DATE OF INFO 7 Feb 1949

LOCATION: Godann AFB, KY

SOURCE: Airmen

DATE IN TO ATIC ---

COLOR: Bright Green, Yellow, Red

SPEED: ---

ANGLE: horizontal angle 242.5°, ~~vertical 03.00°~~

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: ---

TYPE OF OBSERVATION: Ground

MANEUVERS: Appeared to be rotating

PHOTOS: --- SKETCHES: ---

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

Astro(star/planet)
Sirius

UNCLASSIFIED

CLM/deg

WRIGHT-PATTERSON FLIGHT SERVICE CENTER
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
DAYTON, OHIO

7 February 1949

SUBJECT: Report of Unidentified Flying Object

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

The following report of an unidentified flying object is submitted in compliance with Flight Service Regulation 200-4.

a. LOCATION AND TIME OF SIGHTING: Godman AFB, Ft Knox, Kentucky, 0250E, 7 February 1949.

b. WEATHER AT THE TIME:

(1) 0230E Weather: Clear 10 miles visibility, 31.63 MB, temperature 31, dew point 29, wind WNW at 7, Kolzman Setting 29.99.

(2) 0330E Weather: Clear 10 miles visibility, 31.69 MB temperature 29, dew point 26, wind NW at 4, Kolzman Setting 30.01.

c. NAMES, OCCUPATIONS, AND ADDRESSES OF WITNESSES:

(1) Sgt Donald E. Ledbetter, Tower Operator, Ft Knox, Kentucky.

(2) PFC Richard G. Dumphy, Weather Observer, Ft Knox, Kentucky.

(3) PFC Richard E. Peterman, Weather Observer, Ft Knox, Kentucky.

(4) Cpl Charles L. Rogers, occupation unknown, Ft Knox, Kentucky.

d. PHOTOGRAPHS OF OBJECTS, IF AVAILABLE: None available

e. SKETCHES OF OBJECT'S CONFIGURATION: None

f. OBJECT SIGHTED:

(1) NUMBER: One

(2) SHAPE: No report

(3) SIZE: No report

(4) COLOR: Bright green, yellow, red

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1-3118-15

[redacted]

(5) SPEED: Unknown.

(6) HEADING: SW fromGodman Field

(7) MANEUVERABILITY: Object appeared to be rotating.

(8) ALTITUDE: Horizontal angle 242.5°, vertical angle 03.06.

(9) SOUND: No report

(10) EXHAUST TRAIL OR NOT: None

g. GENERAL REMARKS:

(1) At 0250E, bright object sighted SW of Ft Knox, Kentucky by weather observers. Traced on Theodolite. Object appeared to be rotating with green, yellow and red colors The object was getting dimmer as time passed.

(2) At 0310E, object disappeared in SW completely after a series of bright flashes.

Copy Furnished:

1- Chief of Staff, USAF
ATTN: Director of Intel

2. Commander MATS, ATTN:
Chief Intelligence Divn

1. CO Flight Service, ATTN A-2

CLARK L. MILLER
Lt Colonel, USAF
Commanding

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

UNCLASSIFIED

STATEMENT

On the 7th of February 1949, I was on duty at the Weather Station, Godman Air Force Base and at 01500 Sgt. Ledbetter call me from the Control Tower. He stated that he and Pfc Dunphy had sighted a strange object in the sky and that he wanted me to come up and take a look at it, which I did. A few minutes after I arrived in the tower, Pfc Peterman also came up. The four of us saw this object which was just ablve the horizon to the southwest. The object seemed to be rotating red, green and yellow color. At approximately 02000, I went out to the theodolite and managed to locate the object in it and took readings on it. The object did not seem to move from its original spot where it was first sighted. While we were watching it, it suddenly disappeared. The object vanished at 02100. Sgt. Ledbetter notified Lt. Clay, who was the Officer of the Day that night and entered the event in the log. After I went back to the Weather Station, I made a note of it for Lt. Hammer and Sgt. Urankar, to see the next morning.

Charles L. Rogers
CHARLES L. ROGERS
AF 17218950
Cpl., USAF

EXHIBIT "D"

sheet 5 - 2

UNCLASSIFIED

S T A T E M E N T

I Cpl Richard G. Dumphy AF11179389, 1918-4 AACS Det, Godman Field, Fort Knox, Kentucky, was on duty on the night of 7 February 1949, when an unidentified object appeared in the South Westerly Skies. Sgt Ledbetter had first noticed the object and brought my attention to it. The object at that time appeared to be about the size of a soft ball, with flashs of red, green and yellow. The position of the object was taken and logged on the form 18.

The object appeared to be traveling in a straight line, away from our position, and getting dimmer from the time it was first sighted until the time it disappeared, which was exactly 20 minutes.

Richard G. Dumphy

RICHARD G. DUMPHY
Cpl. AF11179389

UNCLASSIFIED

EXHIBIT "C"

Chal 9/2

245

UNCLASSIFIED

STATEMENT

I Richard E. Peterman was called to the tower on the night of 7 February 1949. Sgt Ledbetter was there and pointed out a bright object in the sky, which appeared to me to be obout the size of a golf ball. The object was changing color from red, green to yellow. The elevation was 03.6 degrees. The object was observed in the southwest. I could not determine the distance, but it appeared to be great. The object was followed for twenty minutes. I was unable to tell what speed the object was traveling, and cound not hear any noise or sence any oders; there was no trail left behind. There were no projections from this object, it was just turning around in a small space and changing colors. It changed color once and disappeared. There were no clouds, the weathere was clear with approximately ten miles visability.

Richard E Peterman

RICHARD E. PETERMAN
PFC AF 411344
Base Weather Station
Godman Field, Fort Knox
Kenticky

UNCLASSIFIED

Level 3[2]

EXHIBIT "B"

295

UNCLASSIFIED

S T A T E M E N T

I, Sergeant Donald E. Ledbetter, was on duty in the Control Tower, on the 7th of February 1949, from 0001C to 0700C, at Godman Air Force Base.

At 0150C, I saw a bright object southwest of the field resembling a star except it seemed much brighter, so much that it caught my eye the second I saw it.

When using the binoculars, the object seemed to be rotating and the colors, red, yellow and green were very distinguishable.

At 0210C, the object disappeared completely with a series of flashes. Lt. Clay, who was the Officer of the Day, at the time, was called and advised of all pertinent information.

All of the above information was given to the Military Flight Service Superviser at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, who's initials were W.K.

The Position of the object was determined by a theodolite from the top of the Hanger to be 242.5° horizonital and a vertical angle of 03.6°.

Donald E. Ledbetter

DONALD E. LEDBETTER
AF16213204
Sgt., USAF

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

EXHIBIT "A"

Encl 2

GDMD 333.5 (1 Mar 49)
SUBJECT: Report of Unidentified Flying Object

3. The object observed, is believed by the Base Intelligence Officer to be the star Sirius. This star will appear in the southern horizon during the time indicated and is usually bright due to it's extreem heat and closeness to the earth. Sirius is relatively small and will appear to change color as most stars do when at an altitude of less than ten (10) degrees above the horizon. Observing a star through binoculars will increase the color effect. The fact that the object disappeared instantly can be accounted for when at such a low elevation.

4. Only one theodolite reading was taken as shown in Exhibit "E".

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

5 Incls
Added 4 incls
2. Statement of Sgt Ledbetter (Ex "A") (in trip)
3. Statement of Pfc Peterman (Ex "B") (in trip)
4. Statement of Cpl Dumphy (Ex "C") (in trip)
5. Statement of Cpl Rogers (Ex "D") (in trip)

H. T. LAMPTON
WOJG, USAF
Adjutant

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

INCIDENT NO. 245

1. Date of Observation 7 Feb 49 Date of Interview

2. Exact time (local) 0150 CST

3. Place of Observation SW of Ft Knox, Ky 37° 54' 30 sec N 85° 58' W

4. Position of observer Control tower with binoculars

5. What attracted attention to object : Brightness of object

6. Number of objects 1

7. Apparent size Between size of golfball and softball

8. Color of object Changing from red to green to yellow

9. Shape Circular

10. Altitude 3.6° elevation

11. Direction from observer 342.5 azimuth

12. Distance from observer Apparently at great distance

13. Direction of flight of object(s) 242.5° SW from Godman

14. Time in sight 20 minutes

15. Speed Could not be determined

16. Sound and Odor None

17. Trail None

18. Luminosity Brighter than normal star

19. Projections None

20. Maneuvers Straight flight - and rotating movement

21. Manner of disappearance Disappeared suddenly behind horizon after series of bright flares - time: 0210 CST

22. Effect on clouds no clouds

23. Additional information concerning object : Object appeared to be rotating

24. Weather conditions Clear 10 miles visibility at 0230 - wind WNW at 7 MPH. Wind NW at 4 MPH at 0330.

(over)

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DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Subject: Report of Unidentified Flying Object

AMC 1st Ind MCIAXC-3/GWT/aw

Hq AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio FEB 9 1949

TO: Commanding Officer, 2236th AF Reserve Training Center, Godman Air Force Base, Ft Knox, Kentucky

1. It is requested Base Intelligence Officer interview and obtain detailed signed statements from all available witnesses to the sighting reported in basic letter.

2. It is particularly desired that all theodolite readings taken during the tracking be obtained.

3. Four (4) copies of "Guide to Investigation" are inclosed as an aid to the interviewing officer in recording desired data.

4. All collected data should be directed to the Commanding General, Headquarters, Air Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attn: MCIAXC-3.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incl
1. 4 cys of "Guide to Investigation"

R. M. McCOY
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Department

MCIAXC-3 file cy - return showing date

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[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident: 245

Name and address of observer: Sgt Donald E. Ledbetter - tower operator
PFC Richard G. Dumphy
PFC Richard E. Peterman - Weather Observer
Cpl Charles L. Rogers - Occupation unknown

Occupation and hobbies:

Addresses: Ft Knox, Ky.

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer(s): **Observess appeared to be competent**

NOTE: Base Intelligence Officer believed the object to be "Sirius"

This star will appear in the southern horizon during the time indicated and is usally bright due to it's extreme heat and closeness to the earth. It is relatively small and will appear to change color as most stars do when at an altitude of less than 10° above the horizon. Observation thru binocs will increase the color effect. Low elevation could account for the fact that it disappeared instantly.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

LEDBETTER Statement: At 01500 I saw a bright object SW of the field resembling a star except that it seemed much brighter - so much so that it caught my eye the second I saw it. When using binoculars the object seemed to be rotating and the colors, red, yellow and green were very distinguishable. At 02100, the object disappeared completely with a series of flashes. Position of the object was determined by a theodolite from the top of the Hanger to be 242.5° horizontal and a vertical angle of 03.6°.

PETERMAN STATEMENT: I, Richard E. Peterman, was called to the tower on the night of 7 Feb 49. Sgt Ledbetter pointed out a bright object in the sky which appeared to be about the size of a golf ball. The object was changing in color from red, green to yellow. The elevation was 03.6°. The object was observed in the southwest. I could not determine the distance but it appeared to be great. The object was followed for 20 minutes. I was unable to tell what speed the object was traveling, and could not hear any noise or sense any odor. There was no trail left behind. There were no projections from this object. It was just turning around in a small space and changing colors. It changed color once and disappeared. There were no clouds, the weather was clear with approximately 10 miles visibility.

DUMPHY STATEMENT: I Cpl Richard G. Dumphy, AF 11179389, 1918-4, AACS Det., Godman Fld., Ft Knox, Ky, was on duty on the night of 7 Feb 49 when an unidentified object appeared in the South West skies. Sgt Ledbetter had first noticed the object and brought my attention to it. The object at that time appeared to be about the size of a soft ball, with flashes of red, green and yellow. The position of the object was taken and logged. The object appeared to be traveling in a straight line away from our position and getting dimmer from the time it was first sighted until the time it disappeared which was exactly 20 minutes.

ROGERS STATEMENT: On the 7th of Feb 49 I was on duty at the Weather Station, Godman AFB and at 01500 Sgt Ledbetter called me from the Control Tower. He stated that he and Pfc Dumphy had sighted a strange object in the sky and that he wanted me to come up and take a look at it which I did.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

Incident: 245

NARRATIVE SUMMARY (Cont'd)

- Rogers Statement - (Cont'd):

A few minutes after I arrived in the tower, Pfc Peterman also came up. The four of us saw this object which was just above the horizon to the southwest. The object seemed to be rotating red, green and yellow color. At approximately 0200C, I went out to the theodolite and managed to locate the object in it and took readings on it. The object did not seem to move from its original spot where it was first sighted. While we were watching it, it suddenly disappeared. The object vanished at 0210C. Sgt Ledbetter notified Lt Clay who was the Officer of the Day and entered the event in the log.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

RE240U 2115Z

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EUA444

EY 152

R R UEDLY

FM UEPYG 8 CO GODMAN FIELD FT KNOX KY 16/1900Z

TO UEDLY:CG HQ AMC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB DAYTON OHIO ATTN MCIAXO -3

AF GRNC

GDMD 398 EEEEEEE 397 PD REPORT REQUIRED BY FIRST IND CMA MCIAXO DASH

THREE CMA NINE FEB FORTY NINE WILL BE DELAYED DUE TO PERSONNEL

CONCERNED ABSENT FROM UNIT UNTIL TWENTY FIVE FEB FORTY NINE PD REORT

WILL BE COMPLETED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE UPON RETURN OF INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED

PD

END 16/1930Z

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No. 2

1. Date of Observation 7 Feb 49 Date of Interview 28 Feb 49

2. Exact time of observation (Local) 01:50 CST

3. Place of Observation : LAT: 37 Degrees, 54 Min, 30 Sec (MAP)
(Map Coordinates) LO: 85 Degrees, 58 Min

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE CIVIL AERONAUTICS AIR PORT FACILITIES RECORDS

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location of - give details:

Top of Hanger

5. What attracted attention to object: Extreem brightness of Object.

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: One (1)

7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i. e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length): One report; size of golf ball and one report; size of soft ball

8. Color of object: Changed color; red, green and yellow

9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object):

Circular

10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead):

03.6 Degrees

11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from North):

242.5 Degrees

12. Distance from observer (Distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be):

Distance unknown, but it appeared to be great.

13. Direction of flight of object (s):

Straight line away from observers.

14. Time in sight:

Exactly twenty (20) minutes.

15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance):

Unknown

16. Sound and odor:

None

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

Encl 1 [redacted] EXHIBIT "S"

245

Guide to Investigation

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)

None observed

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance):

Much brighter than the normal star.

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.):

None

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc - sketch of flight path):

None

21. Manner of disappearance:

Sudden disappearance behind horizon.

22. Effect on clouds:

None

23. Additional information concerning object:

None

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:

No clouds, clear with approximately 15 miles or unlimited visibility. Hours of darkness (0150)

Name and address of observer: See Exhibits; "A", "B", "C" & "D"

Occupation and hobbies: None

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (Check neighbors, police dept., FBI records, employer, etc.):

The individuals all appeared to be competent observers and have had instructions to report any unusual objects as had been done.

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting, or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?

Binoculars were used to observe object after first sighting.

GDMD 333.5 (1 Mar 49)
SUBJECT: Report of Unidentified Flying Object

3. The object observed, is believed by the Base Intelligence Officer to be the star Sirius. This star will appear in the southern horizon during the time indicated and is usually bright due to it's extreem heat and closeness to the earth. Sirius is relatively small and will appear to change color as most stars do when at an altitude of less than ten (10) degrees above the horizon. Observing a star through binoculars will increase the color effect. The fact that the object disappeared instantly can be accounted for when at such a low elevation.

4. Only one theodolite reading was taken as shown in Exhibit "E".

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

H. T. LAMPTON
WOJG, USAF
Adjutant

5 Incls
Added 4 incls
2. Statement of Sgt Ledbetter (Ex "A") (in trip)
3. Statement of Pfc Peterman (Ex "B") (in trip)
4. Statement of Cpl Dumphy (Ex "C") (in trip)
5. Statement of Cpl Rogers (Ex "D") (in trip)

245

UNCLASSIFIED

GDMD 333.5 2nd Ind

Hq 2236th AF Res Trng Center, Godman AF Base, Ft Knox, Ky, 1 Mar 49

TO: Commanding General, Hq, Air Material Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Attn: MCIAXO-3.

1. In compliance with 1st Ind, the witnesses concerned were interviewed by the Base Intelligence Officer, and signed statements were obtained as inclosed herewith as Exhibits "A", "B", "C" and "D".

2. The "Guide to Investigation" has been completed as accurately as possible and inclosed herewith as Exhibit "E".

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

UNCLASSIFIED

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S T A T E M E N T

On the 7th of February 1949, I was on duty at the Weather Station, Godman Air Force Base and at 0150C Sgt. Ledbetter call me from the Control Tower. He stated that he and Pfc Dunphy had sighted a strange object in the sky and that he wanted me to come up and take a look at it, which I did. A few minutes after I arrived in the tower, Pfc Peterman also came up. The four of us saw this object which was just ablve the horizon to the southwest. The object seemed to be rotating red, green and yellow color. At approximately 0200C, I went out to the theodolite and managed to locate the object in it and took readings on it. The object did not seem to move from its original spot where it was first sighted. While we were watching it, it suddenly disappeared. The object vanished at 0210C. Sgt. Ledbetter notified Lt. Clay, who was the Officer of the Day that night and entered the event in the log. After I went back to the Weather Station, I made a note of it for Lt. Hammer and Sgt. Urankar, to see the next morning.

Charles L. Rogers
CHARLES L. ROGERS
AF 17218950
Cpl., USAF

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

UNCLASSIFIED

encl 5

EXHIBIT "D"

S T A T E M E N T

I Cpl Richard G. Dumphy AF11179389, 1918-4 AACS Det, Godman Field, Fort Knox, Kentucky, was on duty on the night of 7 February 1949, when an unidentified object appeared in the South Westerly Skies. Sgt Ledbetter had first noticed the object and brought my attention to it. The object at that time appeared to be about the size of a soft ball, with flashs of red, green and yellow. The position of the object was taken and logged on the form 18.

The object appeared to be traveling in a straight line, away from our position, and getting dimmer from the time it was first sighted until the time it disappeared, which was exactly 20 minutes.

Richard G. Dumphy
RICHARD G. DUMPHY
Cpl. AF11179389

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

Encl 43

EXHIBIT "C"

UNCLASSIFIED

S T A T E M E N T

I Richard E. Peterman was called to the tower on the night of 7 February 1949. Sgt Ledbetter was there and pointed out a bright object in the sky, which appeared to me to be obout the size of a golf ball. The object was changing color from red, green to yellow. The elevation was 03.6 degrees. The object was observed in the southwest. I could not determine the distance, but it appeared to be great. The object was followed for twenty minutes. I was unable to tell what speed the object was traveling, and cound not hear any noise or sence any oder, there was no trail left behind. There were no projections from this object, it was just turning around in a small space and changing colors. It changed color once and disappeared. There were no clouds, the weather was clear with approximately ten miles visability.

Richard E Peterman

RICHARD E. PETERMAN
PFC AF 411344
Base Weather Station
Godman Field, Fort Knox
Kentucky

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

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Chart 37

EXHIBIT "B"

245

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S T A T E M E N T

I, Sergeant Donald E. Ledbetter, was on duty in the Control Tower, on the 7th of February 1949, from 0001C to 0700C, at Godman Air Force Base.

At 0150C, I saw a bright object southwest of the field resembling a star except it seemed much brighter, so much that it caught my eye the second I saw it.

When using the binoculars, the object seemed to be rotating and the colors, red, yellow and green were very distinguishable.

At 0210C, the object disappeared completely with a series of flashes. Lt. Clay, who was the Officer of the Day, at the time, was called and advised of all pertinent information.

All of the above information was given to the Military Flight Service Superviser at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, who's initials were W.K.

The Position of the object was determined by a theodolite from the top of the Hanger to be 242.5° horizonital and a vertical angle of 03.6°.

Donald E Ledbetter

DONALD E. LEDBETTER
AF16213204
Sgt., USAF

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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EXHIBIT "A"

Enc 2

2Y5