12 Mi	West	2	56°	51°
2130	Clear	12 Mi	WNW	3	55°	50°
2230	Clear	10 Mi	NW	5	53°	49°
2330	Clear	10 Mi	NW	4	53°	48°

[redacted]

BIO, Little Rock, Arkansas, Subj, "Unconventional Aircraft", dt 30 Mar 49

Time 25 Feb	Clouds	Visability	Wind	MPH	Temperature	Dew Point
0030	Clear	10 Mi	NW	5	52°	48°
0130	Clear	10 Mi	NW	8	50°	45°
0230	Clear	10 Mi	NW	8	50°	45°
0330	Clear	10 Mi	NW	10	48°	40°

g. Local Weather Bureau winds aloft graphs and adiabatic charts for the period of 24 and 25 February have been forwarded to the Weather Bureau Airport Station, Raob Analysis and Verification Unit, Washington National Airport, Washington 25, D. C. Form symbol for winds aloft graph is WBAN-20A. Form symbol for adiabatic chart lower level is WBAN-31A and adiabatic chart upper level is WBAN-31B.

h. No private or military aircraft were in the vicinity at the time. Commercial aircraft in the vicinity at the time were as follows:

(1) Braniff International Airways flight from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, arrived Little Rock at 2214 hours on 24 February and departed for Memphis, Tennessee, at 2225 hours.

(2) Chicago and Southern Airlines flight from Shreveport, Louisiana arrived Little Rock at 0030 hours on 25 February and departed for Memphis, Tennessee, at 0050 hours.

(3) American Airlines flight from New York City arrived Little Rock at 0007 hours on 25 February and departed for Fort Worth, Texas, at 0019 hours.

i. No soil samples were obtained as object is not believed to have contacted earth.

j. Photograph of surrounding terrain taken at a magnetic bearing of 240° from approximate point of observation of object is attached as Enclosure 2.

2. An Associated Press dispatch, dated 25 February, announced the release of a rocket from White Sands Proving Ground, New Mexico, which reached an altitude of 250 miles above the earth. Time of release of the rocket was not given. White Sands is located at an approximate magnetic bearing of 265° from Little Rock. Distance between the two points is approximately 800 miles.

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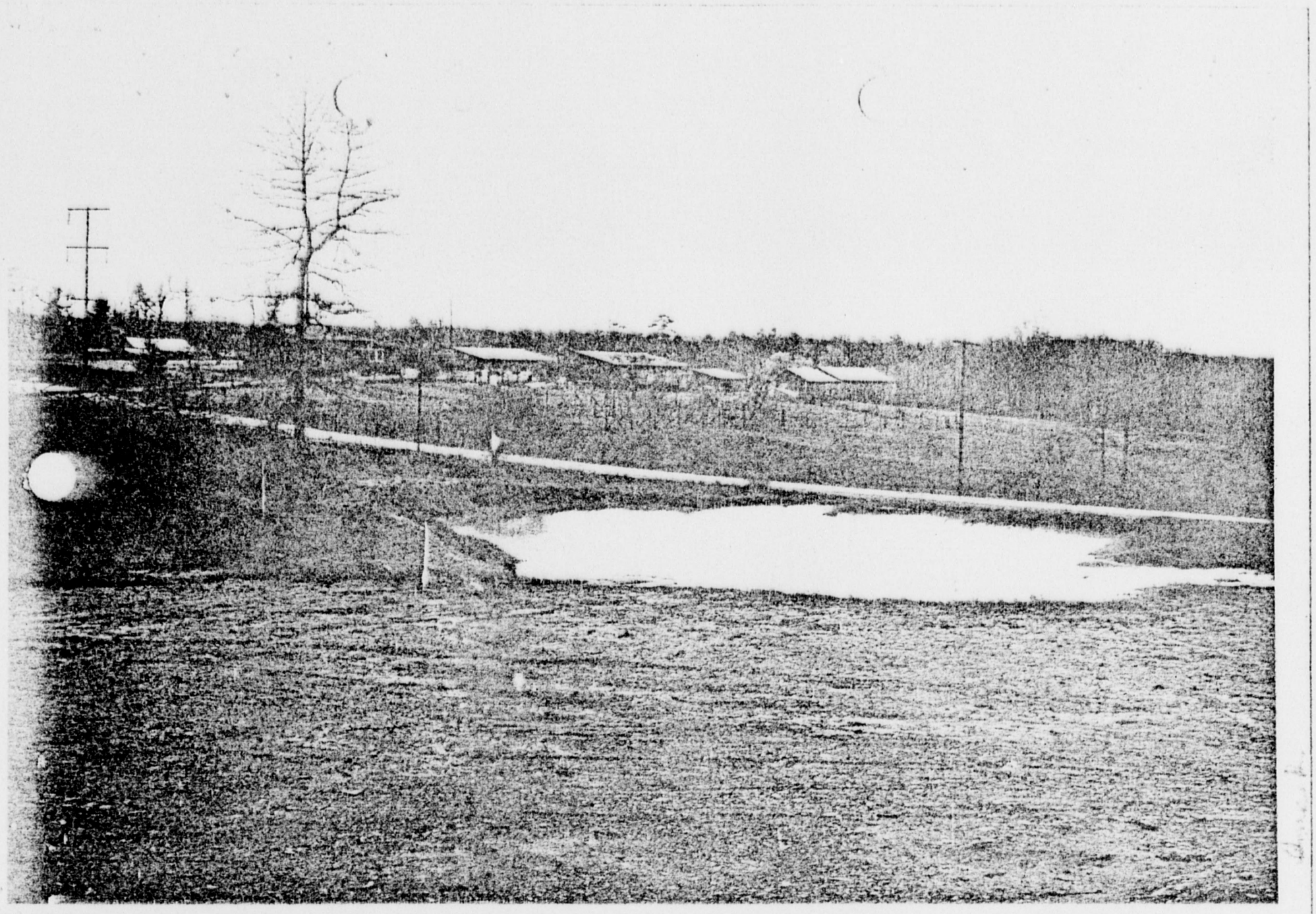
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

C H Petrie

C H PETRIE
Capt., QMC
Branch Intelligence Officer

This case includes
one(1) photograph 5"x7"



[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

452.1 AKADB

2 March 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: M.C.I.

1. Reference letter Intelligence Division, GSUSA, OSGID 452.1, 25 March 1948, subj, "Unconventional Aircraft," and to Control No. A-1917.

2. Inclosed Summary of Information, Branch Intelligence Office, Little Rock, Arkansas, 25 February 1949, subj, "Sighting of Unconventional Aircraft," is forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

Eustis L Poland

1 Incl
As stated

EUSTIS L. POLAND
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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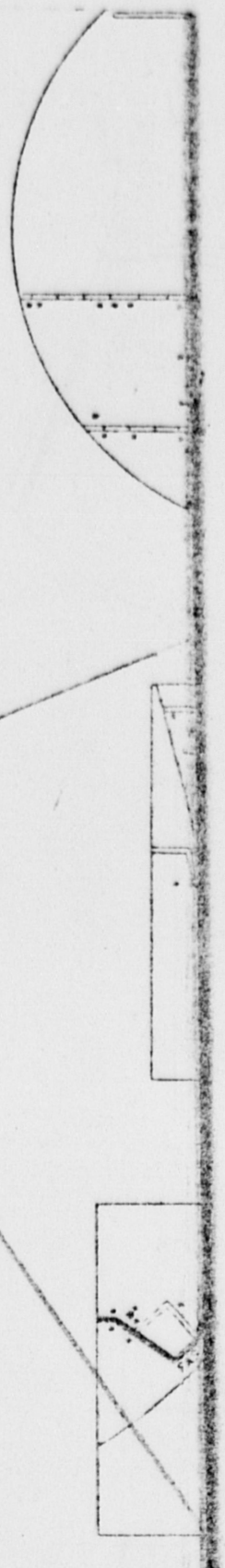
[redacted]

DSTJ

- FARM UNIT OR DWELLING
- NUMBER OF DWELLINGS CLOSELY SPACED
- CHURCH, OTHER RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION
- CHURCH WITH CEMETERY ADJACENT
- CEMETERY
- HOSPITAL
- SCHOOLHOUSE, OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION
- GROUP OF MIXED CULTURAL FEATURES CLOSELY SPACED (NUMBER OF UNITS SHOWN REGARDLESS OF ORDER)
- STORE OR SMALL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENT
- FACTORY OR INDUSTRIAL PLANT
- SAWMILL
- MINE, SHAFT OR DRIFT
- OIL OR GAS WELL
- GRAVEL PIT OR QUARRY
- NURSERY
- TOWN OR COMMUNITY HALL
- CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONAL
- RADIO STATION, CALL LETTERS
- MILEAGE BETWEEN POINTS
- FA FEDERAL AID HIGHWAY SYSTEM
- FAS FEDERAL AID SECONDARY SYSTEM
- △ TRIANGULATION STATION
- AIRPORT (RUNWAYS INDICATED ON MAP)
- MARKED AUXILIARY OR EMERGENCY FIELD



(1) Path of lighted weather balloon showing time, altitude and wind velocity

(2) Point of observation of "Flying Disc"

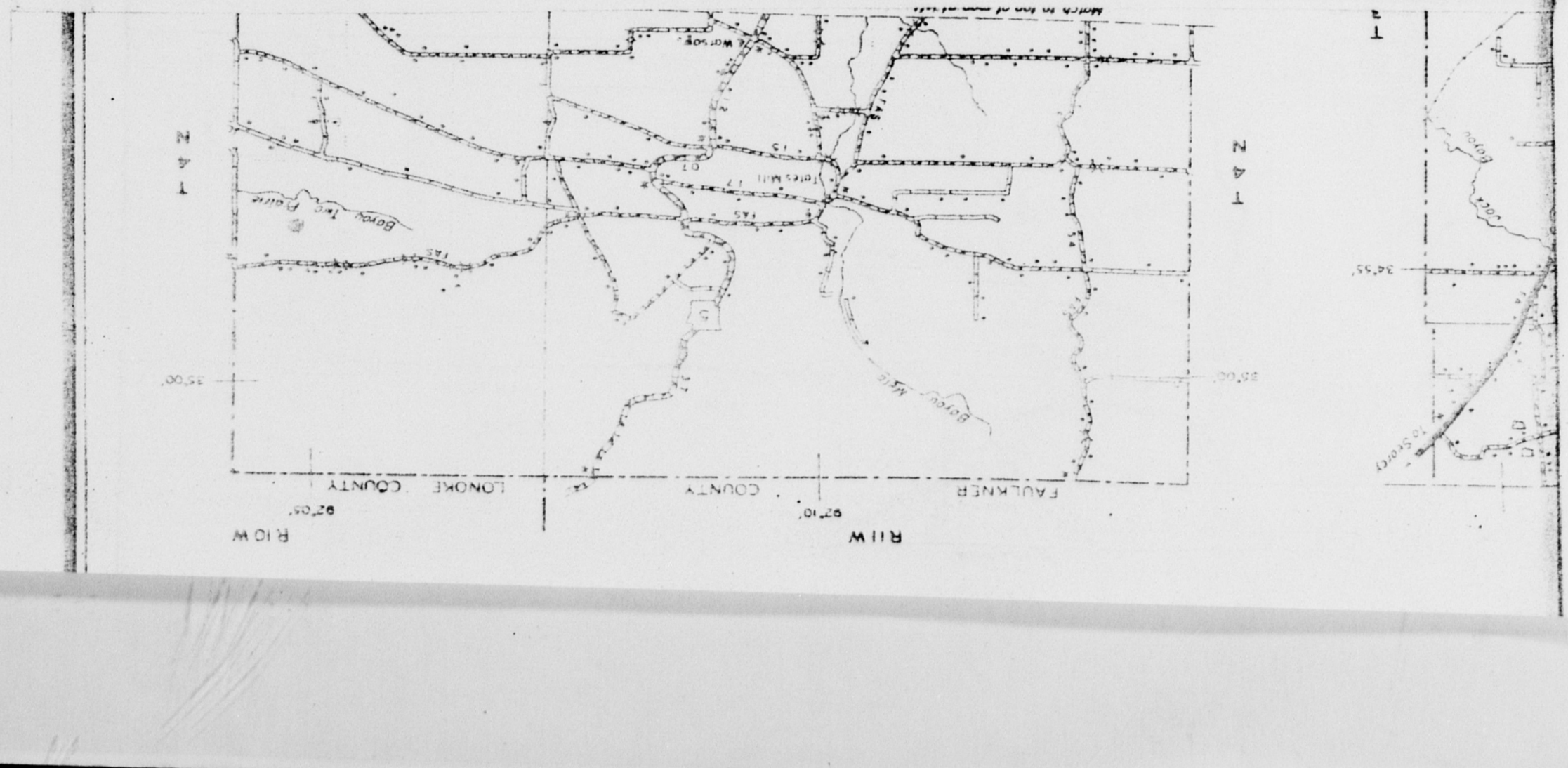
(3) Direction of observation by witnesses

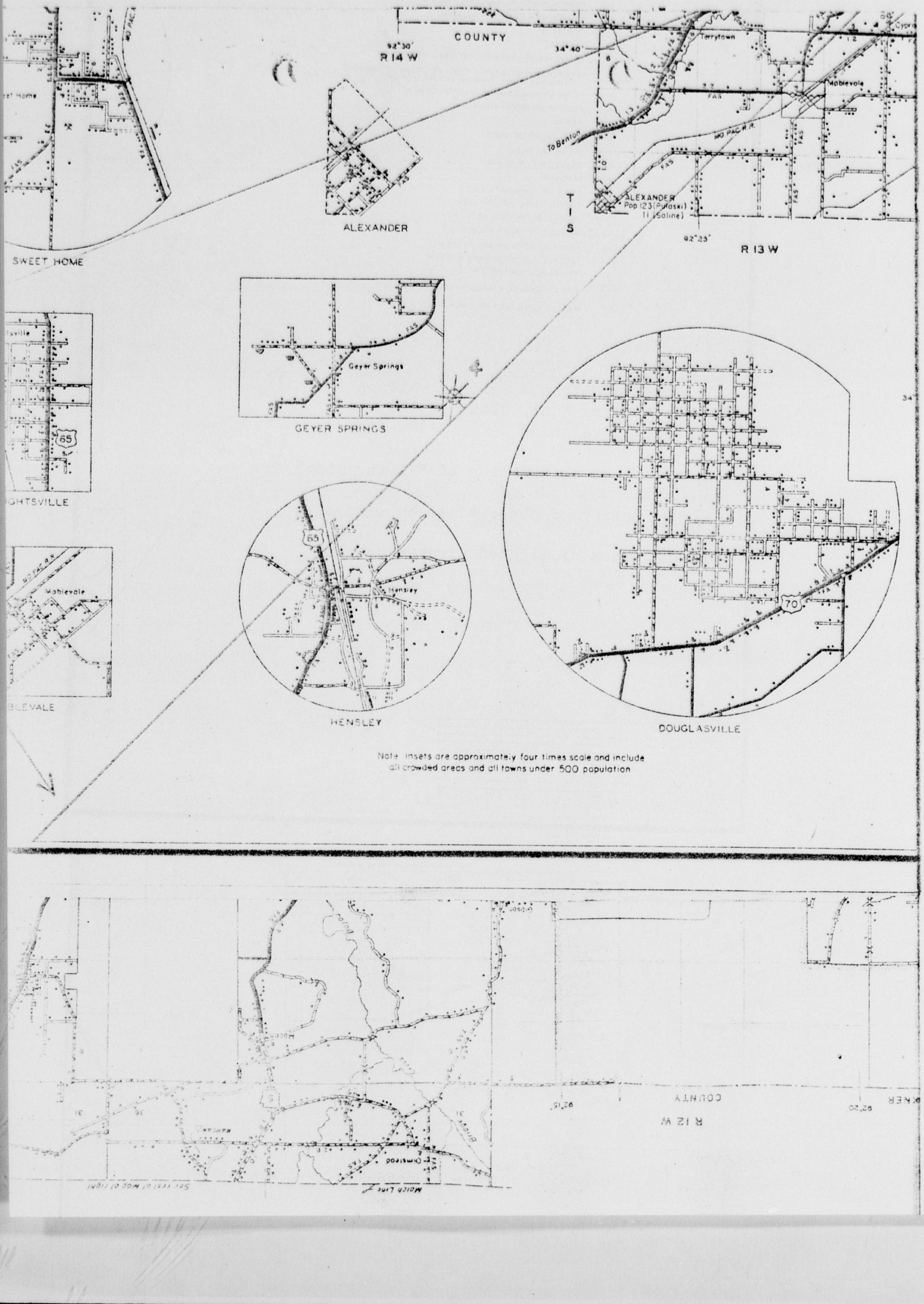
(4) Location of lighted airways beacon

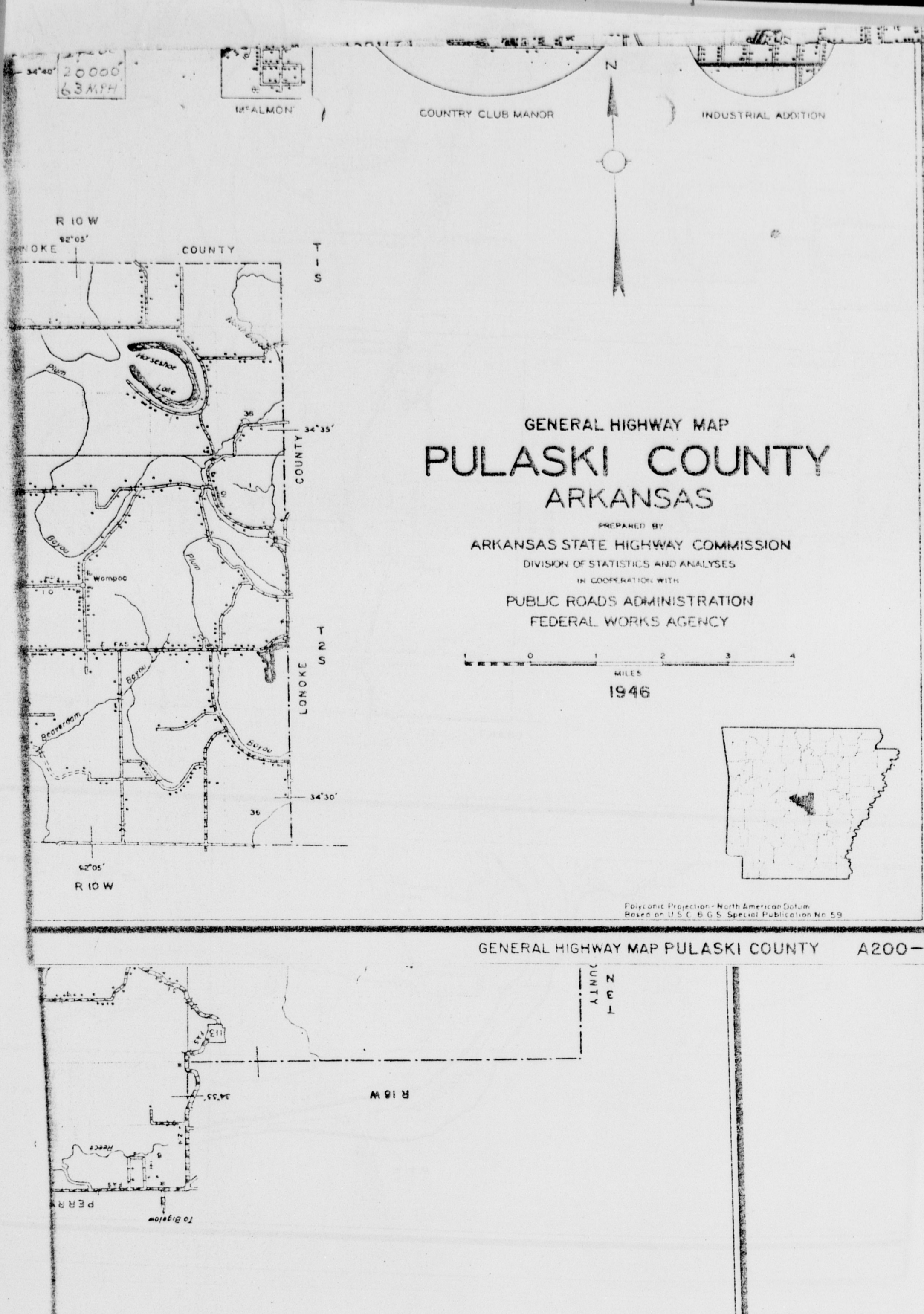
3

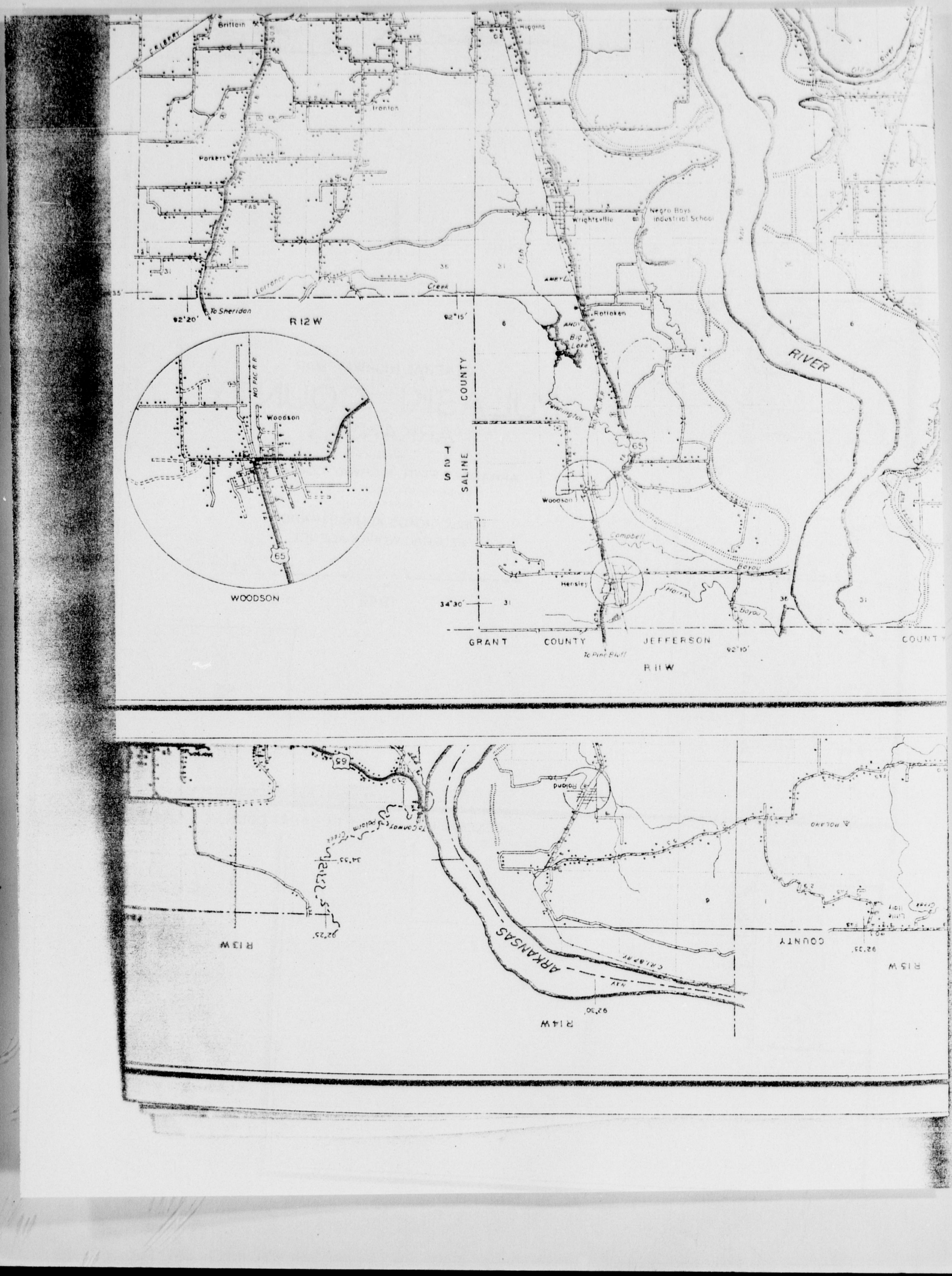
Map #4

No.	DESCRIPTION	BY	CHK	YRS	FILM
	REVISIONS				




COUNTY
92°30'
R 14 W
34°40'
Terrytown
Mablevale
To Benton
MO PAC R.R.
ALEXANDER
Pop 123 (Pulaski)
11 (Saline)
T
1
S
92°25'
R 13 W
ALEXANDER
SWEET HOME
Geyer Springs
GEYER SPRINGS
65
Hensley
HENSLEY
70
DOUGLASVILLE
Note: Insets are approximately four times scale and include
all crowded areas and all towns under 500 population
COUNTY
92°15'
92°20
R 12 W
Olmsted
Biggers
Marsh
Motch Line


34°40'
20000'
63 MPH
18th ALMON
COUNTRY CLUB MANOR
INDUSTRIAL ADDITION
N
R 10 W
92°05'
NOKE
COUNTY
T 1 S
Horseshoe Lake
Plum
Bayou
Wompoo
Plum
Bayou
Brovenkamp
Bayou
34°35'
34°30'
36
COUNTY
LONOKE
T 2 S
92°05'
R 10 W
GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP
PULASKI COUNTY
ARKANSAS
PREPARED BY
ARKANSAS STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION
DIVISION OF STATISTICS AND ANALYSES
IN COOPERATION WITH
PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION
FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY
0 1 2 3 4
MILES
1946
Polyconic Projection - North American Datum
Based on U.S.C. & G.S. Special Publication No. 59
GENERAL HIGHWAY MAP PULASKI COUNTY A200-60
T 3 N
R 18 W
34°35'
To Bigelow
PERR


Britton
Ironton
Parkers
FAS
31
Lorrence
Creek
To Sheridan
92°20'
R12W
Higgins
Negro Boys
Industrial School
Wrightsville
92°15'
Rottaken
Big
Lake
RIVER
COUNTY
T 8 S
SALINE
Woodson
MO PAC R R
65
WOODSON
Pennington
Campbell
Bayou
Hersley
Horrs
34°30'
GRANT
COUNTY
JEFFERSON
To Pine Bluff
R11W

R11W

R10W

92°10'

92°05'

FAULKNER COUNTY

LONOKE COUNTY

35°00'

34°55'

34°50'

34°45'

T4N

T3N

T2N

To Searcy

Bayou

Bond Mill

FAS

Tates Mill

17

07

13

12

Warsaw

Bayou Two Prairie

Match to top of map at left

Match Line

Metro

To Lonoke

70

67

67E

McAlmont

College Sta
(Geneva PO)

MO PAC R R

21340
30000'
118 MPH

21260
25000'
72 MPH

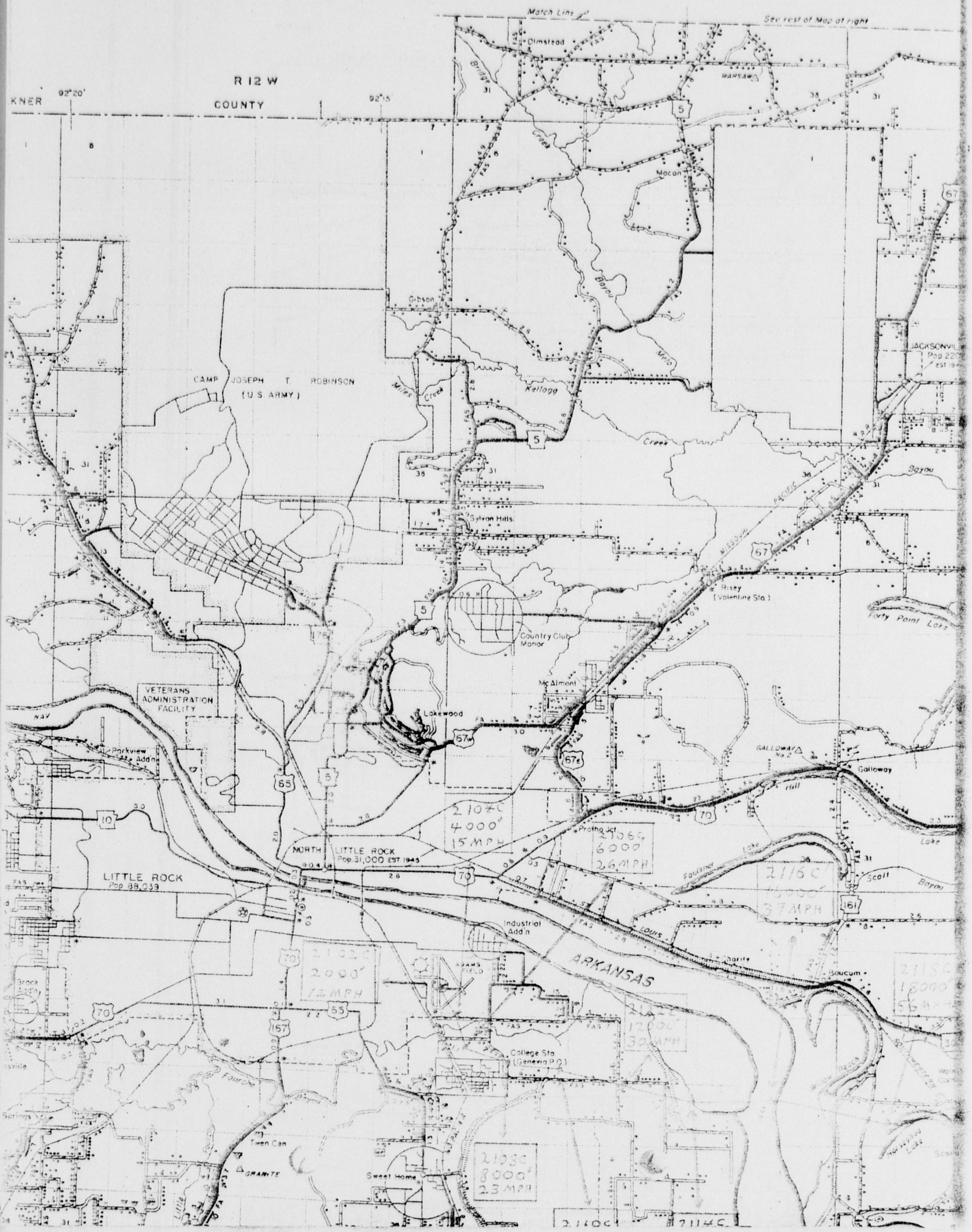
SUCCESS ADDITION

PARKVIEW ADDITION

WEST END ADDITION

COLLEGE STATION

BRACK ADDITION


Match Line
See rest of Map at right
R 12 W
92°20'
92°15'
COUNTY
KNER
Olmstead
Bridge
Creek
WARSAW
Macon
Gibson
Bayou
Mills
Kellogg
CAMP JOSEPH T. ROBINSON
(U.S. ARMY)
Miles Creek
Sylvan Hills
Country Club Manor
Mc Almont
Lakewood
Parkview Add'n
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION FACILITY
NORTH LITTLE ROCK
Pop. 31,000 EST 1945
LITTLE ROCK
Pop. 88,039
Industrial Add'n
ARKANSAS
Brack Add'n
College Sta
(Geneva P.O.)
Twin Can
GRANITE
Sweet Home
Ritzy
(Valentine Sta.)
Forty Point Lake
JACKSONVILLE
Pop 22
est 19
Pacific
Galloway
Hill
Lake
Scott
Bayou
Boucum
Prothro Jct.
GALLOWAY No 2
2107C
4000'
15 MPH
2106C
6000'
26 MPH
2116C
37 MPH
2102C
2000'
12 MPH
2105C
8000'
23 MPH
2110C
2114C

PIBALS FOR (2-25/49 (date) G.C.T.

LIT 13 RAWIN 0 2803 3012 2 3110 3211 4 3315 3324 6 3414 3016

8 2920 2722 0 2832 2 2821 4 2830 6 2627 8 2848 0 2554 5 2562

0 2401 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____

Filed at 0455 G.C.T.

LIT 09 0610 3622 2 3529 3425 4 3617 3613 6 3316 3119

8 2919 2722 0 2922 2 2729 4 ____ 6 ____ 8 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____

0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____

Filed at ____ GCT.

LIT 15 RAWIN 0 0207 0310 2 0316 0216 4 0113 3610 6 3410 3311

8 3214 3115 0 3113 2 2914 4 2611 6 2616 8 2724 0 2622 5 2559

0 2577 5 2383 0 2482 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____.

Filed at 1700 G.C.T.

LIT 21 0 0409 0412 2 0516 0616 4 0711 0806 6 0704 3502

8 3404 3404 0 3103 2 2106 4 2310 6 2511 8 2572 0 2528 5 ____

0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____ 5 ____ 0 ____

Filed at 2150 G.C.T.

observation	Distance From Point		Elevation	Speed MPH	Direction From station
	Meters	miles	feet		
1	400	.25	418	15	166.5
(2)	800	.50	1936	17	180.7
3	1200	.8	2953	21	198.6
(4)	1790	1.1	3937	21	208.7
5	2350	1.4	4921	22	211.1
(6)	2840	1.74	5905	29	221.3
7	3600	2.2	6890	35	230.2
(8)	4510	2.8	7940	40	236.7
9	5250	3.5	8924	50	239.8
(10)	7180	4.5	9941	53	241.8
11	8550	5.3	10958	60	240.7
(12)	10500	6.5	11975	60	240.1
13	11450	7.3	12992	73	239.8
(14)	14500	9.0	13976	81.	239.8
15	16250	10.1	14961	67	239.0
(16)	18100	11.25	15978	68	238.0

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE: 25 February 1949

PREPARING OFFICE: Branch Intelligence Office, Little Rock, Arkansas

SUBJECT: Sighting of Unconventional Aircraft

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE:		OF INFORMATION:	
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	A	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	1
USUALLY RELIABLE	B	PROBABLY TRUE	2
FAIRLY RELIABLE	C	POSSIBLY TRUE	3
NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	D	DOUBTFULLY TRUE	4
UNRELIABLE	E	IMPROBABLE	5
RELIABILITY UNKNOWN	F	TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED	6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

1. Sighting of one (1) "Flying Disc" was reported to this office at 1315 hours, 25 February 1949 by the Little Rock office of the FBI. The following pertinent information was obtained:

a. Witnesses of sighting:
[redacted], employee of [redacted] (father), Contractor, [redacted], Little Rock, Arkansas.
Mrs [redacted], housewife, [redacted] Little Rock, Arkansas.
Mrs [redacted] (sister of Mrs [redacted]), [redacted], Little Rock, Arkansas

b. Time of sighting: 0030 hours to 0100 hours, 25 February 1949

c. Location: First sighted directly overhead residence of witnesses on outskirts of Little Rock, Arkansas.

d. Shape and size: Appeared to be flat and perfectly round with a diameter of from 30 to 60 feet.

e. Color: Color of object not determined due to darkness. Entire "disc" was reported to be plainly outlined by radiation or luminescence.

f. Altitude: Estimated at 10,000 - 12,000 feet

g. Maneuverability: Object was highly maneuverable. During one half hour of observation, object appeared to stop and reverse its direction several times. At one time, during observation, object appeared to come to a sudden stop and move directly up for several thousand feet, after which it returned to its normal elevation of 10,000 - 12,000 feet.

h. Speed: No estimate was made of speed of object but witness reported it as "several times as fast as conventional aircraft."

i. Weather: Weather at time of sighting was clear with good visability.

j. Sound: No sound was noticed.

k. Exhaust trail: No exhaust trail of object was noticed. At one time during observation, a vertical beam or ray of light was noticed from the object to the ground.

UNCLASSIFIED

(Cont'd)

DISTRIBUTION

AC of S, G-2 (4); [illegible]: 1- OI, GSUSA; 1-CO, AMC, Wright Patterson AFB; 1 AA Intel Liaison Off, Sandia Base; 1-Cmdr Mandelkorn, USN, Receron; 1 A Intelligence Div, Sandia Base.
Fils (1)

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 568

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—53396-1

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

EL

S/I Sighting of Unconventional Aircraft, continued

1. Heading: At approximately 0100 hours, 25 February, object left area at high speed. Direction taken was south-southeast. (B-6)

2. No attempt has been made to establish reliability of witnesses. No apparent attempt has been made by them to attract publicity to themselves and no newspaper or radio accounts of the sighting have been noted. (B-2)

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

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[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

INCIDENT NO. 259

1. Date of Observation 25 Feb 49 Date of Interview

2. Exact time (local) 0030 hours to 0100 hours

3. Place of Observation Little Rock, Arkansas

4. Position of observer ground

5. What attracted attention to object(s) -

6. Number of objects 1

7. Apparent size 30 to 60 feet in diameter

8. Color of object Undetermined

9. Shape disc - flat and perfectly round

10. Altitude 45° - 60° 10,000 to 12,000 feet

11. Direction from observer 125° (Magnetic)

12. Distance from observer

13. Direction of flight of object(s) South southeast

14. Time in sight 1/2 hour of observation

15. Speed Several times fast as conventional aircraft

16. Sound and/or No sound noticed

17. Trail No exhaust trail noticed

18. Luminosity Entire "disc" plainly outlined by radiation or luminescence

19. Projections Had vertical beam or ray of lighted from object to ground at one time.

20. Maneuvers highly maneuverable - Appeared to stop and reverse direction several times; made sudden stop and moved directly up several thousand feet

21. Manner of disappearance Object left area at high speed.

22. Effect on clouds

23. Additional information concerning object

24. Weather conditions Clear, good visibility

(over)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident: 259

Name and address of observer: [redacted] & Mrs [redacted], Little Rock, Ark & Mrs [redacted], [redacted], Little Rock, Ark

Occupation and hobbies:

Contractor, housewife. Occupation of Mrs [redacted] not stated

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):

NARRATIVE SUMMARY: At 0030 hours 25 Feb 49, the above witnesses sighted an unknown object directly overhead of their residence on outskirts of Little Rock, Arkansas. The shape appeared as flat and perfectly round with a diameter of from 30 to 60 feet. Color could not be determined because of darkness. The entire "disc" was reported to be plainly outlined by radiation or luminescence. Altitude was estimated at 10,000 - 12,000 feet. The object was highly maneuverable. During 1/2 hour of observation the object appeared to stop and reverse its direction several times. At one time, during observation, it appeared to come to a sudden stop and move directly up for several thousand feet, after which it returned to its normal elevation of 10,000 - 12,000 feet. No estimate was made of speed of object but witness reported it as "several times as fast as conventional aircraft" No sound was noticed. No exhaust trail of object was noticed. At one time during observation a vertical beam or ray of light was noticed from the object to the ground. Weather at the time was clear with good visibility.

UNCLASSIFIED