

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 27 Jul 49	2. LOCATION Jackson, Michigan
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Other (FLARE)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION N/A	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS An object fell on the ground and burnt a hole. The object glowed without a flame for about three minutes. Residue was analyzed and it was determined to have been from a flare.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE N/A	
8. PHOTOS ☒ Yes ☐ No	See: specimen 7-3745-462
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☒ Yes IN FILE ☐ No	

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

5D-OSI/JEM/vz

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

REPLY REFER TO: 5D 24-21-M

14 September 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE - INCIDENT, LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN
AND HOMER, MICHIGAN
SPECIAL INQUIRY

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

1. Reference is made to letter, this office, subject and file as above, dated 13 June 1949.

2. Enclosed for your information and necessary action is report of investigation of Special Agent JACK L. HECKELMAN, District Office #25, dated 9 September 1949.

3. With the submission of this report all logical leads have been developed and the files of this office are being closed in instant investigation.

1 Incl
R/I dtd 9 Sep 49 (in dup)
w/incis

Jerome M. Braun
JEROME M. BRAUN
Acting District Commander

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

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7-3712-22

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15. 15. 15.

12. POWELL, TUGGNER

1. [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Medical Officer,
[REDACTED] Hospital, [REDACTED], as follows:
visited at the residence of [REDACTED] and stated the following:

On 20 April 1969 at 1100 - 1500 hours, [redacted] were at the City Dump, Ludington, Michigan, located approximately 7 blocks north and 7 blocks east of the [redacted] residence. They stated they saw a trail of either smoke or clouds going straight north at about the same rate of speed as a jet fighter. They looked at this smoke streamer and saw an object approximately 10° in diameter which seemed to be the cause of this smoke. This object was round and appeared to give off a reflection in the sun. The streamer of smoke was described as being a long tail approximately two blocks long, white and fluffy like a cloud. The object was in sight approximately 10 minutes during which time [redacted] called on [redacted] and headed for the Ludington City Newspaper to notify them of the existence. After traveling about 7 - 8 blocks, toward the downtown area of Ludington, TITM stated he looked around and the object was gone out of sight, and that he just saw a flash of the white fleecy tail disappear in a cloud bank. [redacted] stated that the day was clear, sun bright, and quite hot, clouds very high in the sky. [redacted] judged the distance and height of the object to be approximately 4 miles away and 5,000 ft. high. TITM stated that the fluffy tail like cloud seemed to come from the object and was quite small in diameter at first, and gradually increased in size until approximately the diameter of the round object. No further information was given by either [redacted].

2. [redacted] stated that approximately one week from the date of the newspaper item concerning the instance, he received a post card from an unknown woman in Eastern Michigan, near Detroit, saying she had seen several of these objects go over her house and would like him to write her and describe what he had seen. Efforts to obtain an identification of this unknown woman were negative although [redacted] feels he can find the post card, and will forward same to this agent.

AT VANDRECOOK LAKE, MICHIGAN

This phase of the investigation was conducted by Special Agent
GEOFFREY P. KUNITZ:

3. A newspaper item in the Detroit News, page 1, column 4, dated 27 July 1949, stated that an object fell in the road in front of the home of Mrs. ██████████, Vandereock Lake, Michigan, turning a hole in the pavement.

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DO #25 File 24-8

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On July 20, 1968, the [redacted] were interviewed. [redacted]
[redacted] Vanderhoff, [redacted] [redacted]
[redacted] and G. Michigan St., Jackson, Michigan, [redacted]
[redacted] stated that she was with a group of friends at her home, [redacted]
holding out for about four or five hours. She said that [redacted]
standing in the road in front of her house. The object did not move
there for about three minutes. [redacted] then ran out to the road, and
picked up the remains of the object on a carboard. On questioning,
BUTTE stated that she had not seen the object fall from the sky, and
when she first saw it it was burning in the road.

6. [redacted] then showed this writer the hole burned in the road. The spot was about twenty-five feet from the front door of the [redacted] home. The burned area was about four inches at the widest spot. There was no visible sign of impact, such as surface cracking. The area was burned regularly to a depth of approximately 1/4 inch in the tar covered road. The burned area was photographed by this writer with a G3 camera, F 11, speed 100, small flash at a distance of 5 3/4 feet. Print is attached hereto as Inclosure #1.

8. Sample of residue was obtained which is attached hereto as Inclosure #2.

INCLOSURES

1. Photo of burned area.
2. Residue from unknown burning material.
3. Article from Jackson Citizen Patriot, 27 July 1948.

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218-1-1 (center)
P 5 COL 4 (center)
JACKSON CITIZEN PATRIOT, JACKSON, MICHIGAN.



—Citizen Patriot Photograph.

MYSTERY SOLVED—Laboratory tests of a fragment of the object found burning on the pavement at Vandercook Lake Monday evening indicate it was a truck flare, commonly used as a warning signal. Mrs. Leroy Drinkwine, 509 McDevitt, holding the fragment, points to the burned pavement where it was found.

Laboratory Tested **Flaming Object At Vandercook Warning Flare**

"That was no meteor—that was a fusee!"

The mysterious flaming object which burned a hole in the pavement Monday night in front of the house of Mrs. Leroy Drinkwine, 509 McDevitt, Vandercook Lake, probably was an emergency flare. That is the report of the Clark Equipment Co. laboratory which analyzed a sample of the object.

The alkinity of the railroad fusee and the sample are identical, the laboratory reports. Probably this object was a truck flare, used by highway trucks for the same purpose as an emergency signal on the railroad.

The object, which smelled faintly of phosphorous, was retrieved by Mrs. Drinkwine's

Case contains 1, 8"x10"
photo.

