PROJECT 10073 RECORD

358

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 8 May 49 08/1700Z	2. LOCATION Tucson, Arizona
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION BALLOON
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10-15 minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Observer sighted a white, round object. It was like a football bladder changing to flat. It was reflecting sunlight and drifting along. It went out of sight after it started climbing.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE West, then North	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

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[redacted]

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 24-8	DATE 26 May 1949
REPORT MADE BY	LINDELL W. POLITTE
REPORT MADE AT	DO # 17, Kirtland AF[illegible]
PERIOD	9,10,16,18,19,20,25,[illegible] May 49
OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DO # 17, Kirtland AF[illegible]
STATUS	PENDING

TITLE

UNKNOWN
(Aerial Phenomena)

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

SYNOPSIS

On 8 May 1949, Mr. [redacted] Tucson, Arizona, sighted an object in the air at approximately two miles distance. This object was round and flat with a diameter of approximately forty to seventy-five feet. Object was reported as traveling both at a high rate of speed and just floating along. There were three witnesses that observed this object also. S/Sgt [redacted] Investigation in and around Tucson, Arizona, did not result in finding possible explanation of object.

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DISTRIBUTION		ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP
CG, AMC, ATTN: MCIAXO-3 (5 Incls) (Action copies)	2	Commanding General Air Materiel Command Wright-Patterson AF Base Dayton, Ohio ATTN: MCIAXO-3	
Director of Intelligence (5 Incls)	1		
Hq OSI (5 Incls)	1	APPROVED Doyle Rees	
File	2	DOYLE REES Lt Col, USAF DISTRICT COMMANDER	UNCLASSIFIED

AFCSI FORM 23 JULY 48 4

[redacted]

16—56438-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

24-8-17

DETAILS

1. Date of sighting - 1 May 1949

2. Time of sighting - Observed for two hours

3. Area observed -

   a. Ground

      (1) Thermal, Illinois
      (2) Approximately 100 miles south of the International
      Airfield and Wabash River, Mason, Illinois
      (3) From the ground in front of Mr. Dale Ashcraft, Thermal, Illinois.
      (4) Latitude and Longitude - Not available

4. Number of objects - One

5. Distance of object from observer

   a. Four miles

   b. 45 to 60 degrees

   c. 4,000 to 20,000 feet

6. Time in sight - 10 to 20 minutes

7. Appearance of object
   a. White, with light reflections

   b. Circular, changing to flat

   c. Metallic

   d. Size

      (1) 40 to 75 feet in diameter

8. Direction of flight - West, 90° turn to the North

9. Tactics or maneuvers - Horizontal flight, then rapid climb at 45 degree angle

10. Evidence of exhaust - none

11. Effect on clouds - No clouds

12. Lights - Reflected light.

[illegible]. ...ort - No visible means of support

[illegible]. ...putation - Not known visible

[illegible]. ...ortal or stability - No mark or scar visible.

[illegible]. ...e habits - Not visible

[illegible]. ...ound - Not known. Will be able to [illegible] subject

[illegible]. ...ound - No known

[illegible]. ...umber of dependents - Claimed 2 to 4 dependents both over 21 years

...ELIABILITY INVESTIGATION

[illegible]. Name - [illegible]
[illegible]. Address - 1940 [illegible] St, Tucson, Arizona
[illegible]. Occupation - Truck driver
[illegible]. Name of employer - Lucas Beverage Company
[illegible]. Duration - [illegible]
[illegible]. Ability to obtain info -
  a. Color - Claims he is not color blind
  b. Speed of moving objects - Fair
  c. Size of distance - Fair
[illegible]. Reliability of informant
  a. Sources
    (1) [redacted] - Three neighbors stated subject is known to be honest, straight and sober.
    (2) Police department - No record
    (3) FBI records - No record
    (4) Employer - Says is honest, reliable, trustworthy and a good employee.
  b. Facts relative to observer on
    a. Interest in record - Undetermined
    b. Power of attention or will to object - Limit of 1 hour
  c. Aliases

Name	Address	Occupation when known
[redacted]	[redacted]	

Reliability - Considered reliable by Commanding Officer, 1st Sgt and Squadron Adjutant.

Name	Address	Occupation when known
[redacted]	[redacted]	Airman

Reliability - Considered reliable by Commanding Officer, 1st Sgt and Squadron Adjutant.

[redacted]

Name	Duties	Occupation
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

[illegible] - Interviews with 3 adult males and 3 adult females [illegible] Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika.

[illegible] - [illegible] Vicinity [illegible] Nairobi [illegible] Kenya. [illegible] Nairobi [illegible] Kenya [illegible] Nairobi [illegible] Kenya.

[illegible]

1. [illegible] - [illegible] Nairobi [illegible] Kenya.

Hourly [illegible] report

Hour	1030	1100	1130	1200	1230
Sky	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear
Visibility	50 miles	50 miles	50 miles	50 miles	50 miles
Temperature	81	83	84	88	89
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	19	23	28	31	29
Wind	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

2. [illegible] report - between 1030 and 1530 hours

Altitude in feet	Degrees	Miles in Knots
[illegible]	320	2
3000	350	5
[illegible]	300	3
7000	60	2
[illegible]	340	3
9000	290	2
10000	270	5
12000	260	7
14000	280	9
16000	280	10
18000	280	15
20000	270	18
22000	280	21
24000	290	18
26000	290	21
28000	300	20
30000	290	25

[redacted]

Altitude in feet	Degrees	Speed in knots
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

3. Two light planes observed between 0730 and 1130 hours (MST) May 19th:

Commercial - Tucson, Arizona

American Airlines eastbound flight to San Diego & Los Angeles - 8 miles south
American Airlines eastbound flight to Phoenix & Los Angeles - 5 miles south
American Airlines eastbound flight to El Paso & Dallas at 1115 hours
Helicopter service - No helicopters were airborn during this time.
Light Airlines - Two light planes were airborn, one between the hours of 1030 hours and 1130 hours and the other from 1045 hours to 1130 hours.
Tucson Int'l Port - No aircraft were airborn between hours mentioned above.

Military - Davis-Monthan AFB

B-47 departed north for Los Angeles at 0731 hours
B-47 departed east for Ft Worth, Texas at 0747 hours

Records of ARCS log book, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona indicate that no contacts were made with aircraft in the vicinity between 0730 and 1130 hours May 19th.

4. No tracking devices released by the United States Weather Bureau in Tucson area at this time.

5. Object did not contact earth.

6. Object did not come near other aircraft or known objects.

7. Sketch showing path of flight inclosed as exhibit "A".

8. Statement of [illegible] inclosed as exhibit "B".
Statement of [illegible] inclosed as exhibit "C".
Statement of [illegible] inclosed as exhibit "D".
Statement of [illegible] inclosed as exhibit "E".

9. No physical evidence available.

[redacted]

[redacted]

- [redacted] -

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TORTOLLITA MTS.

ORACLE JCT

SANTA CATALINA MTS.

SUMMERHAVEN

SOLDIERS CAMP

CABINS AND RECREATION AREA

ARANA

S.P.R.R.

RILLITO

CORTARO

BELL ROAD

CITRUS GROVES

INA RD.

U.S. 80

SABINO CANYON DAM AND RECREATIONAL AREA

SABINO CANYON RD.

PICTURE ROCKS

GILPIN AIRLINES

RIVER

CAMINO REAL

CONTAIOC ROAD

BEAR CANYON RD.

CATALINA

FT LOWELL RD

RUINS

TANQUE VERDE RD

GRANT RD.

SPEEDWAY

BROADWAY

CITY OF TUCSON

EL 2400

ANKLAM ROAD

"A" MT.

OLD TUCSON

PARK

PREVENTORIUM

ROAD

ARMY AIRBASE

WILMOT ROAD

PANTANO RD.

HOUGHTON

SAGUARO N.M.

HDQRS.

TANQUE

RODEO GROUND

MISSION RD.

CRUZ

MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

SAN XAVIER MISSION

S.P.R.R.

U.S. 80

WASH

VAIL

MOUNTAIN VIEW

SAHUARITA

UNCLASSIFIED

SOUTH

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

30 May 1947

STATEMENT

I, [redacted], observed the object and at that time I would judge it to be [illegible] like in the air. When I first noticed this object it was shaped like a [illegible] bladder. When it moved to change to its disc shape. When I first noticed it, it appeared to be the size of a [illegible]. This object was white in color, appeared to be solid and was traveling at what would [illegible] into the northeast at an angle of [illegible], [illegible] north and appeared to rise at a 45 degree angle. After it began to rise, [illegible] along, [illegible] in a, [illegible] two minutes. It was not traveling fast, just appeared to be drifting along. I watched this [illegible] a piece of paper or any small object blown into the air near us [illegible] a conventional airplane.

I first noticed this object around eleven o'clock in the morning and it was in view for about ten or fifteen minutes. There appeared to be no windows or wings in this object nor did it seem to have control surfaces of any type visible to the naked eye. No smoke or exhaust could be seen coming from the object when it reflected light.

[redacted]
Denson, Texas

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Exhibit "B"

Page 2

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Exhibit "C"

Page 3

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED 22 Jan 1949

STATEMENT

I, [redacted] Lieutenant (jg), U.S.N.R., President of the Board, hereby certify that the following is a true statement.

On Friday, 21 May 1948, I was [illegible] when I observed what appeared to be an object in the sky. My attention was drawn to it because [illegible]. This object was first observed at an angle of [illegible] above the horizon, and was moving [illegible].

The object appeared to be about the size of a [illegible] butter. It seemed to be located [illegible] 45 degrees North. It appeared to be at [illegible] three to four miles. This object was [illegible].

There was a [illegible] at approximately seven-eighths of the [illegible] and was circular, [illegible]. [illegible] with eight or ten minutes left, the object started [illegible] into the distance. The object had a [illegible] shape. It was [illegible] in color, reflecting [illegible]. I believe this object was [illegible] metallic substance. [illegible] object to be, it was out of sight [illegible].

I have known a [illegible] been working [illegible] I do not believe this object was any conventional type aircraft. It was [illegible] object than an object or plane. This report was [illegible] to the best [illegible] find, [illegible].

0930
W75

[redacted]

(Name)

[redacted]

63rd Fighter Sqdn.
(Organization)

Exhibit "D"
Item 4

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

D

[redacted]

22 May 1949

STATEMENT UNCLASSIFIED

I, [redacted] was at a friend's house, [redacted] when I observed an object approaching at tremendous speed. [redacted] was with me at the time. The object was round in shape, appearing to be a flat spheroid. It appeared to be approximately twenty thousand feet above the earth and seemed to change shape from circular to a disc shape. This object was at about a 45 degree angle from the horizon directly west by about 45 degrees north. I would judge this object to have been around four miles distant from me. This object was sighted around 1610 to 1650. I can place this time fairly accurately because I had just left church and church was out at 1600 and it did not take me over ten minutes to drive to my friend's house. This object appeared to be of solid construction and if placed on the ground, I would judge it to be around 75 feet in diameter.

There was a single engine plane in the air circling, a private, to be obtained to reach this object, but I am not sure if he saw it or not. The object was standing still in the air and when the plane came within approximately eight to ten thousand feet of it, the object started climbing in the shape of a balloon at a very high rate of speed. I would judge this rate of speed to have been four to six hundred miles per hour, with a 45 degree angle climb. This object appeared to be powered, although there was no trace of contrails, exhaust or smoke of any sort. I could hear no noises made by this object and it climbed faster than any aircraft I have ever witnessed. This object appeared to be perfectly stable although there were no control surfaces visible.

[redacted]

MSG-1 AF 6268858
(Unit) (Serial No.)

6446 Sch 4304 Gp
(Organization)

Exhibit "B"

Col 5

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[redacted]

INCIDENT NO. 358

1. Date of Observation 8 May 1949 Date of Interview 30 May 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1100
3. Place of Observation Tuscon, Arizona
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object. Glint of light
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size Size of tennis ball
8. Color of object White, with light reflections
9. Shape Round like football bladder changing to flat
10. Altitude 45° 2 miles
11. Direction from observer 190°
12. Distance from observer 4 miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s) West then 90° North at 45° Climb
14. Time in sight 10-15 Minutes
15. Speed Appeared to be drifting along
16. Sound and odor No sound
17. Trail None
18. Luminosity Reflected light
19. Projections None
20. Maneuvers 90° turn, 45° rapid climb
21. Manner of disappearance Went out of sight in 2 minutes after it started climbing.
22. Effect on Clouds No clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Balloon

Incident 358

Name and address of observer: [redacted] Tuscon, Arizona

Occupation and hobbies:

Truck Driver

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

Appears to be of average intelligence and character.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

STATEMENT:-- I, Emanuel [redacted]on, Arizona, was laying on my back looking out the window facing directly South, on Sunday May 8, 1949, and at about a 45 degree angle, very high in the sky, I could see a round object. It seemed to be traveling across the horizon to the West. I then went outside and observed the object and it was due South from my house about ten degrees west and I would judge it to be two miles in the air. When I first noticed this object it was shaped like a football bladder. Then it seemed to change to a flat shape. When I first noticed it, it appeared to be the size of a tennis ball. This object was white in color, appeared to be solid and was traveling West and when getting into the mountains West of Tucson, turned North and began to rise at about a 45 degree angle. After it began to rise, this object disappeared in approximately two minutes. It was not traveling fast, just appeared to be drifting along. I do not think this was a piece of paper or any other object blown into the air nor do I think it was a conventional airplane.

I first sighted this object around eleven o'clock in the morning and it was in view for about ten or fifteen minutes. There appeared to be no windows or holes in this object nor did it seem to have control surfaces of any type visible to the naked eye. No smoke or exhaust could be seen coming from the object and it reflected light.

[redacted]

Tucson, Arizona

INCIDENT NO. 358A

1. Date of Observation 8 May 1949 Date of Interview 18 May 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1130
3. Place of Observation Tuscon, Arizona
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object. Mr. Diaz
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object
9. Shape Balloon shape then to flat circular
10. Altitude 4000-5000' 60° Elevation
11. Direction from observer West
12. Distance from observer
13. Direction of flight of object(s) North
14. Time in sight 15 Minutes
15. Speed Faster than jet
16. Sound and odor None
17. Trail None
18. Luminosity
19. Projections None
20. Maneuvers 45° climb at high rate of speed.
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Incident ~~358A~~

Name and address of observer:

Mr. [redacted] Tuscon, Arizona

Occupation and hobbies:

Electrical Store Employee

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s):
Considered reliable, honest, and steady.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

INCIDENT NO. 358C

1. Date of Observation 8 May 1949 Date of Interview 12 May 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1040-1050
3. Place of Observation Tuscon, Arizona
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object. Mr [redacted]
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size If on ground, 75 ft
8. Color of object
9. Shape Round changing to flat, like balloon when climbing
10. Altitude 20,000' 45°
11. Direction from observer Northwest
12. Distance from observer 4 Miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s)
14. Time in sight
15. Speed 400-600 MPH
16. Sound and odor None
17. Trail None
18. Luminosity
19. Projections None
20. Maneuvers Object started climbing at high rate of speed as plane came within 8-10,000'
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object- Single engine plane in area near object.
24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Incident 358C

Name and address of observer: M/S [redacted]
43rd Bomb Wing
Davis Monthan AFB
Tuscon, Arizona

Occupation and hobbies:

Airman

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

Ccnsidered reliable

NARR.TIVE SUM.ARY:

INCIDENT NO. 358B

1. Date of Observation 8 May 1949 Date of Interview 22 May 1949

2. Exact Time (local) [redacted]

3. Place of Observation Tusoon, Arizona

4. Position of observer Ground

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

6. Number of objects 1

7. Apparent size Size of thumb nail at arms length (on ground 40 ft)

8. Color of object Silver

9. Shape Round changing to flat

10. Altitude 45° Elevation (intimated) 20,000'

11. Direction from observer Northwest

12. Distance from observer 3-4 Miles

13. Direction of flight of object(s)

14. Time in sight 15-20 Minutes

15. Speed Still - to rapid climb

16. Sound and odor

17. Trail

18. Luminosity Reflected light

19. Projections None

20. Maneuvers Appeared to flutter

21. Manner of disappearance Object rapidly rose and faded from view at approach of an airplane in the area.

22. Effect on Clouds

23. Additional Information Concerning Object-

24. Weather Conditions.

(over)

Name and address of observer: S/Sgt W[redacted] 63rd Bomb Sqd.
43rd Bomb Group
Davis Monthan AFB,
Tuscon, Arizona

Occupation and hobbies:
Airman

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
17TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

DR/JLB/web

File No: 24-8

7 June 1949

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN (Aerial Phenomena)

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

1. Reference is made to previous Reports of Investigation, this district, regarding the aerial phenomena which have been sighted in this area.

2. Attached for your information are two copies each of Reports of Investigation, District Office No. 20, dated 27 May 1949, and this district, dated 26 May, 31 May and 7 June 1949.

3. This district will continue to gather information relative to sightings of this nature for forwarding to your headquarters.

DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

4 Incls
1. Rpt of Inv, DO # 20, dtd 27 May 49 (dup)
2. Rpt of Inv, DO # 17, dtd 26 May 49 (dup)
3. Rpt of Inv, DO # 17, dtd 31 May 49 (dup)
4. Rpt of Inv, DO # 17, dtd 7 Jun 49 (dup)

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[redacted]