

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 16 May 1949 16/1700 (L)	2. LOCATION Davis Monthan AFB, Arizona
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION Astro METEOR)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 8-10 Seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Object was round and flat (size of washtub). Black. Maintained same altitude, fluttered as it disappeared behind obstacle.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE E to W	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

[REDACTED]

S T A T E M E N T

UNCLASSIFIED

Davis-Monthan AFB
Tucson, Arizona
23 May 1949

On 16 May 1949, at approximately 1700 hours, I was at my barracks, Bldg 1531; Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona. I was lying on a bed looking west through one of the windows on the west side of the building, when I noticed a solid, round, flat black object in the sky which attracted my attention. The object was about the size of a wash tub, and it appeared to be about three to four feet in diameter. The object flew directly over Davis-Monthan AFB and it appeared to be traveling directly from west to east, almost directly in the direction of the sunset. Being that it was a cloudy afternoon, I can say that the object that I just described was flying about half way between the ground and the ceiling of the clouds, that is about 5,000 feet above the surface of the earth. This object was traveling at a speed which I estimate to be about from 500 to 1,000 M.P.H.

I looked at the object for approximately eight to ten seconds before it disappeared from my view behind an aircraft hangar building which is located about three blocks directly west of my barracks. This hangar is building 1540.

The object maintained approximately the same altitude during the entire period of sighting and it appeared to be fluttering as it disappeared from my view. This object also seemed to be traveling in a pre-determined direction. There was absolutely no exhaust in sight or surrounding the object and I never heard any sounds during the time the object was in my sight. This object never came in contact with the clouds which were in the area at the time, and I never noticed any reflection or lights on the object. There were no attachments to the object but it appeared to know where it was going during the entire time it was in my sight.

When I first saw the object, I called it to the attention of some of the men in the barracks but none of them arrived at the window in time to see the object.

It is my belief that the object which I saw on 16 May 1949, is one of the objects which are commonly referred to as "flying discs".

At the present I am an automobile mechanic (MOS 014), and I work at the Preventive Line Maintenance Shop at Davis-Monthan AFB. I have been interested in any objects pertaining to mechanics for the last three years. I never have seen anything similar to the object which I described above. I am not color-blind, and I have always been able to distinguish one object from another.

WITNESSES:

José R. Rodriguez
JOSE R. RODRIGUEZ
Special Agent, OSI, USAF

Edwin L. Dooley
EDWIN L. DOOLEY
Special Agent, OSI, USAF

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Pic, [REDACTED]
43rd Motor Vehicle Sq
43rd Bomb Wing

EXHIBIT "B"

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO.

24-8

DATE 23 May 1949

REPORT MADE BY

JOSE Q. RODRIGUEZ

TITLE

UNKNOWN
(Aerial Phenomena)

REPORT MADE AT

DO # 17, Kirtland AFB

PERIOD

17 - 20 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN

DO # 17, Kirtland AFB

STATUS

PENDING

CHARACTER

SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE

Report of EDWIN L. DOOLEY, DO 17, 19 May 1949

SYNOPSIS

On 16 May 1949, at approximately 1700 hours, [REDACTED], 43rd Motor Vehicle Sq, 43rd Bomb Wg, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona, sighted one object in the air at approximate altitude of 5,000 feet. Object was round, solid, black, flat, and with a diameter of approximately three to four feet. Object traveled at great rate of speed (800 to 1000 miles per hour). Investigation at Davis-Monthan AFB and Tucson, Arizona, disclosed no other witnesses or possible explanation of object.

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

DISTRIBUTION

CG, AMC, ATTN: MCIAXO-3
(Action copies) 2

CO, Kirtland AFB 2

Hq OSI 2

File 2

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

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

FILE STAMP

APPROVED

Doyle Rees
DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF

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DETAILS

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1. Date of sighting - 16 May 1949
2. Time of sighting - Approximately 1700 hours
3. Where sighted:
 - a. Ground
 - (1) Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona
 - (2) Approximately 8 miles from the center of the city of Tucson.
 - (3) From a west window of Building #1531 at Davis-Monthan AFB
 - (4) Not applicable
4. Number of objects - One
5. Distance of object from observer:
 - a. Directly overhead
 - b. From directly overhead to approximately 60 degrees
 - c. 5000 feet.
6. Time in sight - Approximately from 8 to 10 seconds
7. Appearance of object
 - a. Black
 - b. Round and flat
 - c. Solid
 - d. Size
 - (1) Approximately 3 to 4 feet in diameter
 - (2) Similar to wash tub.
8. Direction of flight - Originally sighted coming from an easterly direction and traveling west.

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9. Tactics or maneuvers -

a. Object maintained approximately the same altitude during the entire period of sighting and it appeared to be fluttering as it disappeared from view. Object also seemed to be traveling in a pre-determined direction.

- 10. Evidence of exhaust - Absolutely no exhaust in sight.
- 11. Effect on clouds - Object did not come in contact with clouds during sighting.
- 12. Lights - Absolutely no reflection or lights in sight.
- 13. Support - No visible support.
- 14. Propulsion - No visible propulsion.
- 15. Control and Stability - No fins or stabilizers were apparent.
- 16. Air Ducts - No ducts or slots or openings were visible.
- 17. Speed - Object traveled at speed approximately 800 to 1000 miles per hour.
- 18. Sound - No sound heard.
- 19. Manner of disappearance - Object disappeared from view behind an aircraft hangar (Bldg #1540) which is located about three blocks directly west of building #1531 (quarters of observer).

RELATIVE TO OBSERVER

- 1. Name - [REDACTED] USAF
- 2. Address - 43rd Motor Vehicle Sq, 43rd Bomb Wing, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona. Quarters at Bldg #1531 at Davis-Monthan AFB.
- 3. Occupation - Automobile mechanic.
- 4. Place of business - Preventive Line Maintenance Shop, Davis-Monthan AFB.
- 5. Hobbies - [REDACTED] is very interested in subjects pertaining to mechanics.
- 6. Ability to determine - Observer is able to determine colors and based on his background is believed to be a very good judge of speed or moving objects and their size at different distances.

7. Reliability of observer

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a. Sources

(1) Neighbors - A residence and unit check was conducted in the vicinity of observer's residence and the following persons were interviewed: T/Sgt LLOYD R. STOCK, AF-19525010; 1/Sgt JOHN T. VIGNORA, AF-18043770; T/Sgt DWIGHT A. RUELL, AF-6888513; Pfc GEORGE B. VETTER, AF-12301765 and Pfc LOUIS LUPICA, AF-12265230, 43rd Motor Vehicle Sq, 43rd Bomb Wg, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona, and all stated substantially the same. Observer has been stationed at Davis-Monthan AFB for approximately one month during which time he has been on duty as an automobile mechanic at the Preventive Line Maintenance Shop. Observer was described as very alert worker, honest, above average in intelligence, sincere, a reliable worker, quiet, an airman who is very interested in becoming a mechanic, and a reliable airman. None of the above listed persons know anything derogatory regarding [REDACTED] and they all believe that [REDACTED] was sincere when he made statements about seeing the unusual aerial object. VETTER said that he was in the barracks (Bldg. #1531) when [REDACTED] said he had seen a flying saucer, but that he was about half asleep at the time and too lazy to get up and see for himself. LUPICA said [REDACTED] is very honest and sincere about all statements he makes and that [REDACTED] is not the type of person who imagines things. [REDACTED] is a person who has a very good conception of what he sees and hears. LUPICA said he was also in the barracks the day [REDACTED] saw the aerial object and that he arrived at the window too late to see the object.

(2) Name files of the Pima County Sheriff's Office, and the Police Department, Tucson, Arizona, revealed no record of observer.

(3) Records of the FBI Office, Tucson, Arizona are maintained at Phoenix, Arizona.

(4) A check of observer's Service Record and 201 file at Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona revealed no derogatory information. [REDACTED] date of birth is listed as 29 April 1931 at Chicago, Illinois, and his permanent address is shown as [REDACTED] Los Angeles, California. Observer's character and efficiency ratings are listed as "Excellent" and [REDACTED] has no time lost under AW 107 or any record of trials by Court Martial. [REDACTED] completed the 11th grade at a high school in Los Angeles, California and is a graduate of the USAF Technical Training School for Automobile Equipment Technicians. [REDACTED] score on his Army General Classification Test is shown as Class II - 119.

8. Notes relative to observer

a. Observer has never seen any other objects similar to the one described above.

b. Observer was laying on back on his bed at his barracks looking directly out of a west window when he saw the object pass.

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[REDACTED]

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9. Witnesses - No other witnesses

10. During the interview, observer appeared to be of good character, average intelligence, a fairly good education, and was very sincere and honest about statements made.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions:

Ceiling - 8000 feet
Sky - Overcast
Visibility - 50 miles
Sea Level pressure - 1003.1 millibars
Temperature - 76 degrees F
Dew point - 37 degrees F
Winds - WSW 10 knots
Altimeter - 972
Station pressure - 27.015 inches
Wet Bulb - 54.9
Relative Humidity - 25 per cent
Strato Cumulus - 10/10

2. Winds aloft report - Between 1500 and 1900, 16 May 1949

Altitude	Velocity in Knots	Degrees
2,000 ft	10	230
4,000 ft	15	220
6,000 ft	10	210
8,000 ft	10	210

3. Local Flight Schedules

- a. Commercial - American Airlines flight departing for Phoenix, Arizona and Los Angeles, California at 1650 hours.
- b. Military - C-47 departed Davis-Monthan AFB for Las Vegas, Nev at 1632 hrs
C-45 departed Davis-Monthan AFB for Alamogordo, NM at 1653 hrs
- c. Private - A check with Gilpin Air Service, Tucson Air Park and Arizona Helicopter Service revealed no record of any aircraft in the air at or about 1700 hours on 16 May 1949 at or near Tucson, Arizona.

4. A check with the Weather Bureau, Municipal Airport #2, Tucson, Arizona, disclosed that weather balloons were released at 0200 hours, 0800 hours, 1400 hours, and 1800 hours on 16 May 1949. A check with the Base Heater Station, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona revealed that weather balloons were released at 0200 hours, 0800 hours, 1400 hours, and 2000 hours on 16 May 1949. A thorough check of all agencies in this vicinity did not disclose any other testing devices released on 16 May 1949.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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5. Object did not contact earth.
6. Object did not come near aircraft or other objects.
7. A sketch of terrain and surrounding sight point of unidentified object is attached hereto as Exhibit "A".
8. A signed statement of [REDACTED] attached hereto as exhibit "B".
9. No physical evidence available.
10. No antenna or projections visible.

Inclosures

FOR EACH COPY OF REPORT:

1. Exhibit "A", Sketch of Flight of object.
2. Exhibit "B", Statement of [REDACTED]

- PENDING -

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TORTOLLITA MTS.

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ARANA

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RILLITO

CORTARO

CITRUS
GROVES

U.S. 80

INA RD.

RIVER

GILPIN AIRLINES

ORACLE

STONE

AVE

CAMPBELL

FT LOWELL RD.

GRANT RD.

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AND RECREATIONAL
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S T A T E M E N T

Davis-Monthan AFB
Tucson, Arizona
23 May 1949

On 16 May 1949, at approximately 1700 hours, I was at my barracks, Bldg #1531; Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona. I was lying on a bed looking west through one of the windows on the west side of the building, when I noticed a solid, round, flat black object in the sky which attracted my attention. The object was about the size of a wash tub, and it appeared to be about three to four feet in diameter. The object flew directly over Davis-Monthan AFB and it appeared to be traveling directly from east to west, almost directly in the direction of the sunset. Being that it was a cloudy afternoon, I can say that the object that I just described was flying about half way between the ground and the ceiling of the clouds, that is about 5,000 feet above the surface of the earth. This object was traveling at a speed which I estimate to be about from 800 to 1,000 M.P.H.

I looked at the object for approximately eight to ten seconds before it disappeared from my view behind an aircraft hangar building which is located about three blocks directly west of my barracks. This hangar is building # 1540.

The object maintained approximately the same altitude during the entire period of sighting and it appeared to be fluttering as it disappeared from my view. This object also seemed to be traveling in a pre-determined direction. There was absolutely no exhaust in sight or surrounding the object and I never heard any sounds during the time the object was in my sight. This object never came in contact with the clouds which were in the area at the time, and I never noticed any reflection or lights on the object. There were no attachments to the object but it appeared to know where it was going during the entire time it was in my sight.

When I first saw the object, I called it to the attention of some of the men in the barracks but none of them arrived at the window in time to see the object.

It is my belief that the object which I saw on 16 May 1949, is one of the objects which are commonly referred to as "flying discs".

At the present I am an automobile mechanic (MOJ 014), and I work at the Preventive Line Maintenance Shop at Davis-Monthan AFB. I have been interested in any objects pertaining to mechanics for the last three years. I never have seen anything similar to the object which I described above. I am not color-blind, and I have always been able to distinguish one object from another.

WITNESSES:

Jose R. Rodriguez
JOSE R. RODRIGUEZ
Special Agent, OSI, USAF

Edwin L. Dooley
EDWIN L. DOOLEY
Special Agent, OSI, USAF

[Redacted]
Pfc, [Redacted]
43rd Motor Vehicle Sq
43rd Bomb Wing

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EXHIBIT 2

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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

DR/JLB/un

27 May 1949

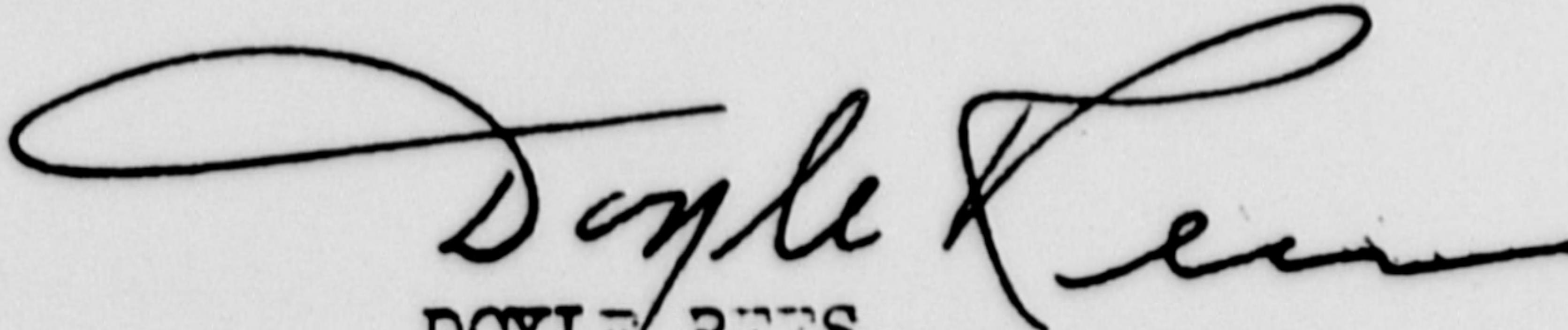
File No. 24-8

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 from this office, subject and file number as above, latest dated 19 May 1949.
2. Transmitted herewith are two copies of Report of Investigation covering sighting of unknown flying object over Tucson, Arizona on 16 May 1949.
3. This Investigation is being continued by this district, and reports of future sightings will be furnished your headquarters.

1 Incl
Rpt of Inv (dup)


DOYLE REES
Lt. Col., USAF
District Commander

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

UNCLASSIFIED

336

Disposition?

6-1

CONTROL NO. R - 34	SUBJECT: Ltr Unknown Aerial Phenomena CONF.. S-48047	DECIMAL FILE NO.	FOLLOW UP ON DATE
FROM: Kirtland AFB NM	TO: I X S	DATED 5/27/49	NO. INCLS. 1
RECORDING DESK	AXT-1	DATE RECORDED 6/1/49	HOUR 0930
ROUTED TO	SUSPENSE DATE	ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS)	DATE
1 IAXS	N/R	JUST	24
2			
3			
DATE OF REPLY	OTHER DISPOSITION:		

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

AMC FORM NO. 9 (9 FEB. 48)
SUPERCEDES AMC 80-23A AND 80-506

RESTRICTED **dc**

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER **S 48047**

FROM: **MCAGT-21** DATE **5-31-49** HOUR **1250**

INCOMING ☒ INTER-OFFICE ☐ C ☐ OUTGOING ☐ COMPLETE FILE COPY ☐ COMPL. FILE COPY ☐ NO FILE COPY ☐

FROM: **KIRTLAND AFB TEX** TO: **CG AMC WP ATTN: MCLAXO-3**

REG. NO. **49045**

DESCRIPTION, DATES AND SUBJECT:
SEALED ENVE (UNOP) Ltr 5/27/49 (3-3p)
Unknown (Aerial Phenomena) CONF..

INCLOSURES: **#1 Report of Investigation 5/23/49 1-8p (in dup) Conf.**

TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)	COPY NO.	REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE)	DATE REC'D	HOUR
1 MCIA		<i>[Signature]</i>	5-31	1505
2 IAXS		<i>[Signature]</i>	6-1-49	1340
3				
4				

RESTRICTED

☆ G. P. O.: 1948 - 799953

AMC FORM NO. 9 (9 FEB. 48)
SUPERCEDES AMC 80-23A AND 80-506

RESTRICTED **dc**

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER **S 48047**

FROM: **MCAGT-21** DATE **5-31-49** HOUR **1250**

INCL. NG ☒ INTER-OFFICE ☐ C ☐ OUTGOING ☐ COMPLETE FILE COPY ☐ INCOMPL. FILE COPY ☐ NO FILE COPY ☐

FROM: **KIRTLAND AFB TEX** TO: **CG AMC WP ATTN: MCLAXO-3**

REG. NO. **49045**

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Unknown (Aerial Phenomena) CONF..

INCLOSURES: **#1 Report of Investigation 5/23/49 1-8p (in dup) Conf.**

TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)	COPY NO.	REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE)	DATE REC'D	HOUR
1 MCIA		<i>[Signature]</i>	5-31	1505
2 IAXS		<i>[Signature]</i>	6-1-49	1340
3				
4				

RESTRICTED

☆ G. P. O.: 1948 - 799953

2

INCIDENT NO. 336

1. Date of Observation 16 May 1949 Date of Interview _____
2. Exact Time (local) 1700
3. Place of Observation Davis Monthan AFB, Tuscon, Arizona
4. Position of observer Ground in barracks
5. What attracted attention to object.
6. Number of objects 1
7. Apparent size 3-4 feet diameter (size of washtub)
8. Color of object Black
9. Shape Round and flat (disc)
10. Altitude 5,000 feet
11. Direction from observer Overhead to 60°
12. Distance from observer 5000 feet
13. Direction of flight of object(s) East to West
14. Time in sight 8-10 Seconds
15. Speed 800-1000 M.P.H.
16. Sound and odor None
17. Trail None
18. Luminosity
19. Projections None noticed
20. Maneuvers Maintained same altitude, fluttered as it disappeared.
21. Manner of disappearance Behind obstacle
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional Information Concerning Object-
24. Weather Conditions. 8000' ceiling, visibility 50 miles.

(over)

Asst. (measured)

7-3712-20

Name and address of observer:

Occupation and hobbies:

Pfc [REDACTED]
43rd Motor Vehicle Sqd.) Davis Monthan AFB
43rd Bomb. Wing) Tucson, Arizona

Auto Mechanic
USAF Airman

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

Very good observer
Appeared above average intelligence, sincere.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

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