

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 25 May 1949 25/1405(1)	2. LOCATION Hill AFB, Utah
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION AIRCRAFT
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS Two	No data presented to indicate objects could NOT have been A/C.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Objects had the sound of a/c in the area. 1 was dullsilver, the other was blue on one side, silver on other side. 1 was circular disc shaped, the other circular. Both objects was traveling to the South. Both objects was reflecting sunlight.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE South	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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

FROM: IAXS	DATE 6/16/49
TO: IAXS	NO. INCLS. 0
RECORDING DESK	AXT-1
DATE RECORDED	6/21/49 1100
ROUTED TO	SUSPENSE DATE
1 IAXS	ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS)
2	DATE
3	
DATE OF REPLY	OTHER DISPOSITION:
TRANSMITTAL AMC FORM NO. 10-2 (20 NOV. 47) SEE OTHER SIDE FOR REMARKS	

CONTROL NO. R - 391	SUBJECT: Ltr Project GRUDGE CONF..	DECIMAL FILE NO. R-1000	FOLLOW UP ON
FROM: 5D-OS	DATE 6/7/49	NO. INCLS. 1	
TO: IAXS	RECORDING DESK	AXT-1	DATE RECORDED
ROUTED TO	SUSPENSE DATE	ESTABLISHED BY (INITIALS)	DATE
1 IAXS	N/R	HW	10 June
2			
3			
DATE OF REPLY	OTHER DISPOSITION:	TRANSMITTAL AMC FORM NO. 10-2 (20 NOV. 47) SEE OTHER SIDE FOR REMARKS	

[REDACTED]

16 OSI/HFB/wq

UNCLASSIFIED

16 OSI 24-13

16 June 1949

SUBJECT: Special Inquiry
Unidentified Aerial Objects

TO: Commanding General
Ogden Air Materiel Area
Hill Air Force Base
Hill Field, Utah

1. Reference is made to report of investigation from this office, file and subject as above, dated 1 June 1949.

2. So much of paragraph 3, subject report, as reads, "When [REDACTED] located the airplane, he said it was an F-81...." should be corrected to read "When [REDACTED] located the airplane he said it was an F-51...."

3. This information is forwarded for information and ammendment of your copies of this report.

Leo M. Christianson
LEO M. CHRISTIANSON
Captain, USAF
Actg District Commander

cc:

CG, AMC -2
DO #5 -2
Hq OSI -2

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

09:58

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

Ind. 351

JUN 21

DETAILS:

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1. This investigation is predicated upon request by Captain PELHAM R. BURNETT, District Commander, 16th District OSI (IO), Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah. Captain BURNETT'S request was based upon a telephone call from 1st Lieutenant [REDACTED] [REDACTED] reported that he saw an object flying at an altitude of approximately nine (9) to ten (10) thousand feet MSL, at 11:00 hours, in a southeasterly direction. A few minutes later, [REDACTED] saw a second object traveling on a parallel course to the first object, at an altitude of approximately nine (9) to ten (10) thousand feet MSL and going in a southeasterly direction. Lt. [REDACTED] called the attention of Mr. [REDACTED] to the first object and in so doing Mr. [REDACTED] saw the second object. (See signed statements of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] attached as Inclosures #2 and #5.) Lieutenant Colonel STUART R. PETERSEN, Inspector General, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, and Mr. J. F. SHANNONESSY, Administrative Inspector, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, were members of the group, but did not see either object.

2. Special Agent JAMES W. DEVALK assisted in this investigation.

3. On 25 May 1949, Lieutenant [REDACTED] (pilot), Salvage Officer, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, was interviewed and stated that he, in the company of three other gentlemen (named in details), were in the West Salvage Yard, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, about 14:05 MST, when the sound of an airplane attracted his attention. When [REDACTED] located the airplane, he said it was an F-51, traveling in a southeasterly direction, approximately eight (8) miles away and about ten (10) thousand feet MSL, high. The object [REDACTED] saw was a little below the airplane and behind it, but traveling possibly forty (40) MPH faster because [REDACTED] could see the object overtaking the airplane. [REDACTED] estimated the speed of object to be three hundred (300) MPH. [REDACTED] then turned to his companion, Mr. [REDACTED] (PETERSEN and SHANNONESSY were standing a short distance away.) and called his attention to the object. [REDACTED] did not see either the first object or the airplane, but did see a second object, globular in shape, traveling in a southeasterly direction. [REDACTED] further stated the airplane turned north and he then kept watching the second object which he said was traveling a parallel course to the first one, but north of it, and lower at a speed of about three hundred (300) MPH. By this time, the first object was out of sight. [REDACTED] described the first object to be circular and disc form, a dull silver color and reflecting the sunlight. [REDACTED] described the second object to be circular, dark blue on one side and silver on the other, reflecting the sunlight.

4. On 25 May 1949, Mr. [REDACTED], Assistant Air Inspector, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, was interviewed and stated that while he was talking to Lt. [REDACTED] in the West Salvage Yard, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, he heard an airplane quite high and looked upward to see it. While doing so, his attention was attracted to a globular object slightly east of south at approximately fourteen thousand (14,000) feet MSL, traveling about the same speed a C-47 airplane would travel. [REDACTED] watched the object for about fifteen (15) seconds, then lost sight of it momentarily. The second view of it lasted for possibly ten (10) seconds. [REDACTED] further stated that this was not the first object which [REDACTED] saw. The time was established as 14:07 MST for the second object, which was globular in shape, dark blue and flashing sunlight. (See signed statement of [REDACTED] attached as Inclosure #3).

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5. On 25 May 1949, Mr. J. F. SHAGHNESSY, Assistant Air Inspector, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, in the company of the gentlemen named in the details of this report, looked at his watch when he heard ~~the~~ and ~~the~~ speaking of the second object. SHAGHNESSY established the time as 1407 MST. SHAGHNESSY did not see either object.

6. On 25 May 1949, Captain FLOYD H. HOGAN, Engineering Officer, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, was interviewed and stated that he was the pilot of an F-51 airplane which took off at 1400 MST on Hill Air Force Base runway #31 and made a shallow climbing turn to the left, completely around the field, then south toward Salt Lake City and back to Hill Air Force Base, landing at 1430 MST. HOGAN stated he was southeast of the field at approximately 1407 MST and about nine thousand (9,000) feet MSL at that time, but did not see any light airplanes or other objects while making this wide circle. HOGAN stated he was particularly vigilant because it had been some time since he had flown a fast airplane.

7. Information gained from the Base Weather Station, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, revealed that a weather balloon was released at 1345 MST. (See Weather Report attached as Inclosure #1.)

8. Information obtained from Hinckley Field, Ogden, Utah, revealed that no weather balloon was released during the afternoon of 25 May 1949.

9. Information obtained from the Weather Station, Salt Lake Municipal Airport #1, revealed a white weather balloon was released at approximately 1400 hours, from their airport.

UNCLASSIFIED

105th MER 49 May 25 1345
GCT 49 May 25 2045

Isconson 430
No.

RADIO DIR FINDER

EL Angle	Horizontal Angle	Dist Yds.	Other	Wind Dir. Calm	Wind Vel.
56.6	033.1	180	270	360	06
59.2	020.9	360	610	360	05
72.1	045.1	420	1300	240	05
67.0	081.5	820	1940	280	23
56.3	081.3	1750	2620	270	22
48.1	085.9	3070	3420	260	21
44.2	081.5	4280	4160	260	19
42.4	079.3	5460	4980	250	24
40.2	078.2	6760	5710	260	22
39.2	078.9	7450	6080	260	21
38.9	079.6	7980	6430	260	18
38.5	078.7 ⁿ	8550	6800	250	21
37.9	078.0	9220	7180	240	21
37.7	077.1	9790	7570	230	17
38.0	076.8	10100	7910	270	14
38.2	077.0	10540	8310	270	20
37.6	076.6	11290	8710	250	18
38.0	076.4	11560	9030	260	17
38.1	076.2	12250	9610	260	19
38.0	076.4	12700	9930	270	16
38.0	077.4	13170	10290	280	17
38.0	077.9	13640	10650	270	19
37.7	078.5	14250	11000	280	18
37.7	079.6	14630	11300	300	17
37.6	081.0	15070	11610	300	19
37.2	082.3	15350	12010	270	30
36.2	084.0	16850	12400	270	28
36.1	084.8	17500	12760	270	27
35.5	084.3	18470	13160	270	40
34.3	084.9	19820	13520	270	40
33.7	086.0	20850	13900	280	42
32.6	086.4	22300	14280	280	48
31.7	087.4	23730	14650	280	35
31.7	086.4	24350	15030	250	24

UNCLASSIFIED

June 1

S/Sgt L. Phelps

Sgt R. Karg

Balloon Burst

Surface Observer

COPY

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
OGDEN AIR MATERIEL AREA
Hill Air Force Base

Hill Field, Utah
25 May 1949

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This is in relation to foreign objects I sighted in the air in the vicinity of Hill Air Force Base at approximately 1405 M on 25 May 1949.

I was at the West Salvage Yard of Hill Air Force Base, escorting Lt Colonel Petersen and party on an inspection visit and Mr. [REDACTED] of the Air Inspectors Office and I stopped for a moment to discuss something or other. While talking with Mr. [REDACTED], I was watching an F-51 cruising south of the field, approximately eight miles, when I sighted a dull silver circular object which at first looked as if it were following the F-51. I thought it might be an aerial gunnery sleeve of some kind, but the object was going approximately 40 MPH faster than the F-51 and seemed to be much farther away and higher. Then the F-51 started to turn to the left and the object went straight ahead until it was out of sight.

I turned to Mr. [REDACTED] and asked him to look, and pointed to the direction I had seen it and asked him if he could see anything. He said "No, I can't see anything there, but look over there." To the north of the path of the first object and also going southeast, was another circular object. The side away from the sun looked dark blue and the other side was silver colored and flashed, as if reflecting sunlight. It looked like it was lower than the first object, traveling southeast from the field and could be seen more clearly than the first object. It was about the size of a full moon. Mr. [REDACTED] and I watched it for maybe a minute until it disappeared from view and we wondered if it might be a weather balloon at that time of day with a perfectly clear sky except for a few scattered clouds far to the south.

We walked over to Colonel Petersen and told him what we had seen and he advised us to call the OSI and let them know so they could check on whether they were weather balloons or what they might have been.

/s/ [REDACTED]

1st Lt. USAF
[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Incl #2.

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

5D-CSI/JEM/fmn

WASHINGTON
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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, USAF
5TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, DAYTON, OHIO

IN REPLY REFER TO: 5D 24-21

7 June 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE
SPECIAL INQUIRY

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

Forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary is
report of investigation by Special Agent LEO M. CHRISTIANSON, 16th OSI
District, dated 1 June 1949.

1 Incl
R/I dtd 1 Jun 49
(in dup)

Thomas F. Doyle, Jr.
WOS G, 6371
THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR
Captain, USAF
Acting District Commander

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

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Date of Observation 25 May 1949 Date of Interview 25 May 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 1405
3. Place of Observation Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object Sound of an Airplane in area
6. Number of objects 2
7. Apparent size one
8. Color of object 1. Dull liver 2. Blue one side, silver on other side
9. Shape 1. Circular Disc shaped. 2 Circular
10. Altitude 1. 9,000-10,000' 2. Tower than first object
11. Direction from observer South
12. Distance from observer 8 miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s) SE
14. Time in sight one minute
15. Speed 1. 300 mph (10 miles faster than F51) 2. 300 mph
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail One
18. Luminosity 1. Reflecting sunlight
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers Level Flight
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather Conditions Clear, few scattered clouds

(over)

A/c

Name and address of observer: Lt. [REDACTED] Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

Pilot - Salvage Officer

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 25 May 1949, Lt. [REDACTED] (pilot), Salvage Officer, Hill AFB, Hill Fld, Utah, was interviewed and stated that he, in the company of three other gentlemen (names in details), were in the West Salvage Yard, Hill AFB, Hill Fld, Utah, about 1405 HST, when the sound of an airplane attracted his attention. When [REDACTED] located the airplane, he said it was an F-51 traveling in a southeasterly direction, approximately (8) miles away and about ten (10) thousand feet MSL, high. The object [REDACTED] saw was a little below the airplane and behind it, but traveling possibly forty (40) MPH faster because [REDACTED] could see the object overtaking the airplane. [REDACTED] estimated the speed of object to be three hundred (300) MPH. [REDACTED] then turned to his companion, Mr. [REDACTED] (Peterson and Shaughnessy were standing a short distance away,) and called his attention to the object. [REDACTED] did not see either the first object or the airplane, but did see a second object, globular in shape, traveling in a southeasterly direction. [REDACTED] further stated the airplane turned north and he then kept watching the second object which he said was traveling a parallel course to the first one, but north of it, and lower at a speed of about three hundred (300) MPH. By this time, the first object was out of sight. [REDACTED] described the first object to be circular and disc form, a dull silver color and reflecting the sunlight. [REDACTED] described the second object to be circular, dark blue on one side and silver on the other, reflecting the sunlight.

INCIDENT NO. 351A

1. Date of Observation 25 May 1949 Date of Interview 25 May 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 11:07
3. Place of Observation Hill AFB Hill Field, Utah
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object
6. Number of objects Observer saw only one of two objects in area (second) object
7. Apparent size Appeared larger than weather balloon
8. Color of object
9. Shape Globular
10. Altitude 14,000
11. Direction from observer East of south
12. Distance from observer 8 miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s) SE (120°)
14. Time in sight 15 secs. then 10 secs.
15. Speed Speed of C-47
16. Sound and odor
17. Trail
18. Luminosity
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional information concerning object
24. Weather Conditions Clear scattered clouds

(over)

Name and address of observer: Mr. [REDACTED], Hill AFB, Hill Field, Utah

Occupation and hobbies:

Asst. Air inspector

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

On 25 May 1949, Mr. [REDACTED], Asst. Air Inspector, Hill AFB, Hill Fld. Utah, was interviewed and stated that while he was talking to Lt. [REDACTED], in the West Salvage Yard, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Fld., Utah, he heard an airplane quite high and looked upward to see it. While doing so, his attention was attracted to a globular object slightly east of south at approximately fourteen thousand (14,000) ft ASL, traveling about the same speed a C-47 airplane would travel. [REDACTED] watched the object for about fifteen (15) secs, then lost sight of it momentarily. The second view of it lasted for possibly ten (10) secs. [REDACTED] further stated that this was not the first object which [REDACTED] saw. The time was established as 1407 MST for the second object, which was globular in shape, dark blue and flashing sunlight. (See signed statement of [REDACTED] attached as Inclosure #3).

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

FILE NO. **24-13** DATE **1 June 1949**
REPORT MADE BY **Special Agent LEO M. CHRISTIANSON**

TITLE
**SPECIAL INQUIRY
UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS**

REPORT MADE AT
DO #16, Hill AFB, Utah

PERIOD
25, 26 May 1949

OFFICE OF ORIGIN
DO #16, Hill AFB, Utah

STATUS
CLOSED

SRCH
INDEX
SERIAL
CLSFY
FILE

CHARACTER
SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE
Verbal request of District Commander, 16th District OSI (IG) Hill AFB, Utah.

SYNOPSIS

Investigation requested by CAPTAIN PELHAM R. BURNETT, District Commander, 16th District, OSI (IG), Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah. CAPTAIN BURNETT received a telephone call at approximately 1430 hours from 1ST LIEUTENANT WILFRED V. GABEL, AO-2074202, in which he reported having seen two objects which appeared to be shaped like discs, flying south and a little east of Hill Air Force Base, Utah. GABEL stated that MR. O. V. GORDON, Inspector General's Department, Hill Air Force Base, Hill Field, Utah, saw the second object, but did not see the first object. (See attached statements of GABEL and GORDON).

- CLOSED -

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

DISTRIBUTION

CG, CGAMA 2
CG, AMC 2
DO #5 2
HQ, OSI 2
DO #16 (7110) 1

ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO

CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB,
Dayton, Ohio (Thru DO #5)

FILE STAMP

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
6 JUN 1949
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION
5TH DISTRICT
ROUTE TO FILE

APPROVED

Pelham R. Burnett
PELHAM R. BURNETT
Captain, USAF

7-3712-20

C
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Y
UNCLASSIFIED

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

On the afternoon of 25 May 1949, I was in the Supply and Salvage Yard with Colonel Petersen and Mr. Shaughnessy of the Air Inspector's Office, and Lt Gable and Mr. Van Leeuwen of Base Salvage. While we were standing in the yard discussing the condition of the Salvage Yard, I heard an airplane overhead, which sounded to me to be quite high. I looked into the sky in the direction from which the sound seemed to be coming and could not discern the plane. However, in scanning the sky, I observed a globular object traveling slightly east of south, at what I estimated to be approximately the same speed that a C-47 travels. I remarked to the company in general that I saw a globular object and Lt. Gable, after asking me the general direction, stated that he saw it also. He also remarked that he saw one a while ago traveling in the same general direction. I only saw the one and did not know that he had seen one previously until I called his attention to the one I saw. We discussed the probability of its being a weather balloon.

With no basis for my judgment other than the fact that when I first saw it, I expected to see a plane, I estimated it to be at least 14,000 feet above sea level. The first view lasted possibly 15 seconds, after which I lost sight of it, then some 15 to 30 seconds later I saw it the second time for possibly 10 seconds. With north as zero, I estimate the first sight was at 4 o'clock. Mr. Shaughnessy stated that he glanced at his watch when I mentioned it and the time was 1407.

The object seemed to me to be over the west slope of the Wasatch Range and slightly south of due east of Hill Field, which if my impression of the height and distance was correct would indicate that the object was considerably larger than a weather balloon.

/s/ Oakley V. Gordon
OAKLEY V. GORDON, Asst
Air Inspector

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