PROJECT 10073 RECORD 290

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 7 April 49 08/0245Z	LOCATION Charlotte, North Carolina
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Other (GROUND LIGHTS)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10 minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Observers sighted an amber cylindrical-shaped object. It was stationary and appeared to be fairly high. Later on observers returned to the site of the observation and a Pyrex insulator was observed casting an unusual and weird reflection of the lights of a football stadium. The observers identified it as the strange object which they had seen.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Stationary	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
FTD SEP 53 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

UNCLASSIFIED

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION
(Background or Complaint)

DATE SUBMITTED

SCOPE (If background)
☐ LAC ☐ GAC ☐ PBI ☐ CBI

CASE CLASSIFICATION

IDENTIFYING DATA

1. LAST NAME—FIRST NAME—MIDDLE NAME	2. SERIAL NO. (Military)	3. RACE	4. GRADE	5. ARM OR SV.

6. DUTY OR JOB ASSIGNMENT	7. DATE OF BIRTH	8. PLACE OF BIRTH

9. DUTY STATION OR BUSINESS ADDRESS	10. HOME OR QUARTERS ADDRESS

11. TITLE OF INCIDENT (Fire, explosion, etc.)	12. DATE (Incident cases only)	13. TIME (Incident cases only)
UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT	7 April 1949	2145

14. LOCATION (Installation, unit, building)	15. SERIAL NUMBERS OF EQUIPMENT, TANKS, ETC.
Charlotte, North Carolina	

CONTROL DATA

16. CONTROL SYMBOL AND FILE NO.	17. INVESTIGATION MADE BY (Organization)	18. CONTROL OFFICE
AJACI-3-452.9	111th CIC Detachment Ft. McPherson, Georgia	AC of S, G-2, Third Army

INVESTIGATIVE DATA

19. INVESTIGATION REQUESTED BY	20. REASON FOR INVESTIGATION
AC of S, G-2, Third Army Fort McPherson, Georgia	To determine identification of Object seen over Charlotte, North Carolina, as reported in the Charlotte Observer.

21. DATE INVESTIGATION

COMMENCED	COMPLETED
12 May 1949	14 June 1949

22. STATUS ☒ CLOSED ☐ TERMINATED ☐ SUSPENDED ☐ PENDING

23. SYNOPSIS

Unidentified object as reported in the Charlotte Observer, Charlotte, North Carolina, on 8 April 1949 was first sighted by a Mr. [redacted] at 2130 on the night of 7 April 1949 while attending a rodeo at Memorial Stadium, Charlotte, North Carolina (1). It was also observed by a Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] (2,10). It was reported to Mr. Granbery Dickson, Reporter, Charlotte Observer, by Mr. [redacted] who has a reputation of being an avid "Publicity Hound," and who would go to extremes to obtain publicity (1,3). On the night of 25 May 1949, Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] accompanied by a CIC Agent from the 111th CIC Detachment returned to Memorial Stadium and had the lights turned on. A Pyrex insulator (part of the lighting system) was observed casting an unusual and weird reflection of the lights and Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] positively identified it as the strange object they had observed on the night of 7 April 1949 (11,12). Sworn statements from these two men are attached (Exhibits "A" and "B"). A check of all Observatories in this Army Area proved negative (4,5,6,7,8,9,13, 14,15,16,17,18,19,20 and 21).

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

24. DISTRIBUTION
4 cys - Hq AMC, Wright Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio
1 cy - 3rd Army

25. REVIEWED BY

26. TYPED NAME AND TITLE	27. SIGNATURE
JOHN MEADE, Colonel, GSC, AC of S, G-2	J. Meade

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 342

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 00—16—53408-1

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

7-3912-17

Identified

UNCLASSIFIED

INCIDENT NO. 290

1. Date of Observation 7 April 1949 Date of Interview 20 May 1949

2. Exact Time (local) 2145

3. Place of Observation Charlotte, N. C.

4. Position of observer Ground in Stadium

5. What attracted attention to object Mr. [redacted]

6. Number of objects 1

7. Apparent size 1/2 size of little finger

8. Color of object Amber

9. Shape Cylindrical

10. Altitude Appeared higher than 1,000

11. Direction from observer 150°

12. Distance from observer

13. Direction of flight of object(s) Stationary

14. Time in sight 10 minutes

15. Speed Stationary

16. Sound and odor None

17. Trail None

18. Luminosity

19. Projections None

20. Maneuvers None

21. Manner of disappearance Observer left stadium

22. Effect on Clouds None

23. Additional information concerning object

24. Weather Conditions Sky clear, moon shining brightly

(over)

UNCLASSIFIED

V

RD188

EU 1755Z

ACTION | INFOR | INFOR

1949 APR 13 PM 2:59 94U

EUA322

EAA355

RR JEDC

FM UEAC 38A/G-2 SECTION HQ THIRD ARMY FTMCPHERSON GA

TO COMGENAMC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB DAYTON OHIO

WD GRNC

ATTN MCI PASS TO DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE GSUSA CONTROL NO A-1917

NEWSPAPER ARTICLE IN CHARLOTTE OBSERVER DATED EIGHT APRIL STATED QUOTE A SWIFT AERIAL VISITANT MOVING AT DIZZY ALTITUDE UNQUOTE APPEARED AT ABOUT TWENTY ONE FORTY FIVE HOURS SEVEN APRIL PD ARTICLE STATES THAT [redacted] PROPRIETOR OF PLAZA AIRPORT AND A QUOTE RECOGNIZED AUTHORITY ON AIRCRAFT UNQUOTE ESTIMATD ALTITUDE AT TWELVE THOUSAND FEET AND LENGTH AT LEAST TWENTY FEET PD DEATON STATED QUOTE THATS NOT AIRCRAFT PD ITS NOT A JET PROPULSIVE JOB OR ANY OTHER KIND OF FLYINGMACHINE UNQUOTE NO OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE PD NEWSPAPER CLIPPING BEING FORWARDED BY MAIL PD

CFN A-1917

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS THIRD ARMY
FORT McPHERSON, GEORGIA

16 June 1949

AJACI 7- 452.9

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO : Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCI (Control No. A-1917)

Reference letter Headquarters Third Army 13 April 1949, Subject: "Unconventional Aircraft", and 1st Indorsement your headquarters 6 May 1949. Report of Investigation covering incident is attached.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

JOHN MEADE
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

1 Incl:
Rpt of Inv. (in quad).

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

JUN 21

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Charlotte, N.C.
26 May 1949.

Statement of Mr. [redacted], Postal Employee, [redacted], Charlotte, N.C., regarding unidentified object observed on the night of 7 April 1949 at Charlotte, N.C.

I, [redacted] Charlotte, N.C., state that I attended the Rodeo held at the Memorial Stadium, Charlotte, N.C., on the night of 7 April 1949 and that I observed the object which was pointed out to me and Mr. [redacted] by Mr. [redacted], and which was the basis of the newspaper article appearing in the Charlotte Observer on 8 April 1949.

On the night of 25 May 1949 at approximately 8:30 P.M. while seated in the lighted stadium at approximately the same position as on the night of 7 April 1949, I recognized the insulator on one of the radio antennae which extend across the stadium as being the above mentioned object which was previously observed and which was pointed out to me and Mr. [redacted] by Mr. [redacted] Due to the reflection from the above insulator and the fact that the cable holding it was not visible at night, it presented the illusion of great height. On the night of 25 May 1949, I observed it carefully from various angles and under various conditions of light and can identify it unquestionably as being the object which was originally shown to me and Mr. [redacted] by Mr. [redacted]

[redacted]
Charlotte, N.C.

EXHIBIT "B"

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Charlotte, N.C.
26 May 1949.

Statement of Mr. [redacted], Painter, [redacted], Charlotte, N.C., regarding unidentified object observed on night of 7 April 1949 at Charlotte, N.C.

I, [redacted], Charlotte, N.C., state that I attended the Rodeo held at the Memorial Stadium, Charlotte, N.C. on the night of 7 April 1949 and to the best of my knowledge was the first person to observe the object which was the basis of the newspaper article appearing in the Charlotte Observer on 8 April 1949 and that I pointed out this object to Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted].

On the night of 25 May 1949 at approximately 8:30 P.M. while seated in the lighted stadium at approximately the same position as on the night of 7 April 1949, I recognized the insulator on one of the radio antennae which extend across the stadium as being the above mentioned object which was previously observed and which I showed to the persons indicated above. Due to the reflection from the above insulator and the fact that the cable holding it was not visible at night, it presented the illusion of great height. On the night of 25 May 1949, I observed it carefully from various angles and under various conditions of light and can identify it unquestionably as being the object which I originally observed.

[redacted]
Charlotte, N.C.

EXHIBIT "A"

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT	2. DATE SUBMITTED
UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT	25 May 1949
	3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.
	AJACI-3-452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(21) On 18 May 1949, [redacted] Building, Chattanooga, Tenn., was interviewed concerning unidentified objects or celestial phenomena, and disclosed the following: He has neither seen nor heard of any such object or phenomena of 7 April 1949. He is the permanent president of the Barnard Astronomical Society, of this area, and on any observations, such as aforementioned, would be immediately notified. [redacted] has recieved reports of this incident from no one. [redacted] stated that if any recognized astrologist in the United States observes any such phenomena, or object, he immediately contacts all other recognized astrologists with the purpose of plotting said object's course, altitude, etc. [redacted] revealed that other recognized observers in this area are:

[redacted] Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn
[redacted]., Emory University, PO Box 463, Atlanta, Ga
[redacted] Griffin, Ga
[redacted] Decatur, Ga

[redacted] discussed the matter aforementioned with local members of the Barnard Astronomical Society in their meeting at the University of Chattanooga on the night of 18 May 1949, and reported on 25 May 1949 that no one had observed either known celestial phenomena or unknown objects on the night of 7 April 1949.

AGENT'S NOTE: [redacted] son, Arthur, also an observer, was interviewed at the same time [redacted] was interviewed and concurred with all as stated by his father.

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT	6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT
Ivan T. Hoyle, 111th CIC Detachment,	Ivan T. Hoyle

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—53407-1

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT
UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT.

2. DATE SUBMITTED
26 May 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.
AJAGI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(18). Mr. [redacted] Office of Admissions, The College of Charleston Charleston, S.C. was interviewed on 24 May 1949 to ascertain whether the College of Charleston had recorded any celestial phenomenon or observed any UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT through their observatory on 7 April 1949. Mr [redacted] advised that the Observatory at the College of Charleston has not been in operation for approximately twenty-five (25) years. Mr [redacted] suggested that The Citadel, Military College of South Carolina, Charleston, S.C. had also had an Observatory at one time and might possibly have been using the Observatory on the date 7 April 1949. Informant stated that he had not heard of any UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT in this vicinity nor could he give any information regarding any celestial phenomenon.

(B-2)

(19). Major Lewis Simons, Asst. Registrar, The Citadel, Military College of South Carolina, Charleston, S.C. was interviewed on 24 May 1949. Major Simons advised that the Observatory at The Citadel has not been in operation for approximately fifteen years and could not give any information regarding UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT in the Charleston, S.C. vicinity. (B-2)

(20). A check of the following agencies on 24 May 1949 revealed no record relative to UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT in the Charleston, S.C. or Savannah, Ga., area.

Federal Bureau of Investigation, District Office, Savannah, Ga., and resident Agent in Charleston, S.C.
Office of Naval Intelligence, 6th Naval District, Charleston, S.C.

Operations and Intelligence Officers, Chatham Field, (Air Force) Savannah, Ga.,
Airport Officials, Charleston Municipal Airport, Charleston, S.C. and Municipal Airport, Savannah, Ga., (B-2)

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT
[illegible]

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT
[illegible]

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 66—18—53407-1

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

24 May 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

AJACI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(17) On 23 May 1949, Dr. [redacted] Moorehead Planetarium, University of North Carolina, Chapel,Hill, N. C., was interviewed in regards to any unusual occurences that might have taken place in the skies on or about 7 Apr 1949. He stated that he had niether seen or heard of anything that might be construed as even slightly unusual either before, on, or after the time in question. Likewise, none of his associates have reported to him anything of an unusual nature. He was equally positive that if anything out of the ordinary had occurred, he would have been one of the first to know about it. (B-2)

AGENTS NOTE: Dr. [redacted] gave the appearance of an intelligent man who knows whereof he speaks. [redacted]parting, he said he would report to this office, immediately, anything of an unusual nature that might occur. He is more than willing to cooperate in any manner what-so-ever.

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

CARLAND L PERRY, S/A, 111th CIC DET

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

Carland L Perry.

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 66—16—53407-1

UNCLASSIF[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

25 May 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

AJACI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(14) On 19 May 1949, Professor [redacted], Wake Forest, N. C., Astronomy Professor, and in charge of the 6" telescope at Wake Forest College was interviewed concerning SUBJECT. Professor [redacted] stated that nothing of an unusual nature on or about 7 April 1949, has been brought to his attention, nor has he heard of any unusual craft in the skies. (B-2)

(15) On 24 May 1949, Mr. [redacted], Hi-Y A. C. (Amateur Club) YMCA, Rocky Mount, N. C., home address of [redacted] was interviewed concerning SUBJECT. Mr [redacted] stated that the Hi-Y Amateur Club has not been functioning for the past several months, and that he has not heard or seen any UNUSUAL craft in the skies, on or about 7 April 1949, or any other time. (B-2)

(16) On 24 May 1949, Professor [redacted], Atlantic Christian College, Wilson, N. C., part-time instructor in astronomy, was interviewed concerning SUBJECT, with negative results. Professor [redacted] stated that he has not seen, or heard of, any unusual craft in the skies, on or about 7 April 1949, or any other time. (B-2)

AGENT's NOTE: All informants above are men of above the average intelligence, and stated that they would gladly report to this Office any unusual craft that might appear in the skies, or any report of same that might reach them.

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

HAYWOOD L. ROBERTSON, 111th CIC DET.

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

Haywood L. Robertson

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—53407-1

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

3 June 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

AJACI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(13). On 2 June 1949, Dr. [redacted] Director of the Observatory, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, was interviewed and stated that the object sighted over Charlotte, North Carolina 7 April 1949 was not observed from the Vanderbilt University Observatory. Dr. [redacted] further stated that he had no knowledge of the object sighted in North Carolina, and is unable to furnish any pertinent information. (B-2)

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

SAMUEL D. MARTIN, 811th CIC Det.

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

Samuel D. Martin

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE c8—16—53407-1

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

AJACI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(12) On the night of 25 May 1949, at approximately 2030 hours, Mr. [redacted], Stadium Manager, City Parks and Recreation Commission, turned on the same lights which were used at the stadium during the Rodeo on 7 April 1949 and Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] made observations from approximately the same position in the stadium which they had occupied on the above mentioned night. The Pyrex insulator described above cast and unusual and weird reflection of the lights and this agent noted that the wire on which it is located was not visible at night and that it would be difficult for a person to get a clear perception of its height. Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] expressed amazement at the above object, stating that it was in the same location and presented the same appearance as when observed on the night of 7 April 1949, and advised that there is absolutely no question but that this is the object which they previously reported. (Reference Exhibits "A" and "B"). (B-2)

Agent's Note: This agent received the impression that the above person were completely sincere in their statements regarding the above incident and were honestly "fooled" by the unusual effect of light on the appearance of the above object. Mr. [redacted] could not be present on the above date as he was out of town in connection with the operation of his air port.

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

HENRY O. RHODES, 111th CIC Detachment.

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

Henry O. Rhodes

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—18—53407-1

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

AJAGI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(10) On 20 May 1949, Mr. [redacted]n, Proprietor, Plaza Airport, Charlotte, N.C., stated that the above mentioned object was pointed out to him by Mr. [redacted] when he was attending the Rodeo at the Memorial Stadium on the night of 7 April 1949 and that after observing it for a short time he visited the office of the Charlotte Observer and reported it to Mr. Granbery Dickson, Reporter, for the above newspaper, who prepared the article which appeared in the above newspaper on 8 April 1949. Mr. [redacted] advised that he was sitting near Mr. [redacted] in the stadium and gave a similiar description of the above object as given by Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] He stated that the object may have been as low as one thousand (1,000) feet but that it appeared much higher to him and that he still does not know what it could have been. He advised that it did not move during the time he saw it at the stadium and that he thought he observed it disappear after he reached the observer building but is not certain that what he saw at that time was the above object. The above object defied identification according to Mr. [redacted] but based on the short period that he observed it he is satisfied that it was not aircraft. He stated that the above incident was not a "publicity stunt"; that he has no idea as to the identity of the above object; that it was very difficult to estimate its height, and that he does not know the names of any other persons who observed it except those persons listed above. Mr. [redacted] stated further that at the time the above observation was made the sky was clear and the moon was shining brightly. (F-3)

Agent's Note: This agent received the impression during the interview with Mr. [redacted] that he obviously used his imagination in elaborating on this incident in his report to the newspaper, in order to obtain publicity, but that he is sincere in his statement that he was unable to identify the above mentioned object.

(11) On 24 May 1949, Mr. [redacted], 1411 Thomas Ave., Charlotte, N.C., accompanied this agent to the Memorial Stadium and the above mentioned insulator, which extends across the stadium in approximately the same direction as the object which he reported, was pointed out to him. He stated that the insulator is located in almost the exact direction and angle at which he observed the unidentified object on the night of 7 April 1949, but that he is convinced that the above insulator could not possibly present the appearance of the object which he observed as previously reported. He agreed to observe the above insulator under similiar conditions as existed on the night of 7 April 1949, stating that he would be glad to cooperate and that he is very anxious to receive any information regarding the above incident in order to "ease his own mind" in this matter. He concluded by stating that he would be willing to take an oath that the object which he saw was several thousand feet in height and that if the above equipment has anything to do with the object which he saw he "expects to go to see a doctor". (F-3)

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

HENRY O. RHODES, 111th CIC Detachment.

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

Henry O. Rhodes

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 66—16—53407-1

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UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

AJACI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(7) On 20 May 1949, Mr [redacted] Soule Steel and Iron Co., N. Church St., Charlotte, N.C., stated that he was the member of the Charlotte Junior Chamber of Commerce who had charge of the "props" and stadium arrangements during the Southeastern Championship Rodeo which was sponsored by the above organization at the Memorial Stadium. He advised that he attended the above rodeo during all performances with the exception of one night performance and that he did not observe any unidentified object or light in the vicinity of the stadium and received no reports regarding the presence of any such object. He advised that he is positive that no lighted ballon or other objects were used by the management of the Rodeo, which would give the appearance of a light or unidentified object in the sky. (B-2)

(8) On 20 May 1949, Mr. [redacted] Athletic Director and Stadium Manager, City Parks and Recreation Commission, Charlotte, N.C. stated that he has not heard of any unidentified object having been sighted over the stadium and that there has been no changes in the lighting facilities or various wires located around the stadium since before the night football games were held there. He could not explain such a report in connection with the equipment located at the stadium, and advised that he had charge of the lighting and operation of the stadium during the entire period in which the rodeo was held there and attended every performance. (B-2)

(9) On 21 May 1949, Mr. T.C. Wood Jr., Radio Technician (Major, Civil Air Patrol), 1300 E. 5th St., Charlotte, N.C., stated that he is in charge of the Civil Air Patrol radio station which is located in his residence at the above address and that the antennae for the above station extend across the Memorial Stadium which is approximately one block from his residence. There have been no changes in this equipment during the past year and there has never been any electric current on these wires, which could account for a spark or short circuit. He advised that there are two of the antennae and that one extends across the stadium in the direction of approximately 55 degrees from North. This antennae is fastened to the top of poles which are approximately 45 feet high and are located on the highest ledge around the stadium, approximately 50 feet above the ground in the stadium floor. The antenna itself is approximately 276 feet long and is connected to a cable approximately 60 feet long which extends from the Northeast end, by an insulator which is approximately twelve (12) inches long and is made of Pyrex. Mr. Wood advised that no lights whatsoever appear on the above antennae and stated that he does not know whether the above mentioned insulator could relfect light. He further stated that he knows of nothing in connection with the above equipment which would present an unusual appearance at night, and that he has received no reports regarding an unidentified object having been sighted in the vicinity. (B-2)

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

HENRY O. RHODES, 111th CIC Detachment.

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

Henry O. Rhodes

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 66—18—63407-1

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

AJACI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

Par. (3) Cont.

was male to verify this report from other sources with the exception that he telephoned Mr. [redacted], [redacted], Charlotte, N.C. later on the night of 7 April 1949, and he gave somewhat similiar information as furnished by Mr. [redacted]. He recalls Mr. [redacted] having stated durin the above meeting that although the above object was very confusing to him, he would guess that if it was some type of aircraft it would be large enough to carry approximately twenty (20) passengers. Mr. [redacted] stated that [redacted] appeared to be very excited regarding the above observation; that based on his previous contacts with him he considers him to be an excitable type of person and his desire for newspaper publicity is well known to Mr. [redacted] but that he gave credence to the report in view of the fact that [redacted] was willing to leave the rodeo in order to make the above report and in view of the fact that his telephone conversation with Mr. [redacted] tended to confirm the information which he gave. Mr. [redacted] stated that he knows of no other persons who might have observed the above object, and that [redacted] impressed him as being sincere and as making the above report in good faith. In his past dealings with the above newspaper [redacted] has always been honest and reliable according to Mr. [redacted]. (B-2)

(4) On 21 May 1949, Mr. Sturkey and Miss Altman, Operators, Morris Field Radio Control Tower, Charlotte, N.C., stated that the above office did not receive any reports of unidentified aircraft or objects in the air in the vicinity of Charlotte, N.C. on 7 April 1949, and also that they have received no inquiries regarding any such object. (B-2)

(5) On 21 May 1949, Mr. Spencer, Observer, U.S. Weather Bureau Station, Morris Field, Charlotte, N.C., stated that the above office neither observed nor received reports of any celestial phenomenon or unidentified objects appearing near Charlotte, N.C. on 7 April 1949. Mr. Spencer stated that the Weather Station at Charlotte, N.C. does not use weather ballons and that the nearest weather station which does use ballons in making weather observations is located at Greensboro, N.C. approximately one hundred (100) miles away. He advised that the above office has received no information which could explain any report of an unidentified object over the city on the night of 7 April 1949. (B-2)

(6) On 21 May 1949, Mr. Joe Crosby Jr., C.A.A. Communications Office, Morris Field, Charlotte, N.C., stated that the above office has received no information regarding unidentified aircraft or objects in the air near Charlotte, N.C. on 7 April 1949 and that he has no information which would explain a report of any such object. (B-2)

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

HENRY O. RHODES, 411th CIC Detachment.

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

Henry O. Rhodes

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE c6—18—53407-1

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

AIACI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

(1) On 20 May 1949, Mr. [redacted], Painter, [redacted] Charlotte, N.C., stated that, to the best of his knowledge, he was the first person to observe the unidentified object which was seen from the Memorial Stadium on the night of 7 April 1949, and that he immediately pointed it out to his brother-in-law, Mr. [redacted] who was sitting next to him and later showed it to Mr. [redacted]. He first observed the object a few minutes after he had taken his seat at the stadium when he happened to look towards the sky. He was sitting on the North side of the stadium and the object was observed at an angle of approximately 150 Degrees from North and approximately 75 degrees above the horizon. He watched the object intermittently during the Rodeo and stated that he could never decide what type of object it was. It appeared to be cylindrical or oblong in shape and appeared to be lighted with a steady or constant amber light which was brighter at some points along the side of the object than at others, and appeared to be brighter at the Northeastern end. He could observe the side of the object from where he was sitting and advised that the object apparently was pointed lengthwise in the direction of Northeast and Southwest, with the line of his vision forming almost a 90 degree angle with its axis. He advised that he paid more attention to this object than he did to the show and estimated that he first observed it at approximately 2015 hours and that it was still there when he left the stadium after the show at approximately 2230. When he had walked several blocks from the stadium in a Northerly direction on his way home he stopped and observed the sky to see if the object was still visible but could not locate it. The object did not move in any direction during all of the period that he observed it and he did not see it appear or disappear. Mr. [redacted] stated that the above object impressed him as being about half the diameter and length of his "little finger" when observed at arms length and that he was of the opinion that it was possibly 20,000 feet in height but that it may have been only several thousand feet high as it was very difficult to estimate its height. He stated that he is an ameteur aeroplane pilot; that he received a student license and flew for pleasure over a period of several years during the past few years. He has not flown for approximately the last year and although he has logged approximately 75 hours flying time has never received a Private Pilot License. He was wearing his regular eye glasses at the time the above observation was made and stated that viewing this object "upset" him as he has never been able to decide what it was. After he showed this object to Mr. [redacted] he remarked to Mr. [redacted] that it was probably a mistake to have told him about it as, according to Mr. [redacted], [redacted] is well known in local flying circles as an avid "publicity hound", going to extremes to obtain publicity. [redacted] did not remain at the stadium but a few minutes after the object was pointed out to him and Mr. [redacted] assumes that he went to the office of the Charlotte Observer to report the incident as Mr. [redacted], reporter for the above paper, telephoned him at his home later in the evening to verify information given him by [redacted].

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

[illegible], 111th CIC Detachment.

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

Henry O. Rhodes

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—53407-1

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT

2. DATE SUBMITTED

27 May 1949

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

AMCI-3 452.9

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

Par. (1) Cont.

that the object was pointed out to Mr. [redacted] at approximately 2130 and that he observed it for less than ten minutes before leaving. He advised that a number of other persons sitting near him in the stadium observed the object but that he does not know the identity of any of them except as mentioned above. Mr. [redacted] advised that he is still mystified by the above object and has never observed anything like it before. (B-3)

(2) On 20 May 1949, Mr. [redacted] U.S. Post Office, Charlotte, N.C., [redacted], stated that the above mentioned object was pointed out to him by his brother-in-law, Mr. [redacted], at approximately 2015 on the night of 7 April 1949, a few minutes after they had taken their seats at the Stadium. They were sitting on the North side of the stadium and he described the object as having been observed in approximately the same location as described by Mr. [redacted] with the exception that he estimated its height as being less than one thousand (1,000) feet or possibly twice as high as the Liberty Life Building, Charlotte, N.C. which is twenty (20) floors high. His description of the object was substantially the same as that given by Mr. [redacted], above, and he advised that it did not move and was visible until they left the stadium. After they had walked several blocks from the stadium in a Northerly direction they attempted to locate the object in the sky but were unable to do so. After Mr. [redacted] first saw the object, and while they were at the stadium he noticed approximately twelve (12) other persons observing the object and making comments regarding it. To the best of his knowledge none of them could decide what it was and he has not come to any conclusion yet as to the identity of the above object, although he spent considerable time during the rodeo on the above mentioned night, observing it. (B-3)

(3) On 20 May 1949, Mr. [redacted], Reporter, Charlotte Observer, Charlotte, N.C., stated that he wrote the article which appeared in the above newspaper on 8 April 1949, regarding the unidentified object observed from Memorial Stadium on the night of 7 April 1949. He advised that Mr. [redacted], Proprietor of the [redacted], Charlotte, N.C. came to his newspaper office around 2145 hours on the night of 7 April 1949 and gave him information which was published in the above article. Mr. [redacted] told him that he was attending the Southeastern Championship Rodeo at the time the unidentified object was observed and left the Rodeo in order to report the above information. Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] then observed the sky in the direction of the Memorial Stadium from the second floor of the Observer Building but noticed no such object as described by Mr. [redacted]. He stated that he has received no further information or reports regarding the above incident and that no [illegible]

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

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

HENRY C. RHODES, 111th CIC Detachment.

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

Henry C. Rhodes

WD AGO FORM 1 JUN 47 341

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 68—16—53407-1

UNCLASSIFIED

Name and address of observer: [redacted] Airport, Charlotte, N. C.

Occupation and hobbies:

Proprietor [redacted] Airport

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 25 May 1949, Mr. [redacted], Proprietor, Plaza Airport, Charlotte, N. C., stated that the above mentioned object was pointed out to him by Mr. [redacted] when he was attending the Rodeo at the Memorial Stadium on the night of 7 April 1949 and that after observing it for a short time he visited the office of the Charlotte Observer and reported it to Mr. [redacted], Reporter, for the above newspaper, who prepared the article which appeared in the above newspaper on 8 April 1949. Mr. [redacted] advised that he was sitting near Mr. [redacted] in the stadium and gave a similar description of the above object as given by Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted]. He stated that the object may have been as low as one thousand (1,000) feet but that it appeared much higher to him and that he still does not know what it could have been. He advised that it did not move during the time he saw it at the stadium and that he thought he observed it disappear after he reached the observer building but is not certain that what he saw at that time was the above object. The above object defied identification according to Mr. [redacted] but based on the short period that he observed it he is satisfied that it was not aircraft. He stated that the above incident was not a "publicity stunt"; that he has no idea as to the identity of the above object; that it was very difficult to estimate its height, and that he does not know the names of any other persons who observed it except those persons listed above. Mr. [redacted] stated further that at the time the above observation was made the sky was clear and the moon was shining brightly. (F-3)

SYNOPSIS: Unidentified object as reported in the Charlotte Observer, Charlotte, North Carolina, on 8 April 1949 was first sighted by a Mr. [redacted] at 2130 on the night of 7 April 1949 while attending a rodeo at Memorial Stadium, Charlotte, North Carolina (1). It was also observed by a Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] (2,10). It was reported to Mr. Granbery Dickson, Reporter, Charlotte Observer, by Mr. [redacted] who has a reputation of being an avid "Publicity Hound," and who would go to extremes to obtain publicity (1,3). On the night of 25 May 1949, Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted], accompanied by a CIC Agent from the 111th CIC Detachment returned to Memorial Stadium and had the lights turned on. A Pyrex insulator (part of the lighting system) was observed casting an unusual and weird reflection of the lights and Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] positively identified it as the strange object they had observed on the night of 7 April 1949 (11,12). Sworn statements from these two men are attached (Exhibits "A" and "B"). A check of all observatories in this Army Area proved negative (4,5,6,7,8,9,13,14,15,16,17, 18,19,20, and 21).

Identified

UNCLASSIFIED

INCIDENT NO. 290B

1. Date of Observation 7 April 1949 Date of Interview 20 May 1949

2. Exact Time (local) 2015

3. Place of Observation Charlotte, N. C.

4. Position of observer Ground in stadium

5. What attracted attention to object Mr. [redacted]

6. Number of objects 1

7. Apparent size

8. Color of object

9. Shape

10. Altitude Less than 1000 feet

11. Direction from observer 150°

12. Distance from observer

13. Direction of flight of object(s)

14. Time in sight

15. Speed Stationary

16. Sound and odor None

17. Trail None

18. Luminosity

19. Projections None

20. Maneuvers None

21. Manner of disappearance Observer left scene.

22. Effect on Clouds

23. Additional information concerning object

24. Weather Conditions

(over)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident 290A (Cont'd)

Name and address of observer: Mr. [redacted] Charlotte, N. C.

Occupation and hobbies: Painter

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

Appeared completely sincere

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

left the stadium after the show at approximately 2230. When he had walked several blocks from the stadium in a northernly direction on his way home he stopped and observed the sky to see if the object was still visible but could not locate it. The object did not move in any direction during all of the period that he observed it and he did not see it appear or disappear. Mr. [redacted] stated that the above object impressed him as being about half the diameter and length of his "little finger" when observed at arms length and that he was of the opinion that it was possibly 20,000 feet in height but that it may have been only several thousand feet high as it was very difficult to estimate its height. He stated that he is an amateur aeroplane pilot; that he received a student license and flew for pleasure over a period of several years during the past few years. He has not flown for approximately the last year and although he has logged approximately 75 hours flying time has never received a Private Pilot License. He was wearing his regular eye glasses at the time the above observation was made and stated that viewing this object "upset" him as he has never been able to decide what it was. After he showed this object to Mr. [redacted] he remarked to Mr. [redacted] that it was probably a mistake to have told him about it as, according to Mr. [redacted] is well known in local flying circles as an avid "publicity hound", going to extremes to obtain publicity. [redacted] did not remain at the stadium but a few minutes after the object was pointed out to him and Mr. [redacted] assumes that he went to the office of the Charlotte Observer to report the incident as Mr. Dixon, reporter for the above paper, telephoned him at his home later in the evening to verify information given him by Mr [redacted]. He estimated that the object was pointed out to Mr. [redacted] at approximately 2130 and that he observed it for less than ten minutes before leaving. He advised that a number of other persons sitting near him in the stadium observed the object but that he does not know the identity of any of them except as mentioned above. Mr [redacted] advised that he is still mystified by the above object and has never observed anything like it before. (8-3)

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Identified

INCIDENT NO. 290A

1. Date of Observation 7 April 1949 Date of Interview 20 May 1949

2. Exact Time (local) 2015-2230 Hours

3. Place of Observation Charlotte, North Carolina

4. Position of observer Ground in stadium

5. What attracted attention to object.

6. Number of objects 1

7. Apparent size 1/2 size of little finger at arms length

8. Color of object Amber

9. Shape Cylindrical

10. Altitude 75° - 20,000 ft

11. Direction from observer 150°

12. Distance from observer

13. Direction of flight of object(s) Stationary

14. Time in sight 1 hr, 15 minutes

15. Speed Stationary

16. Sound and odor None

17. Trail None

18. Luminosity Steady constant light

19. Projections None

20. Maneuvers None

21. Manner of disappearance Observer left area.

22. Effect on Clouds None

23. Additional Information Concerning Object-

24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

UNCLASSIFIED

Name and address of observer:

Mr. L[redacted], Charlotte, N. C.

Occupation and hobbies:

Painter

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

Appeared completely sincere

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

Synopsis: Unidentified object as reported in the Charlotte Observer, Charlotte, North Carolina, on 8 April 1949 was first sighted by a Mr. [redacted]s at 2130 on the night of 7 April 1949 while attending a rodeo at Memorial Stadium, Charlotte, North Carolina (1). It was also observed by a Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted]n (2,10). It was reported to Mr. Granbery Dickson, Reporter, Charlotte Observer, by Mr. [redacted]n who has a reputation of being an avid "Publicity Hound," and who would go to extremes to obtain publicity (1,3). On the night of 25 May 1949, Mr. [redacted] and M[redacted], accompanied by a CIC agent from the 111th CIC Detachment returned to Memorial Stadium and had the lights turned on. A Pyrex insulator (part of the lighting system) was observed casting an unusual and weird reflection of the lights and Mr. [redacted]s and Mr. [redacted] positively identified it as the strange object they had observed on the night of 7 April 1949 (11,12). Sworn statements from these two men are attached (Exhibits "A" and "B"). A check of all Observatories in this Army Area proved negative (4,5,6,7,8,9,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20, and 21).

Report of Findings: On 20 May 1949, Mr. L. W. [redacted] Painter, [redacted] Charlotte, N.C., stated that, to the best of his knowledge, he was the first person to observe the unidentified object which was seen from the Memorial Stadium on the night of 7 April 1949, and that he immediately pointed it out to his brother-in-law, Mr. [redacted] who was sitting next to him and later showed it to Mr. [redacted]n. He first observed the object a few minutes after he had taken his seat at the stadium when he happened to look towards the sky. He was sitting on the North side of the stadium and the object was observed at an angle of approximately 150 Degrees from North and approximately 75 degrees above the horizon. He watched the object intermittently during the rodeo and stated that he could never decide what type of object it was. It appeared to be cylindrical or oblong in shape and appeared to be lighted with a steady or constant amber light which was brighter at some points along the side of the object than at others, and appeared to be brighter at the Northeastern end. He could observe the side of the object from where he was sitting and advised that the object apparently was pointed lengthwise in the direction of Northeast and Southwest, with the line of his vision forming almost a 90 degree angle with its axis. He advised that he paid more attention to this object than he did to the show and estimated that he first observed it at approximately 2015 hours and that it was still there when he

UNCLASSIFIED

 Incident 290B

Name and address of observer: Mr. [redacted] Charlotte, N. C.

Occupation and hobbies:

U. S. Postal Employee

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 20 May 1949, Mr. [redacted], Special Delivery Letter Carrier, U. S. Post Office, Charlotte, N. C., [redacted], Charlotte, N. C., stated that the above mentioned object was pointed out to him by his brother-in-law, Mr. [redacted], at approximately 2015 on the night of 7 April 1949, a few minutes after they had taken their seats at the Stadium. They were sitting on the North side of the stadium and he described the object as having been observed in approximately the same location as described by Mr. [redacted] with the exception that he estimated its height as being less than one thousand (1,000) feet or possibly twice as high as the Liberty Life Building, Charlotte, N. C. which is twenty (20) floors high. His description of the object was substantially the same as that given by Mr. [redacted] above, and he advised that it did not move and was visible until they left the stadium. After they had walked several blocks from the stadium in a Northerly direction they attempted to locate the object in the sky but were unable to do so. After Mr. [redacted] first saw the object, and while they were at the stadium he noticed approximately twelve (12) other persons observing the object and making comments regarding it. To the best of his knowledge none of them could decide what it was and he has not come to any conclusion yet as to the identity of the above object, although he spent considerable time during the rodeo on the above mentioned night, observing it. (B-3)

Synopsis: Unidentified object as reported in the Charlotte Observer, Charlotte, North Carolina, on 8 April 1949 was first sighted by a Mr. [redacted] at 2130 on the night of 7 April 1949 while attending a rodeo at Memorial Stadium, Charlotte, North Carolina (1). It was also observed by a Mr. [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] (2,10). It was reported to Mr. Granbery Dickson, Reporter, Charlotte Observer, by Mr [redacted] who has a reputation of being an avid "Publicity Hound", and who would go to extremes to obtain publicity (1,3). On the night of 25 May 1949, Mr [redacted] and Mr. [redacted], accompanied by a CIC Agent from the 111th CIC Detachment returned to Memorial Stadium and had the lights turned on. A Pyrex insulator (part of the lighting system) was observed casting an unusual and weird reflection of the lights and Mr [redacted] and Mr. [redacted] positively identified it as the strange object they had observed on the night of 7 April 1949 (11,12). Sworn statements from these two men are attached (Exhibits "A" and "B"). A check of all Observatories in this Army Area proved negative (4,5,6,7,8,9,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20 and 21).

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