

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 30 June 1949 30/2330Z	2. LOCATION Seligman, New Mexico
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Astro (METEOR)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 8 Seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Object was a dull grey but sharply outlined on a straight and level flight. No apparent sound of power from object.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE North	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION
UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No. _____

1. Date of Observation 30 June 1949 Date of Interview 2 August 1949
2. Exact time of observation (local) 1630 P.M. (MST)
3. Place of Observation: 29 Mi W and 14 Mi S of Seligman
(Map Coordinates)
4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location of - give details):
Standing out in open air
5. What attracted attention to object: Accidentally looked up
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): Appeared $1\frac{1}{2}$ " diameter at 10,000' altitude when directly overhead plus 5-degrees West.
8. Color of object: Dull grey
9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object): Circle
10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead): 30°
11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north): 7 o'clock
12. Distance from observer (Distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Estimated 12 miles
13. Direction of flight of object (s): North
14. Time in sight: 8 seconds
15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance): 2000 mph or faster
16. Sound and odor: None noticed

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7-39112-21

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Page 2
Guide to Investigation

Incident No. _____

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.) None observed
18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescent, other - degree of brilliance): Dull - but sharply defined
19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.):
None
20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path):
Straight and level
21. Manner of disappearance: In a clear sky - went out of distance of vision.
22. Effect on clouds: No clouds in view - no haze etc.
23. Additional information concerning object: No apparent sound of power - has seen meteors - this not one - no reflection - otherwise vacant sky - area very sparsely populated for miles around.
24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Perfectly clear

Name and address of observer: [REDACTED]

Occupation and Hobbies: Vet meat inspector with U. S. Department of Agriculture
fishing - hunting - prospecting

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

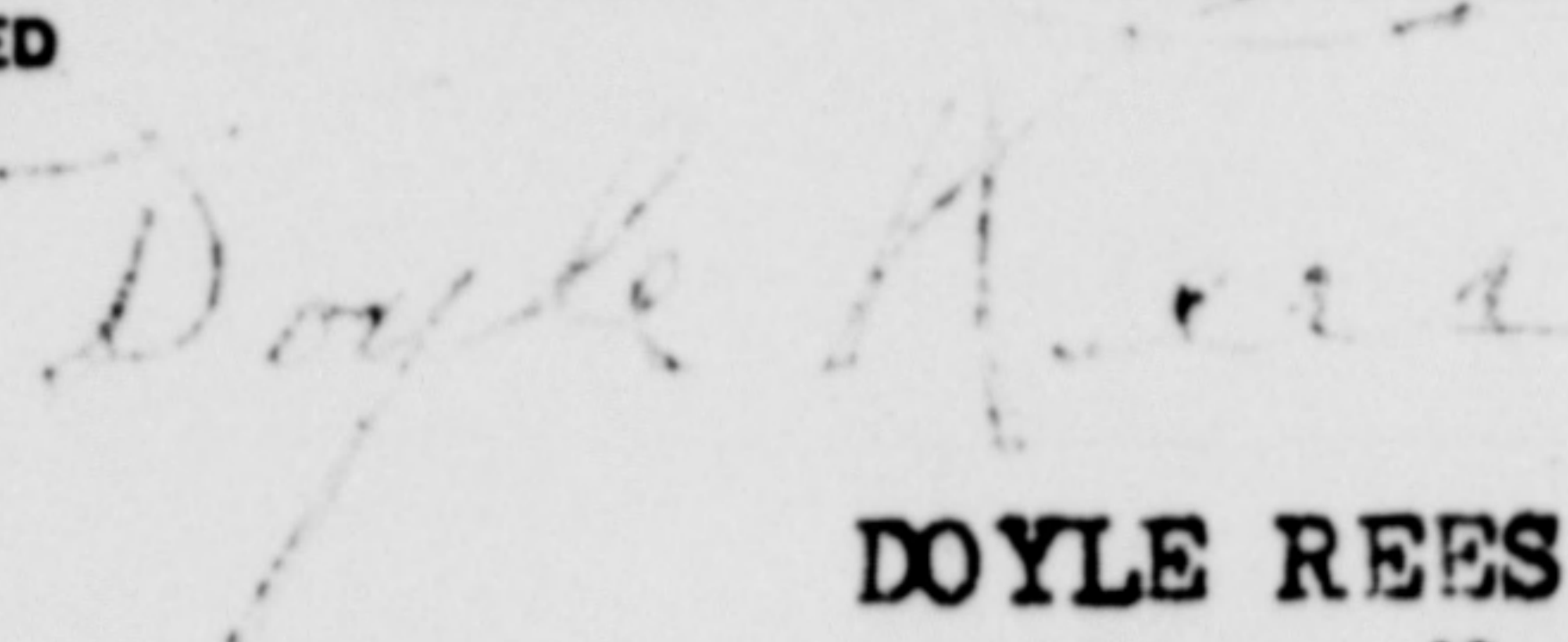
Interviewee appears very well educated, steady and observant.

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

No glasses - viewed with bare eyes which are said to be 20/20.

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[REDACTED]

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO. 24-3	DATE 10 August 1949
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECTS Aerial Phenomena		REPORT MADE BY MELVIN E. NEEF, S/A	
		REPORT MADE AT DO #17, Kirtland AFB	
		PERIOD 2 August 1949	
		OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #17, Kirtland AFB	
		STATUS PENDING	
CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY			
REFERENCE Letter from DO #19, Fairfield-Suisun AFB			
SYNOPSIS Additional report of observation of anomolous flying object as of 30 June 1949. Details reported on form specified. - PENDING - 			
DISTRIBUTION CG, AMC (Action cys) 2 Dir of Intel, USAF 1 (Info) Hq, OSI 1 DO #19 (Info) 1 File 1		ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO Commanding General AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB Dayton, Ohio ATTN: MCIAXO-3 APPROVED  DOYLE REES Lt Col, USAF <i>District Commander.</i>	
		FILE STAMP UNCLASSIFIED	

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
17TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION
HITLAND AIR FORCE BASE, MISSOURI

BR:MTM:jmt

File No: 34-3

11 August 1949

SUBJECT: Aerial Phenomena

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AFB
Dayton, Ohio.

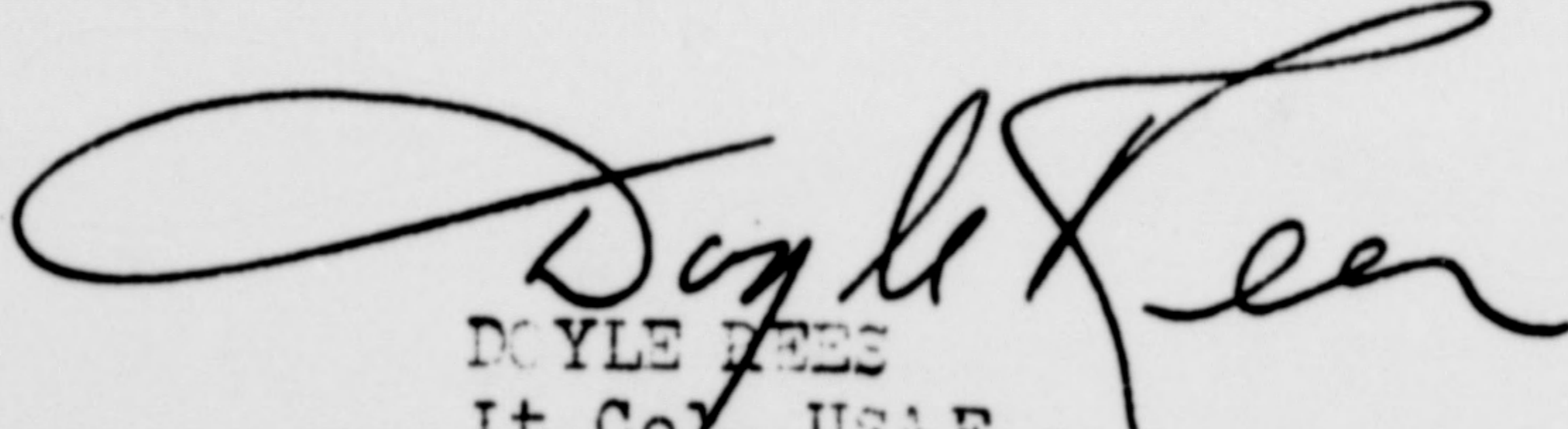
ATTN: NCIAK03

1. Reference is made to Report of Investigation, this district, file and subject as above, dated 5 July 1949, and previous reports of investigation.

2. Attached are two (2) copies of Report of Investigation covering observations of an incident occurring on 30 June 1949.

3. This investigation is continuing, and leads are at present being developed with reference to additional sightings during the past month. Full reports will be forwarded as further information is developed.

1 Incl: Rpt of Invest dtd
10 Aug 49 (dup)


DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DOWNGRAD
DECLAS

10/14/49
11/15/49
AUG 19

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Astro (meteor)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Incident 426

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION
UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

UNCLAS

Incident No. _____

1. Date of Observation 30 June 1949 Date of Interview 2 August 1949
2. Exact time of observation (local) 1630 P.M. (EST)
3. Place of Observation: 29 Mi W and 14 Mi S of Seligman
(Map Coordinates)
4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location of - give details):
Standing out in open air
5. What attracted attention to object: Accidentally looked up
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): Appeared 1 1/2" diameter at 10,000' altitude when directly overhead plus 5-degrees West.
8. Color of object: Dull grey
9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object): Circle
10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead): 30°
11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north): 7 o'clock
12. Distance from observer (Distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Estimated 12 miles
13. Direction of flight of object (s): North
14. Time in sight: 8 seconds
15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance): 2000 mph or faster
16. Sound and odor: None noticed

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17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.) **None observed**
18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescent, other - degree of brilliance): **Dull - but sharply defined**
19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.):
None
20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path):
Straight and level
21. Manner of disappearance: **In a clear sky - went out of distance of vision.**
22. Effect on clouds: **No clouds in view - no haze etc.**
23. Additional information concerning object: **No apparent sound of power - has seen meteoros - this not one - no reflection - otherwise vacant sky - area very sparsely populated for miles around.**
24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: **Perfectly clear**

Name and address of observer: **Dr. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~**

Occupation and hobbies: **Vet meat inspector with U. S. Department of Agriculture
fishing - hunting - prospecting**

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

Interviewee appears very well educated, steady and observant.

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

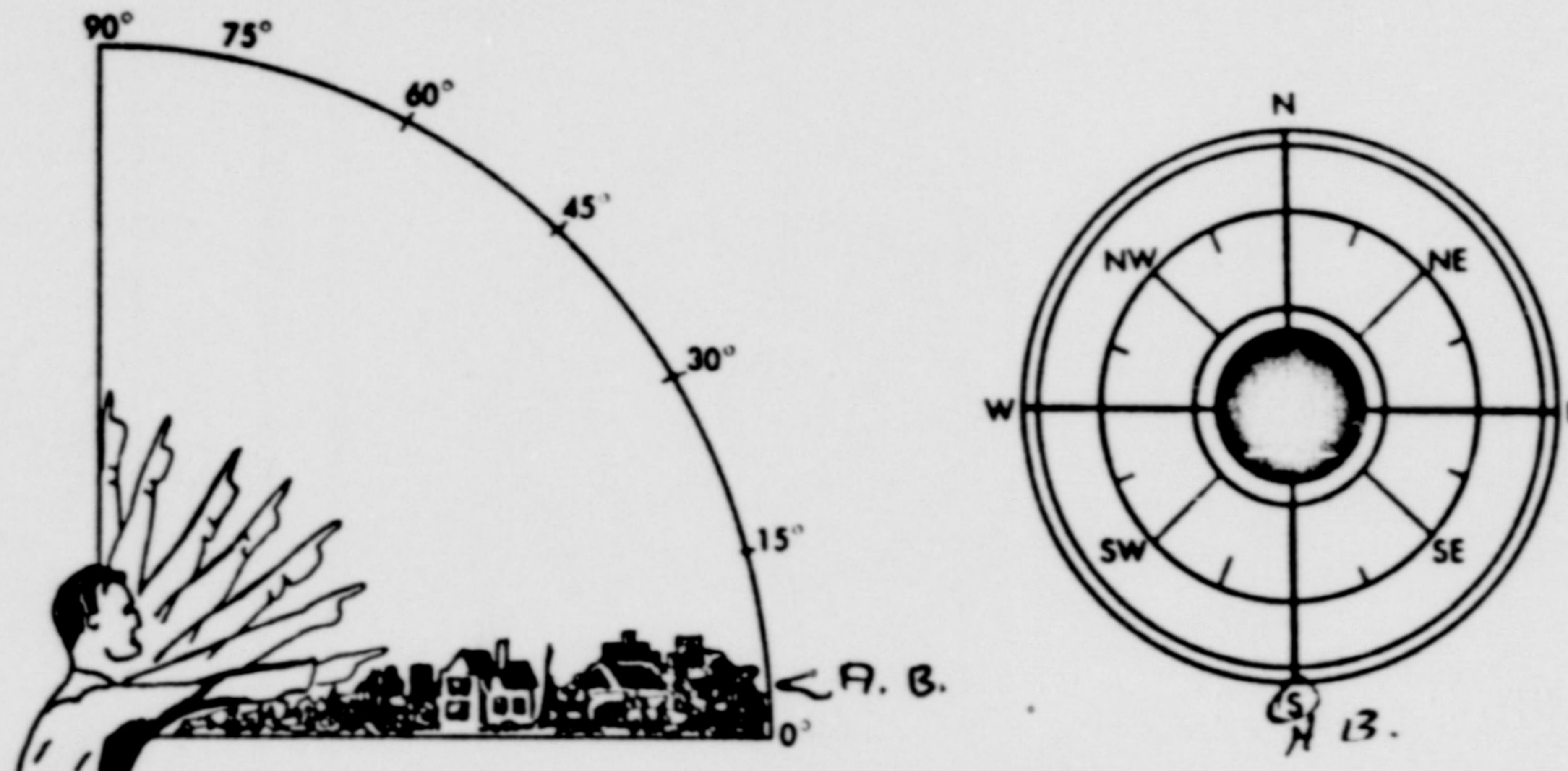
No glasses - viewed with bare eyes which are said to be 20/20.

Official U.S. Air Force UFO form continued

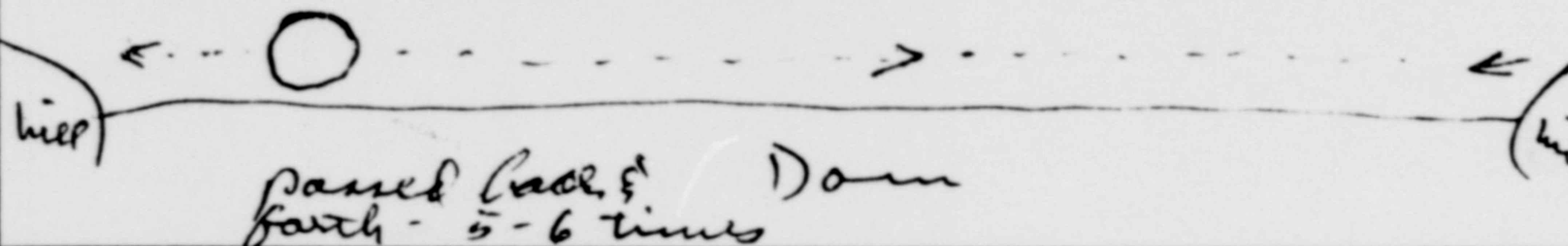
Page 5

Page 6

27. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you first saw it. Place a "B" on the same curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you last saw it. Place an "A" on the compass when you first saw it. Place a "B" on the compass when you last saw the object.



28. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.



29. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? one
Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

30. Have you ever seen this, or a similar object before. If so give date or dates and location.

no

31. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object? (Circle One) ☒ Yes ☐ No

31.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too? (Circle One) ☒ Yes ☐ No

31.2 Please list their names and addresses:

Dan DeBenedetto - Fresno, Calif.
(son) " ?

3rd party - name not known - I believe that his name was Lynch also - but not sure x

32. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME Lynch Thomas Cody
Last Name First Name Middle Name

ADDRESS 6977 Tanglewood Rd, San Diego 92111, Calif.
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER 279-0673 AGE 48 SEX M

Indicate any additional information about yourself, including any special experience, which might be pertinent.

I was being given the outing by Dan as a graduation present from Fresno State College in 1949.

33. When and to whom did you report that you had seen the object?

Sunday - 1949 reported by D. DeBenedetto to Fresno Airport x
Day Month Year

~~phone~~
~~_____~~) Scars - I think

Official U.S. Air Force UFO form continued

Page 7

Page 8

34. Date you completed this questionnaire:

4/5/67

Day

Month

Year

35. Information which you feel pertinent and which is not adequately covered in the specific points of the questionnaire or a narrative explanation of your sighting.

None

Dan & I have discussed it at various times & we had never heard of such a thing at the time & however, shortly afterward we heard many reports.

I feel this would be considered as having been reported by ~~D. [unclear]~~ in 1949.

~~_____~~

OFFICIAL U.S. AIR FORCE UFO FORM

This was reported by [redacted] The same day we saw it to Fresno airport, Fresno, Calif., as an inquiry regarding balloon possibilities - answer was negative. It passed along length of dam several times. We had never heard of F.S. are UFO's at the time. Page 2

U.S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give the U.S. Air Force as much information as possible concerning the unidentified aerial phenomenon that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes. Your name will not be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. We request this personal information so that if it is deemed necessary, we may contact you for further details.

1. When did you see the object?

? June 1950
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 5:30
Hours Minutes

(Circle One): A.M. or P.M.

3. Time Zone:

(Circle One): a. Eastern
b. Central
c. Mountain
d. Pacific
e. Other

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving
b. Standard ?

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

Friant Dam Lake Merton Friant, Calif. Fresno
Nearest Postal Address City or Town State or County

5. How long was object in sight? (Total Duration)

15 to 25
Hours Minutes Seconds

a. Certain
b. Fairly certain

c. Not very sure
d. Just a guess

5.1 How was time in sight determined?

4 members of party (fishing) saw it
5.2 Was object in sight continuously? Yes ☒ No ☐ we discussed it during observation time

6. What was the condition of the sky?

Early DAY break
a. Bright
b. Cloudy

NIGHT
a. Bright
b. Cloudy

7. If you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?

(Circle One): a. In front of you
b. In back of you
c. To your right

d. To your left
e. Overhead
f. Don't remember

8. IF you saw the object at NIGHT, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS (Circle One):

a. None
b. A few
c. Many
d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON (Circle One):

a. Bright moonlight
b. Dull moonlight
c. No moonlight—pitch dark
d. Don't remember

9. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

CLOUDS (Circle One):

a. Clear sky
b. Hazy
c. Scattered clouds
d. Thick or heavy clouds

WEATHER (Circle One):

a. Dry
b. Fog, mist, or light rain
c. Moderate or heavy rain
d. Snow
e. Don't remember

10. The object appeared: (Circle One):

a. Solid
b. Transparent
c. Vapor

d. As a light
e. Don't remember

11. If it appeared as a light, was it brighter than the brightest stars? (Circle One):

a. Brighter
b. Dimmer

c. About the same
d. Don't know

11.1 Compare brightness to some common object:

None

12. The edges of the object were:

(Circle One): a. Fuzzy or blurred
b. Like a bright star
c. Sharply outlined
d. Don't remember

e. Other

13. Did the object:

(Circle One for each question)

a. Appear to stand still at any time?
b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time?
c. Break up into parts or explode?
d. Give off smoke?
e. Change brightness?
f. Change shape?
g. Flash or flicker?
h. Disappear and reappear?

Yes No
Yes No
Yes No
Yes No
Yes No
Yes No
Yes No
Yes No

Don't know
Don't know
Don't know
Don't know
Don't know
Don't know
Don't know
Don't know

[redacted] still resides in Fresno where he owns a produce business; his son about 17 at the time and another person I can't name now who owned an ice business in Clovis Calif, were along.

Official U.S. Air Force UFO form continued

Page 3

14. Did the object disappear while you were watching it? If so, how?
*rapidly took off westward beyond end of
 Friant dam behind hills*

15. Did the object move behind something at any time, particularly a cloud?
 (Circle One): ☒ Yes No Don't know. IF you answered YES, then tell what
 it moved behind: *hill when it left. Hill is west
 anchor of dam*

16. Did the object move in front of something at any time, particularly a cloud?
 (Circle One): ☒ Yes No Don't know. IF you answered YES, then tell what
 in front of: *it seems to me it dipped below
 edge of dam*

17. Tell in a few words the following things about the object:
 a. Sound *None*
 b. Color *Gray, (similar to navy ships)*

18. We wish to know the angular size. Hold a match stick at arm's length in line with a known object and note how much of the object is covered by the head of the match. If you had performed this experiment at the time of the sighting, how much of the object would have been covered by the match head?
Small spot

19. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapor trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.

Page 4

20. Do you think you can estimate the speed of the object?
 (Circle One) ☒ Yes No *over dam*
 IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? *slowly - 3-10 mph
 it left rapidly*

21. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?
 (Circle One) ☒ Yes No
 IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? *2 1/2 - 4 miles*

22. Where were you located when you saw the object?
 (Circle One):
 a. Inside a building
 b. In a car
 c. ☒ Outdoors
 d. In an airplane (type)
 e. At sea
 f. Other *on Milton Lake in
 a small outboard boat*

23. Were you (Circle One)
 a. In the business section of a city?
 b. In the residential section of a city?
 c. ☒ In open countryside?
 d. Near an airfield?
 e. Flying over a city?
 f. Flying over open country?
 g. Other

24. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:
 24.1 What direction were you moving? (Circle One)
 a. North b. Northeast c. East d. Southeast e. ☒ South f. Southwest g. West h. Northwest
 24.2 How fast were you moving? *5 - 10 miles per hour* *slowly motor idling on shore*
 24.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?
 (Circle One) Yes ☒ No *we were working on our
 fishing gear & entering
 lake from Marshall's
 landing on river*

25. Did you observe the object through any of the following?
 a. Eyeglasses Yes ☒ No
 b. Sun glasses Yes ☒ No
 c. Windshield Yes ☒ No
 d. Window glass Yes ☒ No
 e. Binoculars Yes ☒ No
 f. Telescope Yes ☒ No
 g. Theodolite Yes ☒ No
 h. Other *none*

26. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, describe in your own words a common object or objects which, when placed up in the sky, would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.
*Nothing I ever saw - other than
 a round, circular, metal, grey object
 about 40' to 100' in diameter.*

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GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No. 376

1. Date of Observation 29 June Date of Interview _____
2. Exact time of observation (local) 2:50-2:53
3. Place of Observation: 1 1/4 mile South Orlam, Ohio
(Map Coordinates)
4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location of - give details:
Ground.
5. What attracted attention to object: Speed of object
6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping: one
7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length):
Larger than F-80
8. Color of object: Aluminum
9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object):
of conventional F/C
10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead):
at cloud layer 2-4000 30-45°
11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from North):
When first seen? South West When last seen?
12. Distance from observer (Distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): 3,000 when overhead
13. Direction of flight of object (s): SW - NE
14. Time in sight: 3-4 Seconds.
15. Velocity (time to cover given angular distance): 120° in 3-4 Seconds
16. Sound and odor: No noise

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17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.) *None*
18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance):
Reflected
19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.):
Conventional F-4
20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path):
Level flight
21. Manner of disappearance:
Disappeared in clouds
22. Effect on clouds:
None
23. Additional information concerning object:
Wings may have moved.
24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:
Sunny, clear, 20°C

Name and address of observer:

Occupation and hobbies:

Radio Engineer - Gardening, Woodworking

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

Appeared reliable

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

None.

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Relative to Radar Sightings

1. Re radars now operating on ground
 - a. Observations of direction, range, speed, altitude and size of target:
 - b. Did target execute any turns? If so, what angle (180°), etc, and what radius of turn. If radius of turn was not observable, how long did the target stay in the turn and what was its speed?
 - c. Note particularly any separation of distant target into several targets upon approach:
 - d. Was radar blip on cathode ray tube well defined and consistent with size of object; faint; fading, pulsating at regular rate:
 - e. Did radar echo signal disappear suddenly or gradually?
2. If airbourne, when object was sighted
 - a. Were there any radar indications or extra noise on radio circuits:
 - b. Give estimates of size, speed, maneuvers, etc.:

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions:
2. Winds aloft report:

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Incident No. _____

3. Local flight schedules of commercial, private and military aircraft flying in vicinity at the time:
(Check Canadian activity if close to border)

4. Possible releases of testing devices in vicinity sent aloft by Ordnance, Navy, Air Force, Army, Weather Units, Research Organizations or any other; obtain computed or observed trajectory of device (theodolite, radar readings, etc.)

5. If object contacted earth, obtain soil samples within and without depression or spot where object landed for purposes of making comparison of soils.

6. Obtain photographs (or original negatives) where available; if not, secure sketches of:

- a. Object
- b. Surrounding terrain where object was observed
- c. Place where object contacted earth (if this happened)
- d. Maneuvers
- e. Formation (if more than two)

7. Secure signed statements.

8. Obtain fragments or physical evidence where possible.

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17 Nov 19

The following was taken from A-17955, A-105007:

31 Aug 49

From: District Intelligence Officer
Eleventh Naval District.
To: Director of Naval Intelligence.
Subject: Flying Objects - unidentified.
Reference: (a) G-1 Evaluation Slip (op av-32-11-159) A-15017
etc 6 July 1949, same subj.
Enclosure: (A) Clipping from Los Angeles Times 30 August 1949
"U. S. Officers Report Seeing Flying Disks".

1. In view of reference (a) comment that "Any additional info would be helpful", Enclosure (A) may be of interest.

T. J. SMITZ.

UNCLASSIFIED

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

Info on
Miss
Lighting

7-3712-21

[REDACTED]

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Los Angeles Times

U. S. OFFICERS REPORT SEEING FLYING DISKS - by [REDACTED]

White Sands Proving Ground, N.M., Aug. 23 -

Flying saucers--or at least mysterious flying "objects"--have been sighted by service personnel at this vital center of America's outer air research.

I talked with three men, two senior officers and an enlisted technician, who reported seeing strange objects in the sky, one as recently as last Friday during preparation for a high-altitude missile flight.

In all fairness, it must be pointed out that other officers and engineers at White Sands scoff at the reports and put them down to imagination, weather balloons, dual images in high-powered optical equipment, or possibly distant planes reflecting sunlight.

Experienced Observers - Yet the men who gave these reports presumably are familiar with such possibilities and well acquainted with the appearance of balloons and planes and the quixotic results of staring at a fixed point in the sky for long moments.

The officer believes, sincerely, that the objects seen are space ships and declared that a ballistic formula applied to one observation through a photo theodolite showed the "ship" was 35 to 40 miles high--an "egg-shaped" craft of fantastic size and traveling at incredible speeds of three to four miles a second!

The observer in this case, he said, was tracking a balloon into the upper air when the object swept across the balloon's path and darted for some 10 seconds--taking turns up to 22 times the force of gravity--before it disappeared. It had no visible means of propulsion.

Technician's Report - The enlisted technician reported seeing an object at 3:35 p.m., last June 11, as he was tracking the course of a V-2 test rocket in a 20-power elevation telescope, an instrument that can follow a missile to altitudes of 100 miles or more.

"I don't know what it was, but I had never seen anything like it before," he told me. "It seemed to be metallic, but I couldn't tell its size, its speed or its altitude. It would be impossible unless you knew one of the three factors."

He added he had informed his superiors of the incident and was told the next morning he had seen a "disk".

Weather Balloon? - A check of one officer elicited the response: "It was probably a weather balloon," but he declared the enlisted technician is considered "a reliable"

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Enclosure (A) to
EO-11652 Conf ltr
dtd 8-31-49 ser.02001/32

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

UNCLASSIFIED

Last Friday's object was seen by a senior officer shortly after 11 a.m. and reported to the unit commander. The observer was preparing for a missile firing and scanning the skies through binoculars.

"I don't know what it was, but it came out of the north in a shallow dive and turned west. No, I wouldn't guess at speed or size."

He declined to explain he is a "skeptic".

Proof for Skeptic - "Isn't seeing such a thing the best proof for a skeptic", he was asked.

"I should say it was," he smiled. "But I just saw something and reported it."

In all, some five reports have been made in the last six months, one officer said, with only one last year.

On one occasion, he told me, three or four officers saw a "flying object" with the naked eye, and at another time two smaller objects were observed to "chase" a test rocket. These may have been dual images on the telescopes, he said, although they were seen from several widely separated stations.

These reports tend to take the "flying saucer" question out of the realm of housewives' stories and the tales of air transport pilots. Still they have actually proved nothing--merely added to the mystery.

FROM : DTC-11ND
TO: OMI
FOR INFORMATION ONLY

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

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U.S. Officers Report Seeing Flying Disks

BY MARVIN MILES
WHITE SANDS PROV-
ING GROUND, N.M., Aug.
29 — Flying saucers—or at
least mysterious flying "ob-
jects"—have been sighted by
service personnel at this vital
center of America's upper air
research.

I talked with three men, two
senior officers and an enlisted
technician, who reported seeing
strange objects in the sky, one as
recently as last Friday during
preparation for a high-altitude
missile flight.

In all fairness, it must be
pointed out that other officers
and engineers at White Sands
scoff at the reports and put them
down to imagination, weather
balloons, dual images in high-
powered optical equipment, or
possibly distant planes reflecting
sunlight.

Experienced Observers

Yet the men who gave these re-
ports presumably are familiar
with such possibilities and well
acquainted with the appearance
of balloons and planes and the
quixotic results of staring at a
fixed point in the sky for long
moments.

One officer believes, sincerely,
that the objects seen are space
ships and declared that a ballistic
formula applied to one observa-
tion through a photo theodolite
showed the "ship" was 35 to 40
miles high—an "egg-shaped"
craft of fantastic size and travel-
ing at incredible speeds of three
to four miles a second!

The observer in this case, he
said, was tracking a balloon into
the upper air when the object
swept across the balloon's path
and cavorted for some 10 seconds
—taking turns up to 22 times the
force of gravity—before it disap-
peared. It had no visible means of
propulsion.

Technician's Report

The enlisted technician report-
ed seeing an object at 3:35 p.m.,
last June 14, as he was tracking
the course of a V-2 test rocket
in a 20-power elevation telescope,
an instrument that can follow a
missile to altitudes of 100 miles
or more.

"I don't know what it was, but
I had never seen anything like it
before," he told me. "It seemed to
be metallic, but I couldn't tell its
size, its speed or its altitude. It

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SAUCERS

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would be impossible unless you
knew one of the three factors."

He added he had informed his
superiors of the incident and was
told the next morning he had seen
a "disk."

Weather Balloon?

A check of one officer elicited
the response: "It was probably a
weather balloon," but he declared
the enlisted technician is consid-
ered "a reliable man."

Last Friday's object was seen
by a senior officer shortly after 11
a.m. and reported to the unit com-
mander. The observer was prepar-
ing for a missile firing and scan-
ning the skies through binoculars.

"I don't know what it was, but
it came out of the north in a shal-
low dive and turned west. No. I

wouldn't guess at speed or size."

He hastened to explain he is a
"skeptic."

Proof for Skeptic

"Isn't seeing such a thing the
best proof for a skeptic," he was
asked.

"I should say it was," he smiled.
"But I just saw something and
reported it."

In all, some five reports have
been made in the last six months.
one officer said, with only one last
year.

On one occasion, he told me,
three of four officers saw a flying
object with the naked eye, and at
another time two smaller objects
were observed to "chase" a test
rocket. These may have been dual
images on the telescopes, he said,
although they were seen from
several widely separated stations.

These reports tend to take the
"flying saucer" question out of the
realm of housewives' stories and
the tales of air transport pilots.
Still they have actually proved
nothing—merely added to the
mystery.

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