

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 29 May 1949 29/1000Z	2. LOC ON Elko, Nevada
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION AIRCRAFT There were two A/C in the area between 0222 & 0243 PST around time of sighting. 1st at 0222 PST enroute to Sinclair, Wyoming, 2nd at 0243 PST enroute to New Jersey.
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 5 in "V" Formation	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not Reported	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Objects appeared as 5 lights in "V" formation at 150 feet apart. Amber colored. Observer stated he could not distinguish any outline around them and did not know whether they came from one very large AIRCRAFT or five smaller ones flying in formation.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE W	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO. 24-12	DATE 13 June 1949
TITLE AMC Project "Sign" Elko, Nevada		REPORT MADE BY THOMAS J. SCANLAN	
		REPORT MADE AT DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB	
		PERIOD 7 and 8 June 1949	
		OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #16, Hill AFB	
		STATUS REFERRED UPON COMPLETION	
CHARACTER Special Inquiry			
REFERENCE TWX from DO #16, Hill AFB, Ogden, Utah, dtd 3 June 1949			
SYNOPSIS Investigation requested by District Commander, 16th District OSI, Hill AF Base, Ogden, Utah. [REDACTED] stated that he observed five (5) lights in vee formation; estimated altitude one thousand feet; five miles South of Elko, Nevada; lights moving West at high rate of speed. No outline discernible; could not establish whether one object or five (5) objects. No other witnesses. - REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN - DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DIR 5200.10			
DISTRIBUTION DO #5 (Action Copy) (2 Incl) Hq, OSI (2 Incl) DO #16 (2 Incl) File (2 Incl)		ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO Commanding General Air Materiel Command Wright-Patterson AF Base Dayton, Ohio ATTN: MCIAXO-3	FILE STAMP
UNCLASSIFIED [Signature]		APPROVED [Signature] JOHN G. SWOPE Colonel, USAF DISTRICT COMMANDER	

7-3912-20

19D OSI 24-12

UNCLASSIFIED

DETAILS:

1. This investigation was requested by District Commander, 16th District OSI (IG), USAF, Hill Air Force Base, Ogden, Utah, and was predicated upon a report that Mr. [REDACTED], Communications Chief, Elko Airport, Nevada, had observed five (5) vee shaped objects flying in the vicinity of Elko, Nevada.

AT ELKO, NEVADA

2. Investigation conducted at Civil Aeronautics Administration, U. S. Department of Commerce, Elko, Nevada, on 7 June 1949, revealed that Mr. HENRICH is not employed at the Elko Airport, but is a Yard Clerk for the Western Pacific Railroad Company, Elko, Nevada. Mr. YALE D. HASKINS, Aircraft Communicator, CAA, stated he had received the report from [REDACTED] by telephone and produced a file copy of the message which he (HASKINS) forwarded to Salt Lake (Exhibit A) and which read as follows:

Report from Western Pacific Cfc.

Mr. [REDACTED] Yard Clerk reports sighting a series of five objects in V-shaped formation at about 1,000 feet traveling west bound at a high rate of speed. No sound accompanied them. Sighted over Elko. Time of sighting 0200P. He advd could have been large plane with swept wings or five objects. Objects were lighted.

The copy of the message on file at the CAA Office bears a time stamp indicating it was sent at 0245 PST on 29 May 1949. HASKINS stated he was not sure of the exact time he received the telephonic report from HENRICH, but it had been between 0200 hours and 0230 hours on 29 May 1949.

3. Review of the communication files maintained at the Civil Aeronautics Administration, Elko, Nevada, revealed that the following aircraft were in the vicinity of Elko, Nevada at times indicated on 29 May 1949:

- a. NC 59484 - enroute to Sinclair, Wyoming. Over Elko at 0222 PST. Altitude 15000 feet.
- b. NC 79975 - enroute to New Jersey. Over Elko at 0243 PST. Altitude 13000 feet.

Aircraft personnel did not report any unusual aircraft or activity in the vicinity.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

DETAILS: (cont'd)

4. Review of the files maintained at the Weather Bureau, U. S. Department of Commerce, Elko, Nevada: Latitude 40°50'N; Longitude 115° 47'W revealed the following information relative to weather conditions on 29 May 1949:

- a. 0132 PST; broken clouds at 7000 feet; visibility 15 miles; wind west at 3 miles per hour; temperature 52°F; Dewpoint 42°F.
- b. 0207 PST; broken clouds at 7000 feet; visibility 15 miles; wind southwest at 8 miles per hour.
- c. 0230 PST; broken clouds at 7000 feet; visibility 15 miles; wind southwest at 8 miles per hour; temperature 47°F; Dewpoint 41°F; occasional lightning West of Elko.
- d. 0306 PST; scattered clouds at 7000 feet; visibility 30 miles; wind southwest at 11 miles per hour; occasional lightning West of Elko.

5. On 8 June 1949, Mr. [REDACTED], Yard Clerk, Western Pacific Railroad Company, Elko, Nevada, was interviewed at his home, [REDACTED], Elko, Nevada, and the following statement (Exhibit B) was obtained:

At approximately two A.M. on the morning of May 29, 1949, while attending to routine duties in the freight yard of the Western Pacific Railroad Company in Elko, I noticed five amber colored lights approximately five miles distant and at an altitude of 1000 feet. The lights were in a vee formation about 150 feet apart and heading West at a speed of over 500 miles per hour. I could hear no sound and there were no visible signs of exhaust. The lights were steady, giving the appearance of being seen through a window, rather than that of a ray or beam. When they disappeared it was as if an obstruction or projection on an aircraft had come into my line of vision.

I do not know how long the lights were within my sight or the distance they covered during that period. I could not distinguish any outline around them and do not know whether they came from one very large aircraft or five smaller ones flying in formation.

The only portion of [REDACTED] statement made with assurance was that he had seen five (5) lights travelling West in vee-formation and had heard no sound.

UNCLASSIFIED
3

19D OSI 24-12

UNCLASSIFIED

DETAILS: (cont'd)

The balance of the statement was indefinite and arrived at after many variations. [REDACTED] could give no logical basis for his assumption of height, distance, spacing or speed.

6. Investigation failed to reveal any other persons who had observed lights described by [REDACTED]

INCLOSURES:

FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, AMC, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, DAYTON OHIO

1. Photostatic copy of Telegram forwarded from CAA Office, Elko, Nevada, 29 May 1949.
2. Carbon Copy of signed statement by [REDACTED], dtd 8 June 49.

FOR HEADQUARTERS, OSI

1. Photostatic copy of Telegram forwarded from CAA Office, Elko, Nevada, 29 May 1949.
2. Carbon Copy of signed statement by [REDACTED], dtd 8 June 49.

FOR DO #16, HILL AF BASE, OGDEN, UTAH

1. Typed copy and Photostatic copy of Telegram forwarded from CAA Office, Elko, Nevada, 29 May 1949.
2. Original and carbon copy of signed statement by [REDACTED], dtd 8 June 49.

FOR FILE

1. Photostatic copy of Telegram forwarded from CAA Office, Elko, Nevada, 29 May 1949.
2. Carbon Copy of signed statement by [REDACTED], dtd 8 June 49.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

UNCLASSIFIED

DELIVERED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
MESSAGE

RECEIVED

UNCLASSIFIED

REPORT FROM WESTERN PACIFIC OFC.

MR [REDACTED] YARD CLERK REPORTS SIGHTING A SERIES OF FIVE OBJECTS IN V-SHAPED FORMATION AT ABOUT 1,000 FEET TRAVELING WEST BOUND AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED. NO SOUND ACCOMPANIED THEM. SIGHTED OVER ELKO. TIME OF SIGHTING 0200P. HE ADV'D COULD HAVE BEEN LARGE PLANE WITH SWEPT WINGS OR FIVE OBJECTS. OBJECTS WERE LIGHTED.

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Exhibit A1

CIVIL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATION

Form ACA 63 (12-1-41)

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1941 O-25311-2
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

19D OSI 24-12

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED Elko, Nevada
8 June 1949

5. 8
At approximately two A.M. on the morning of May 29, 1949, while attending to routine duties in the freight yard of the Western Pacific Railroad Company in Elko, I noticed five amber colored lights approximately five miles distant and at an altitude of 1000 feet. The lights were in a vee formation about 150 feet apart and heading West at a speed of over 500 miles per hour. I could hear no sound and there were no visible signs of exhaust. The lights were steady, giving the appearance of being seen through a window, rather than that of a ray or beam. When they disappeared it was as if an obstruction or projection on an aircraft had come into my line of vision.

I do not know how long the lights were within my sight or the distance they covered during that period. I could not distinguish any outline around them and do not know whether they came from one very large aircraft or five smaller ones flying in formation.

The foregoing statement is true to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WITNESS: THOMAS J. SCANLAN

WITNESS: CLYDE M. EDWARDS

UNCLASSIFIED

1-1-12 12'

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

1. Date of Observation 29 May 1949 Date of Interview 8 June 1949
2. Exact Time (local) 0200
3. Place of Observation Elko, Nevada 40° 50' North 115° - 47' West
4. Position of observer Ground
5. What attracted attention to object 5 lights in V formation
6. Number of objects 5 (in V formation 150 feet apart)
7. Apparent size
8. Color of object Amber
9. Shape V-shaped
10. Altitude 1000 feet
11. Direction from observer
12. Distance from observer 5 Miles
13. Direction of flight of object(s) West
14. Time in sight
15. Speed Over 500 MPH
16. Sound and odor None noticed
17. Trail None noticed
18. Luminosity Steady
19. Projections
20. Maneuvers
21. Manner of disappearance like obstruction had appeared between observer and objects.
22. Effect on Clouds
23. Additional information concerning object Not known if there were 5 lighted objects or 1 object with 5 lights.
24. Weather Conditions Scattered clouds 7,000 feet, visibility 15 Miles.

(over)

A/c

Name and address of observer [REDACTED], Elko, Nevada

Occupation and hobbies:

R.R. Yard Clerk

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

NARRATIVE SUMMARY:

At approximately two A.M. on the morning of May 29, 1949, while attending to routine duties in the freight yard of the Western Pacific Railroad Company in Elko, I noticed five amber colored lights approximately five miles distant and at an altitude of 1000 feet. The lights were in a vee formation about 150 feet apart and heading West at a speed of over 500 miles per hour. I could hear no sound and there were no visible signs of exhaust. The lights were steady, giving the appearance of being seen through a window, rather than that of a ray or beam. When they disappeared it was as if an obstruction or projection on an aircraft had come into my line of vision.

I do not know how long the lights were within my sight or the distance they covered during that period. I couldnot distinguish any outline around them and do not know whether they came from one very large aircraft or five smaller ones flying in formation.

**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON**

5D-OSI/JEM/fmm

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

UNCLASSIFIED

IN REPLY REFER TO: 5D 24-21

22 June 1949

**SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE
SPECIAL INQUIRY**

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

1. Inclosed for your information is report of investigation by Special Agent THOMAS J. SCANLAN of DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB, dated 13 June 1949.

2. This investigation was not requested through this District Office.

1 Incl
R/I dtd 13 Jun 49
(in dup)

Cy to: Hq OSI

Thomas F. Doyle, Jr.
W. F. DOYLE, JR.
THOMAS F. DOYLE, JR.
Captain, USAF
Acting District Commander

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

UNCLASSIFIED

JUN 24