FTD SEP 53 0-329 (TDF) [illegible]

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

297

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 16 Apr 49 16/2325Z	2. LOCATION Fort Smith, Arkansas
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION AIRCRAFT
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 minute	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Observer sighted a round object heading to the SE. It looked like a huge round mirror. It maintained a straight and level line of flight disappearing behind a row of trees.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE SE	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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

[redacted]

297

REPORT OF UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Date of Observation: 16 April 1949 Date of Interview: 21 April 1949

2. Exact time of Observation (CST): 1725 hours

3. Place of Observation:
Intersection of 11th Street and Grand Avenue, Fort Smith, Arkansas, (approximately four blocks from center of business district)

4. Position of observer:
Observer was travelling east along Grand Avenue (see attached sketch). Object was first sighted from automobile while observer was waiting for traffic light to change. Upon sighting, observer stepped out of car and watched object until it disappeared.

5. What attracted attention to object:
Immediately after traffic light changed to red, observer stopped his car and glanced up at light. He noticed object in the sky at an elevation of approximately 15° directly above the light.

6. Number of objects:
Only one object was seen.

7. Apparent size:
Object appeared to be the size of a five-cent coin held at arms length.

8. Color of object:
Object appeared to be colorless and bright.

9. Shape:
Outline of object was perfectly round. Observer stated that no details of object could be seen and he did not know whether object resembled a disc or a ball.

10. Altitude:
Observer believed elevation of object to be between 10,000 and 12,000 feet. Angle of elevation above horizan was approximately 30°.

11. Direction from observer:
Object was first observed at a magnetic bearing of approximately 85° from observer.

12. Distance from observer:
Observer estimated distance from object as being between three and four miles.

13. Direction of flight:
Object was flying in a southeasterly direction while observed.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

completed two and one-half years of college and two years in a theological seminary. He resigned his position in the Methodist ministry several years ago and has been employed by the Post Office Department since that time.

[redacted] does not wear glasses for distant vision and his eyesight is believed to be very good. Upon being asked regarding the possibility of his mistaking a conventional aircraft for the object, he stated, "I am certain it was not an airplane. I observed it closely to see if I could be mistaken and it was just and I have described it to you."

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of Fort Smith, Arkansas, surface weather conditions from 1230 to 2030 hours, 16 April 1949 were as follows:

CST	Clouds	Visability	Wind Dir	MPH	Temp
1230	Clear	20 mi	SSE	2	63°
1330	Thin, Scattered, 25,000'	20 mi	S	4	66°
1430	Thin, Scattered, 25,000'	20 mi	SE	5	67°
1530	Thin, Broken, 25,000'	20 mi	WNW	5	69°
1630	Thin, Broken, 25,000'	20 mi	W	10	71°
1730	Thin, Scattered, 25,000'	20 mi	SSW	10	72°
1830	Thin, Scattered, 25,000'	20 mi	SW	10	69°
1930	Thin, Scattered, 25,000'	20 mi	SSW	6	61°
2030	Thin, Scattered, 25,000'	20 mi	S	4	56°

2. No winds aloft graphs or adiabatic charts are prepared by the Fort Smith office of the US Weather Bureau.

3. No commercial airline flights were in the vicinity at the time of sighting. Braniff Air Lines flight from Little Rock, Arkansas, arrived at the Fort Smith airport at 1550 hrs on 16 April. It departed for Tulsa, Oklahoma, at 1600 hrs. The next scheduled flight arrived at Fort Smith at 2305 hrs. At least two privately owned aircraft were believed to be flying in the vicinity at the time but no record is kept of these flights. No military aircraft were believed to be in the vicinity at the time.

4. No weather balloons or other testing devices are released by the Fort Smith office of the US Weather Bureau. Nearest point of release for such devices is believed to be at the Municipal Airport, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Tulsa is located approximately 100 air miles northwest of Fort Smith.

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

6. Sketch of terrain surrounding point of observation is attached as enclosure No 1.

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[redacted]

[redacted]

14. Time in sight:
Approximately one minute

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15. Speed:
Observer estimated speed of object at 200 miles per hour. Approximately one minute was required for object to cover an angular distance of 15°. Line of flight was away from observer at an approximate angle of 45°.

16. Sound and Odor:
No sound or odor were noticed.

17. Trail:
No trail was seen.

18. Luminosity:
Object appeared to be visible by reflection. Observer stated that object looked like a "huge round mirror." No reflected rays of sunlight were noticed.

19. Projections:
No projections were noticed.

20. Maneuvers:
Object maintained a straight and level line of flight during observation.

21. Manner of disappearance:
Object disappeared behind a row of trees located at a magnetic bearing of approximately 100° from observer.

22. Effect on clouds:
No clouds were observed in the vicinity of object.

23. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:
Weather was clear and visibility good at time of sighting. The sun was shining and light was excellent.

24. Additional information:
During observation, witness said he pointed out object to several other persons who had gotten out of cars in the line of traffic behind his vehicle. Identity of these persons was unknown to observer. No other reports of the sighting have been received.

Observers name is [redacted]. His address is [redacted], Fort Smith, Arkansas. He is 52 years of age and is employed as a special delivery messenger by the US Post Office at Fort Smith. He lives on an acerage on the outskirts of Fort Smith and devotes his spare time to farming and gardening.

[redacted] has an excellent reputation in the community. His immediate superior at the local Post Office as well as other acquaintances regard him highly. One neighbor, in commenting on his integrity, stated "If [redacted] says anything's so, it's so." [redacted]

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[redacted]

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

452.1 AKADB

26 April 1949

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomenon

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

1. Reference letter, Director of Intelligence, General Staff, United States Army, CSGID 452.1; 25 March 1948, subject, "Unconventional Aircraft," and to Control No. A-1917.

2. Inclosed Report of Unidentified Aerial Object re sighting at Fort Smith Arkansas, 16 April 1949, is forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

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

1 Incl
As stated

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"C" Street

GRAND AVENUE

11th Street

(1) Automobile of observer
(2) Traffic light
(3) Buisness buildings
(4) Residence
Row of large trees
Angle of observation

CONTROL NO.	SUBJECT: Ltr	DECIMAL, FILE NO.	FOLLOW UP ON
Q - 23	Aerial Phenomenon Secret S-30064 Q 95 - 6		DATE

FROM: Ft Sam Houston Texas DATED 4/26/49

TO: IAXS NO. INCLS. 1

RECORDING DESK AXT-1 DATE RECORDED 5/2/49 HOUR 1100

	ROUTED TO	SUSPENSE DATE	ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS)	DATE
1	IAXS	N/R	HeT	5 May 49
2				
3				

DATE OF REPLY | OTHER DISPOSITION:

TRANSMITTAL
AMC FORM NO. 10-2
(23 NOV. 47)
SEE OTHER SIDE FOR REMARKS

TRANSMITTAL RESTRICTED ATSC FORM NO. 80-506 (1 JAN. 45)

FROM: [redacted] DATE [redacted] HOUR [redacted] IDENTIFICATION NUMBER [redacted]

INCOMING		INTER-OFFICE		OUTGOING		COMPLETE FILE COPY		L. PY		NO FILE COPY	
			X								

FROM: [redacted] TO: [redacted]

REG. NO. 12451

DESCRIPTION, DATES AND SUBJECT:

[redacted]

INCLOSURES:

[redacted] 5

TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)	COPY NO.	REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE)	DATE REC'D	HOUR
1				
TO: 2	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR
TO: 3	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR
TO: 4	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR

RESTRICTED

HAND RECEIPT RA RESTRICTED do ATSC FORM NO. 50-508 (1 JAN. 45)

FROM: MCAGD421 DATE 5-2-49 HOUR 937 IDENTIFICATION NUMBER S 38064

INCOMING X	EP-ICE		S	OUTGOING	COMPLETE FILE COPY		INCO FILE		NO FILE COPY	

FROM: C.G. FORT SAM HOUSTON TEX. TO: CG ARC ATTN: MCI

REG. NO. 11931

DESCRIPTION, DATES AND SUBJECT:

IB 4-26 (2-2P) AERIAL PHOTOS

INCLOSURES:

#1 RPT 4-21 (1-4P) 3

TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)	COPY NO.	REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE)	DATE REC'D	HOUR
1		Allen W Ryel	5-2	1045
TO: 2 IAX-5	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR
TO: 3	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR
TO: 4	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR

RESTRICTED

INCOMING MESSAGE

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[redacted]

CWHE

1

-1 297

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ACTION COPY

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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. 22A
(Rev 25 Oct 48)

WF-L-16 NOV 48 10M

[redacted]

(INCOMING MESSAGE (
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VISIBLE. OBJECT WAS SHINY; 0 DEGREES AZIMUTH; AT LEAST
3 MILES FROM OBSERVER; AND APPROXIMATELY 5 TO 7000 FEET
[illegible] IN A SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION
[illegible] AT ANGLE OF ABOVE 25 DEGREES FROM HORIZON. OBJECT TRAVELED
[illegible] ESTIMATED 8 TO 10 DEG DURING TIME IT WAS SEEN.
[illegible]
VIEWING BY REFLECTION AND DIRECT
ABOVE. WEATHER WAS CLEAR, BRIGHT
OBSERVER FACING AWAY FROM
FREE LINE. EVALUATION OF
SPECIAL DELIVERY CARRIER FOR US
HOBBY OF
NOT WEARING GLASSES AT TIME OF SIGHTING; SIGHTED OBJECT
THROUGH WINDSHIELD OF CAR. WEARS GLASSES ONLY FOR
READING.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

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

UNCLASSIFIED

MCAG Form No. 22A
(Rev. 23 Oct 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.
WG-L-16 NOV 48 10M

23.

INCIDENT NO. 297

1. Date of Observation 16 April 49 Date of Interview 22 April 49
2. Exact time (local) 1725
3. Place of Observation Fort Smith, Arkansas
4. Position of observer In Auto, facing away from sun
5. What attracted attention to object -
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size Size of Nickel at arms length
8. Color of object of moon, shiny
9. Shape Did not know if object was ball or Disc. Round surrounded by a clear white light with edgesvisible
10. Altitude ~~5,000-7,000~~ 10,000-12,000 ft. ~~25°~~ 30° from horizon
11. Direction from observer ~~0°~~ 85°
12. Distance from observer 3 ~~miles~~ 4 Miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s) Southeasternly
14. Time in sight 60 seconds
15. Speed ~~rapid~~ 200MPH, object traveled 8-10° in 30 seconds 1 min
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail
18. Luminosity reflection and incandescent
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance disappeared behind tree line
22. Effect on clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather conditions clear, bright, no clouds near object

(over)

CONTROL NO.	SUBJECT:	DECIMAL FILE NO. _____	FOLLOW UP ON
P- 992	Tnc Msg Cite AKDDB-4-376 Rstr S937210 Action Copy		DATE

FROM: 5th Armd Div Chaffee Ark DATED 4/27/49
TO: IAXS NO. INCLS. 0

RECORDING DESK AXI-3p-2661 DATE RECORDED 4/27/49 HOUR 1500

	ROUTED TO	SUSPENSE DATE	ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS	DATE
1	IAXS	N/R	RWT	4/28
2				
3				

DATE OF REPLY | OTHER DISPOSITION:

TRANSMITTAL
AMC FORM NO. 10-2
(20 NOV. 47)
SEE OTHER SIDE FOR REMARKS

TRANSMITTAL RESTRICTED dsn ATSC FORM NO. 60-506 (1 JAN. 45)

FROM: [illegible] DATE 4/27/[illegible] HOUR [illegible] IDENTIFICATION NUMBER [illegible]

INCOMING	[illegible]		OUTGOING		COMPLETE FILE COPY		INCOMPL. FILE COPY		NO FILE COPY	

FROM: [illegible] TO: [illegible]

REG. NO [illegible] 15 4/27

DESCRIPTION, DATES AND SUBJECT:

[illegible] 4/26(cy 1 thru 3 made 1-2 p on)Cite:nKDB-4-376.

ACTION

INCLOSURES:

5

TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)	COPY NO.	REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE)	DATE REC'D	HOUR
1 [illegible]CIA	3			
TO: 2	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR
TO: 3	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR
TO: 4	COPY NO.	REC'D BY	DATE REC'D	HOUR

RESTRICTED

Name and address of observer: [redacted], Fort Smith, Arkansas

Occupation and hobbies:

Special Delivery carrier US. Post Office , Fort Smith
Farming and cattle raising

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

Enjoys excellent reputation

NARRATIVE SUMMARY: