

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 26 Aug 49 26/214,4	2. LOCATION Davis-Montean AFB, Tucson, Arizona
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION AIRCRAFT
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS ONE	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 60 seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Observer sighted an object which appeared to be triangular with rounded edges. It had a brownish-hazy color and it was heading NW. It followed a level path, no trail, no sound. The object flew at a high speed. Observer believed the object to be an aircraft.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Northwest	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

DETAILS:

1. Investigation requested by OSI Hq to ascertain facts surrounding the sighting of an unidentified serial object sighted over Davis-Monthan AFB at 1345 hours, 26 August 1949.

AT DAVIS-MONTHAN AFB

2. On 1 September 1949 the writer interviewed [REDACTED], Base [REDACTED] Officer, Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona in regard to an unidentified object which he had seen on 26 August 1949. [REDACTED] stated that on 26 August 1949 he had been present at the launching of a standard weather balloon by weather personnel of Davis-Monthan AFB. This balloon was to be watched by [REDACTED] because it was an experiment and he was curious as to its behavior in flight. Without the aid of glasses or binoculars, [REDACTED] observed the balloon as it arose to approximately forty thousand (40,000) feet. At this point, and at approximately 1345 hours the Major's attention was drawn from the balloon to an object which appeared to be flying northwest and approximately fifty thousand (50,000) feet at a terrific rate of speed. [REDACTED] attempted to show other personnel present what he was looking at but none were capable of sighting the object. [REDACTED] followed the object visually until it disappeared from view approximately eight (8) miles away to the northwest. [REDACTED] cited the fact that a Convair XF-92A delta wing interceptor is being tested at Muroc AFB, California and it is possible that this plane might have been the one he sighted, since the shape of the object was similar to a triangle with rounded edges.

3. In accordance with AFCSI Letter #85:

- a. Date of sighting - 26 August 1949
- b. Time of Sighting - 1345 hours
- c. Where sighted - From the ground out of doors at approximately 110 degrees 53 minutes West Longitude and 32 degrees 11 minutes North Latitude.
- d. Number of objects - One
- e. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting - None at this time of day.
- f. Distance of object from observer
 - (1) Estimated distance 5 miles SE when sighted to estimated distance of 8 miles NW upon disappearing.
 - (2) Angle of elevation - When first sighted estimated to be approximately 40 degrees and 25 degrees when last sighted.
 - (3) Altitude - Was thought to be about 50,000 feet.

[REDACTED]

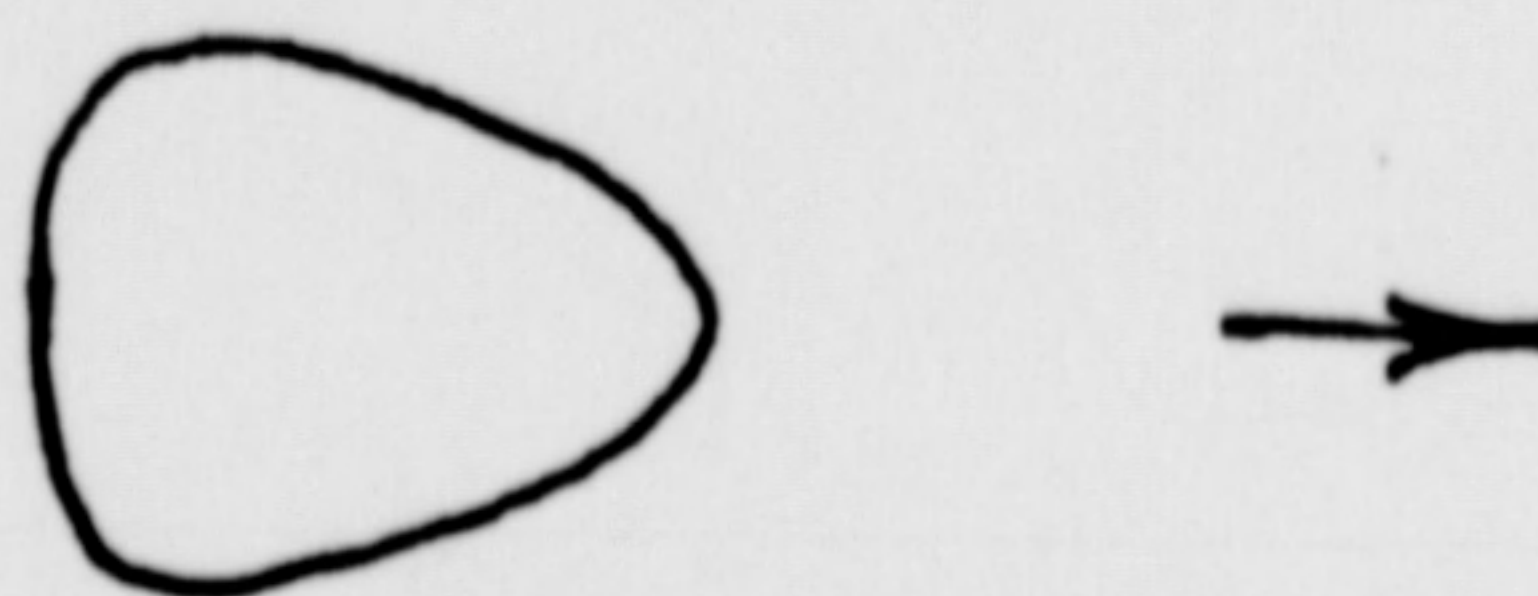
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g. Time in sight - Approximately 60 seconds

h. Appearance of object

(1) Appeared to be a brownish hazy color

(2) Shape.



(3) Construction could not be observed

(4) Size was estimated to be approximately one fourth of an inch when observed at a distance of three feet.

i. Direction of flight - From approximately 115 degrees toward 290 degrees.

j. Tactics or maneuvers - The object executed no maneuvers or tactics and the flight appeared to be perfectly horizontal and straight.

k. There was no evidence of exhaust.

l. Effect on clouds was not observed due to the absence of clouds.

m. No lights were observed.

n. Means of support could not be observed.

o. No propellers, rotors, aerodynamic vanes could be observed.

p. Control and stability of the object appeared to be very good although no fins or stabilizers could be observed.

q. No air ducts, slots or intakes could be observed due to the extreme altitude.

r. No sound was heard from the object.

s. Manner of disappearance was natural in that the object faded from view.

RELATIVE TO THE OBSERVER

[REDACTED] Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona is generally considered to be a very stable, intelligent, reliable and rational officer. Due to his assignment and training as a [REDACTED] officer, he is thought to be extremely reliable as an observer. [REDACTED] hobbies include model boat building and all sports.

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No other witnesses to the above cited aerial objects have been found.

RELATIVE TO RADAR SIGHTINGS

The unidentified aerial object was not picked up by any radar sets in this vicinity.

GENERAL

1. Teletype sequences of local weather conditions at the time of sighting was 250 - thin scattered, visibility 50, 102/98/44 West 9 knots/998.

2. Winds aloft report:

<u>Feet</u>	<u>Degrees</u>	<u>Knots</u>
5000	290	14
10000	330	10
15000	280	11
20000	280	11
25000	330	30
30000	300	35
35000	290	47
40000	310	52
45000	310	44
50000	310	45

At 1420 hours there was a concentration of 1/10 cumulus with base at 8000 feet, and 1/10 cirrus base estimated 25000 feet.

3. Checks with the AACS Detachment, Davis-Monthan AFB and local flying fields failed to reveal any scheduled flights of privately owned, commercial or USAF planes in the air at the time of this incident.

4. No testing devices were found to have been released in this area other than the standard weather balloon which [REDACTED] was observing at the same time the unidentified object was sighted.

5. The object sighted by [REDACTED] did not come into close proximity or contact with the earth during the observation.

6. Object did not approach any other aircraft during the observed flight and therefore no checks were made for possible radio activity.

7. A photostat of the terrain in which the object was observed is attached as inclosure #1.

8. Signed statement of [REDACTED] is attached as inclosure #2.

9. No radio antenna or projections could be observed.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN
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[REDACTED]

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Inclosures:

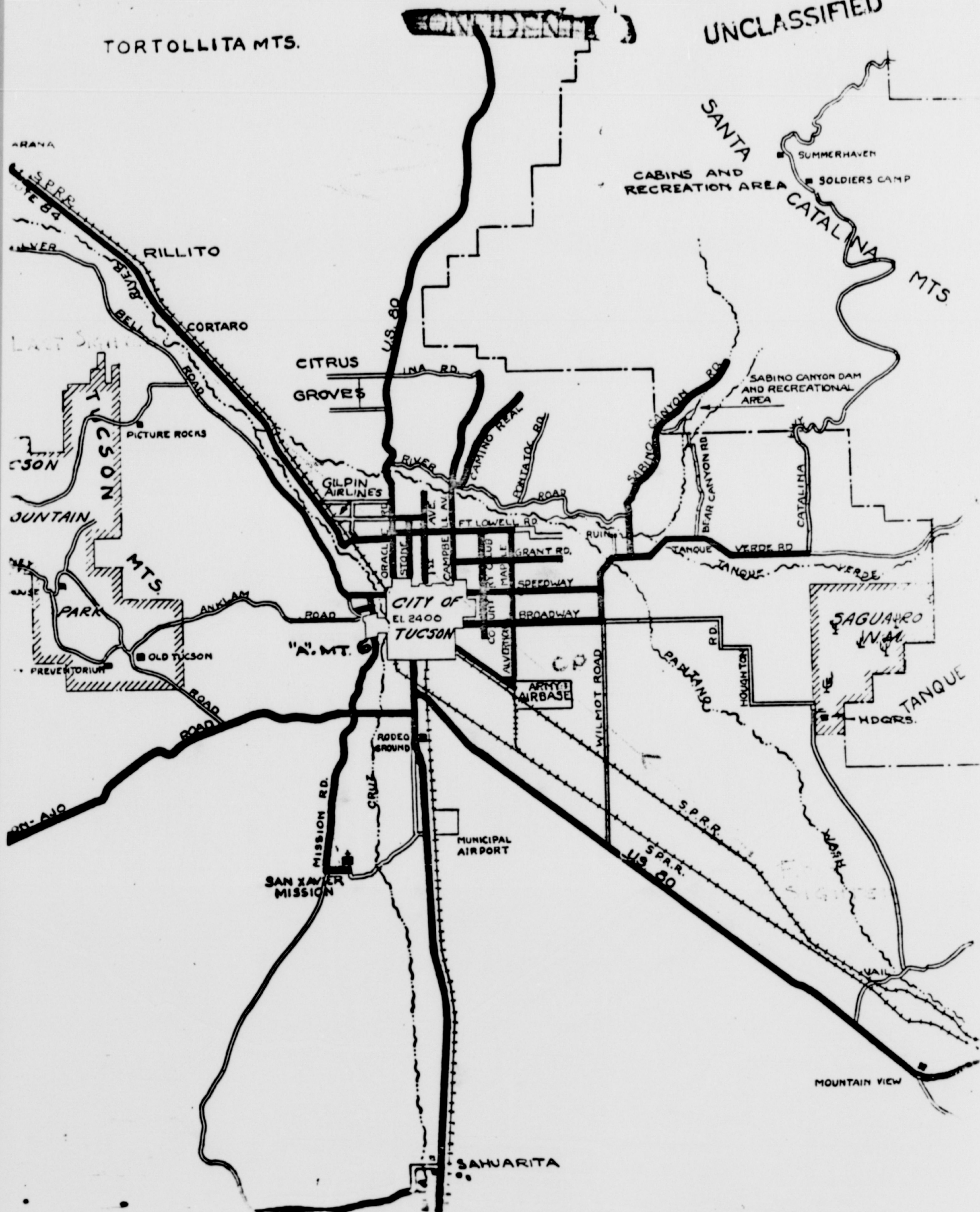
FOR EACH COPY OF THE REPORT

1. Photostat of the Terrain.
2. Statement of [REDACTED] Davis-Monthan AFB.

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[REDACTED]

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Statement

1. On 26 August 1949 at approximately 1345 M.S.T., I was present at the Base Radiosonde Building, T-4466, Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Tucson, Arizona.

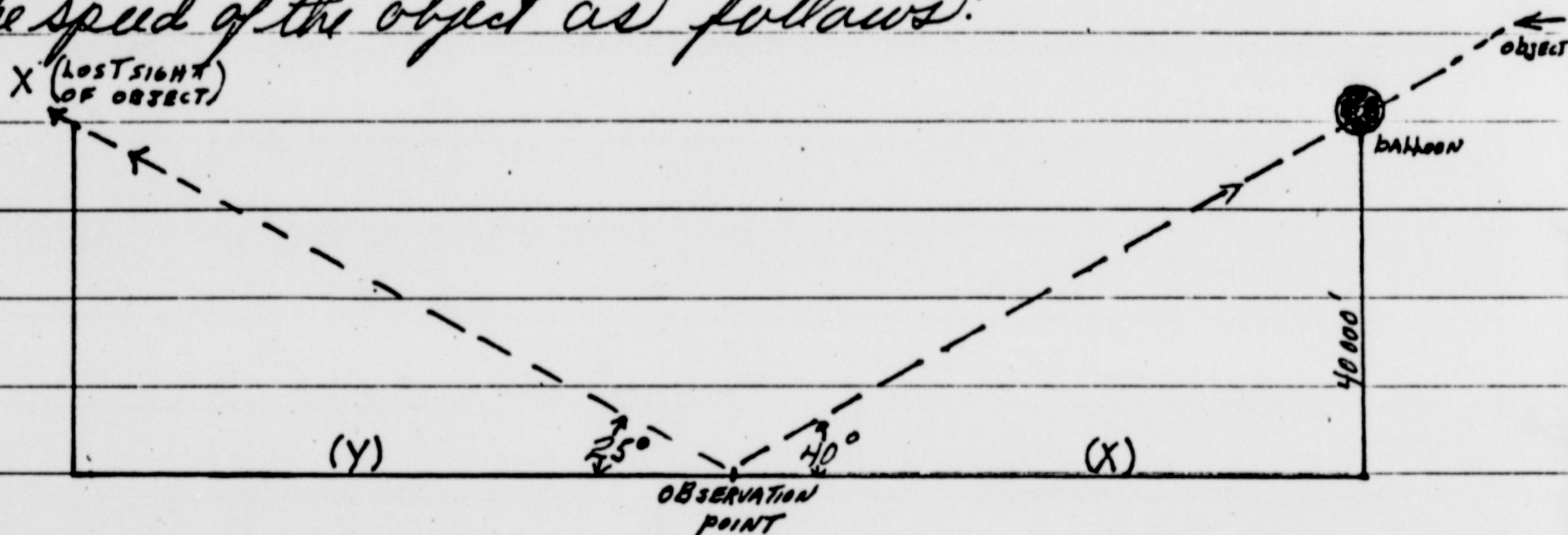
2. Up until 1345 M.S.T., I had been conducting a test on an upper air balloon run. The balloon had been released at approximately 1315 M.S.T. and I was able to follow it with the naked eye because of the clear dry weather which was present during that period of the day. At 1345 M.S.T., after the balloon had been in flight for thirty (30) minutes, my attention was attracted to some form of object flying in the sky above the balloon. The path of flight of this object carried it directly across the balloon and was from the south-east to the north-west. I continued to follow the object as it proceeded to the north-west. I lost sight of the object after watching it for a little over a minute, and estimated my sight angle of elevation to be twenty five (25) degrees.

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Incl 3. With the use of ~~the unaided~~ sight and using

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the height of the balloon after thirty (30) minutes of flight (ascension rate of 1400 ft/min), I calculated the speed of the object as follows:



$$\tan 40^\circ = \frac{40000}{x}$$

$$x = \frac{40000}{.8391} = 4.8 \text{ miles}$$

$$\tan 25^\circ = \frac{40000}{y}$$

$$y = \frac{40000}{.4663} = 8.6 \text{ miles}$$

$$4.8 + 8.6 = 13.4 \text{ miles/minute} \times 60 = \text{Approx } \underline{800} \text{ miles/hr}$$

4. The shape of the object appeared to be triangular and was greyish-brown in color. It is the belief of the undersigned that the object could have been an aircraft similar to the Convair XF-92A delta wing interceptor which is undergoing tests at Muroc Air Force Base, California.

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Major, USAFR
Base Office

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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/MEN/web

File No: 24-8

19 September 1949

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT; Sighting of Flying Disc on 26 Aug 49 at
Davis-Monthan AFB, Tucson, Arizona, by ~~REDACTED~~
~~REDACTED~~
SPECIAL INQUIRY

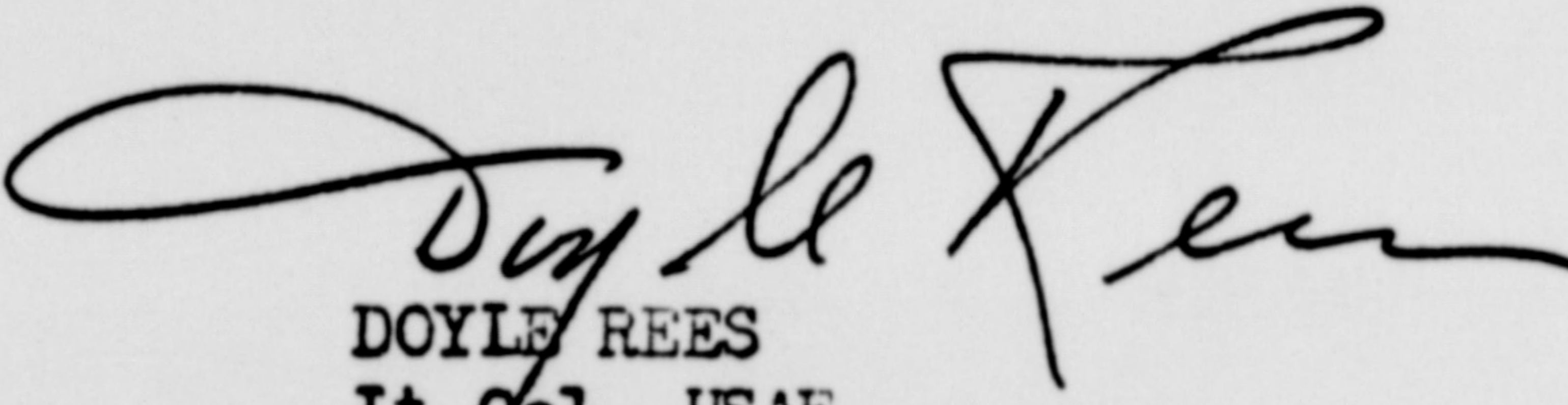
JAXS
TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXG-3

1. Reference is made to previous reports of investigation regarding unidentified aerial objects, the last of which was written by Special Agent MELVIN E. NEEF, dated 7 September 1949.

2. Attached are two (2) copies of a report made by Special Agent SHERIDAN W. CAVITT, dated 7 September 1949.

3. This district will continue to investigate reports of sightings of this nature and will forward copies of the reports of investigation to your headquarters.

1 Incl
Rpt of Inv


DOYLE REES
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DQG DMR 5200.10

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SEP 26

Aircraft +