

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE / 31 Aug 51		LOCATION Matador, Texas		12. CONCLUSIONS	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1245CST GMT 31/1845Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Other UNIDENTIFIED	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilians			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not given		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE E	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Object like a yellow pear-shaped tomato, aluminum or silve in color that reflected the sunlight readily. Had a door, window, or something similar located at a pt where the object began to taper toward smaller end. Moved through the air with small end forward. No noise, exhaust wind or visble means of propulsion were observed. Object estimated 40 ft long & 16 ft diameter. Object it was drifting slowly in easterly direction about 150 ft above ground, it began rapid ascent and moved away to the east in a circular direction in a matter of seconds.				11. COMMENTS Duration much too short for a balloon. Disappearance too quickly. Case unidentified.	

UNCLASSIFIED

(CLASSIFICATION)

4347990
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COUNTRY United States		REPORT NO. GA-1-51	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT Unidentified Aerial Objects			
AREA REPORTED ON Lubbock, Texas--4th Army Area		FROM (Agency) Wing Intelligence Office 3500th Pilot Training Wing, Reese AFB, Tex.	
DATE OF REPORT 21 Sept 1951	DATE OF INFORMATION 18 Sept 1951	EVALUATION A-2	
PREPARED BY (Officer) 1/Lt. John A. Farley		SOURCE Mrs. [REDACTED]	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) OSI-23-9-103, ATIAA-2A			
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclusions at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112--Part 11.)			

The sighting of an unknown aerial object over US highway 70, 2½ miles north of Matador, Texas was reported to the local Matador newspaper on 31 August 1951 by Mrs. [REDACTED] who lives about [REDACTED] miles north of Matador, Texas on the same highway. Mrs. [REDACTED] was interviewed by the reporting officer on 18 September 1951.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
 DOD DIR 5260.10

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7-3712-36

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	2	OF	2	PAGES
Wing Intelligence Officer 3500th PTW, Reese AFB, Texas	GA-1-51					

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that at approximately 1245 hours CST 31 August 1951, as she and her daughter, Mrs. [REDACTED], Lawton, Oklahoma, who was visiting her, were driving to her home approximately five [REDACTED] miles north of Matador, Texas, their attention was drawn to a strange aerial object drifting across US highway 70. Mrs. [REDACTED] first noticed the object and it was a few seconds before she drew Mrs. [REDACTED] attention to it. When Mrs. [REDACTED] saw the object it was drifting slowly in an easterly direction about 150 feet above the terrain and approximately 200 feet in front of the car. About the time she saw it, it began a rapid ascent and moved away to the east in a circular direction in a matter of a few seconds.

The location of the sighting was about 2½ miles north of Matador, Texas on US highway 70. The terrain to the west of the road is rolling for about 10 miles to a line of foothills. The land is sparsely to heavily wooded by mesquite thickets with the first 300 yards open flat terrain. To the east the land is flat for approximately 30 miles, sparsely wooded, and the first 1000 yards is open. At the time of the sighting, Mrs. [REDACTED] estimated the automobile was traveling between 40 and 50 MPH.

The object sighted was described as looking like a yellow pear-shaped tomato, aluminum or silver in color that reflected the sunlight readily. It had a door, window, or something similar located at a point where the object began to taper toward the smaller end. Only one object was sighted and it moved through the air with the small end forward. No noise, exhaust, wings, or visible means of propulsion were observed. Mrs. [REDACTED] could not estimate the speed but did say she thought the object was about 40 feet long and 16 feet in diameter.

She stated the sun was shining brightly with very little wind. The 1230 hours Reese Air Force Base observation was as follows: Estimated ceiling 6000 feet, Broken clouds, Thin broken clouds at 25,000 feet, visibility 15 miles, temperature 87°, dew point 60°, wind from the east northeast at 3 knots per hour. The 1230 hours Childress, Texas observation was as follows: Estimated ceiling 25,000 feet overcast, visibility 15 miles plus, temperature 90°, dew point 66°, wind from the north northeast at 7 knots per hour, towering cumulus in the southeast quadrant.

COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

Mrs. [REDACTED] is a housewife residing with her husband some [REDACTED] miles north of Matador, Texas on US highway 70. She seemed to be a very mature woman, in her middle fifties, above average mentally, and in complete use of her faculties. Her report, in the estimation of the reporting officer, would be classified as reliable.

It is the recommendation of this officer that Mrs. [REDACTED] Lawton, Oklahoma, be interviewed to get her version of the sighting as she was the first to notice the object and observed it for a greater length of time.

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24-34

DETAILS:

1. Investigation predicated upon verbal request from Air Provost Marshal and Base Intelligence Officer, Reese Air Force Base, Texas, 17 September 1951, based upon receipt of classified TWX from Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, relayed to Commanding Officer, Reese AFB, by District Commander, 23rd OSI District, Carswell AFB, Texas, requesting that the A-2 Section, Reese AFB, Texas accomplish investigation and submit report direct to the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command as prescribed in AF Regulation 200-15, pertaining to the sighting of Unidentified Objects in Flight over Lubbock, Texas. These incidents were previously reported to Headquarters OSI by District Office No. 23, Carswell AFB, Texas, in Spot Intelligence Report, dated 7 September 1951, Subject: Unidentified Objects in Flight over Lubbock, Texas.

AT REESE AFB, TEXAS

2. 1st Lt JOHN A. FARLEY, Assistant Wing Intelligence Officer, Reese AFB, was designated to accomplish the report desired by the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command and requested any possible assistance from the Office of Special Investigations in the furtherance of the mission.

AT LUBBOCK, TEXAS

3. On 17 September 1951, the writer accompanied by FARLEY met with the editor of the Avalanche Journal newspaper of Lubbock, Texas, Mr. CHARLES GUY, who, without any questions, assisted in obtaining available copies of the paper containing the necessary information to thoroughly acquaint FARLEY with the scope of the required investigation. Those copies of the newspaper not available were photographed in privacy.

AT REESE AFB, TEXAS

4. Due to the classification of SECRET imposed by the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, on mentioned TWX and the same classification held by AF Regulation 200-15, for the preparation of the A-2 report all of the newspaper items were photographed, developed and printed in five (5) copies only, using one (1) negative for each reproduction. These reproductions are marked in dated order of publishing, as Inclosures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and are attached as part of this report.

AT MATADOR, TEXAS

5. The sighting of an unknown aerial object over U. S. Highway 70, approximately two and one-half miles north of the town of Matador, Texas was reported to the local Matador newspaper on 31 August 1951.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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24-54

by a Mrs. [redacted] who resides on a small ranch [redacted] miles north of Matador, Texas on U. S. Highway 70. This incident was reprinted in the Lubbock Morning Avalanche, 1 September 1951, under the Matador heading of 31 August 1951. (See Inclosure No. 4)

6. At 1245 hours, 18 September 1951, accompanied by Lt FARLEY, the writer interviewed Mr. [redacted] who stated that at approximately 1245 hours (CST) 31 August 1951, as she and her daughter, Mrs. [redacted] of Lawton, Oklahoma, who was visiting at home, were driving to the [redacted] ranch, located about [redacted] miles north of Matador, Texas, on U. S. Highway 70, their attention was attracted by a strange aerial object drifting across U. S. Highway 70. Mrs. [redacted] who was driving, first noticed the object and it was apparently a few seconds before she drew Mrs. [redacted] attention to it. [redacted] stated that when she saw the object, it was drifting slowly in an easterly direction about 150 feet above the terrain and approximately 200 feet in front of their car. About the time [redacted] saw the object, it began a rapid ascent and moved away in a few seconds to the east in a circular ascent.

The object was described by [redacted] as being pear shaped in appearance, (to quote "like a yellow pear shaped tomato") aluminum or silver in color, and that the object readily reflected the sunlight. The object had a port, window, door or a similar aperture, located at a point where the object began to taper toward the smaller end. One object only was seen, and it moved through the air with the small end forward. She stated the sun was shining brightly with little or no wind.

Mrs. [redacted] stopped the car and got out and both then realized there was no noise, no sign of exhaust, no smoke, no wings were visible, nor was any visible means of propulsion observed. [redacted] stated she could not estimate the speed of the object except that it went up rapidly in a curving angle east and in a few seconds was out of her sight. [redacted] did not get out of the car and lost sight of the object as it ascended due to her limited vision inside the car. [redacted] was certain the object was not a balloon. She compared the size of the object, to the best of her knowledge, as comparable to the Matador railway freight shed or perhaps larger. The Matador freight shed was examined and measure approximately 48 feet by 13 feet.

Mrs. [redacted] then stated she had judged the height of the object above ground to have been approximately 150 feet by comparison with "Bob's Oil Well", a well known landmark, which is an oil derrick combined with a gasoline filling station located in the city limits of Matador, on U. S. Highway 70. To her knowledge, no other persons observed the object.

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~~SECRET~~ **ARTC**

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5D 24-21

26 October 1951

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unidentified Objects in Flight
Over Lubock, Texas
SPECIAL INQUIRY

Auth. CS, USAF
Init. **RMS**
Date **26 OCT 1951**

TO: Commanding Officer
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: ATIAA

1. Attached hereto for your information are two copies of the report of investigation by Special Agent HOWARD N. BOSSERT, 23d OSI District, file 24-84, dated 8 October 1951, subject as above.

2. This investigation is continuing, and subsequent reports will be furnished your headquarters upon receipt of same in this office.

3. Attention is invited to paragraph 7, AFR 205-1, dated 14 March 1949, which prohibits the disclosure of classified information to unauthorized personnel.

1 Incl (in dup)
R/I, DO #23, dtd 8 Oct 51

REAGAN A. SCURLOCK
Lt Colonel, USAF
Acting District Commander

Copy to:
Hq OSI

When Inclosure No. 1 is withdrawn
or not attached, the classification
of ~~SECRET~~ on this correspondence
will be downgraded to ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
in accordance with par 25e, AFR 205-1.

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51S-156260

~~SECRET~~

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO. 24-84	DATE 8 October 1951
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT, Unidentified Objects in Flight Over Lubbock, Texas FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY R7C		REPORT MADE BY S/A HOWARD N. BOSSERT	VS
CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY		REPORT MADE AT DO #23, Carswell AFB	
REFERENCE Spot Intelligence Report, DO #23, File 24-0, dated 7 September 1951.		PERIOD 17, 18, 20, 21 September 1951	
SYNOPSIS Investigation predicated upon verbal request of Air Provost Marshal and Base Intelligence Officer, Reese Air Force Base, Texas, 17 September 1951, based upon classified TWX from Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, passed to the Commanding Officer, Reese AFB, Texas, through 23rd OSI District Office, Carswell AFB, Texas. TWX requested A-2 accomplish investigation concerning reported unidentified objects sighted over Lubbock, Texas during latter part of August 1951, and reported to Headquarters OSI by 23rd OSI District via Spot Intelligence Report, file 24-0, dated 7 September 1951, copies of which were furnished to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command. Mrs. [redacted] Matador, Texas reported a pear shaped object flying at approximately 200 feet in front of her automobile, five miles north of Matador, Texas, at 1245 hours, 31 August 1951. This object rapidly ascended following her observation and moved away to the east in a circular pattern. Mrs. [redacted] advised the unidentified object moved with the smaller and forward. No sign of exhaust or noise heard according to [redacted] Weather report, Reese AFB for 1230 hours, 31 August 1951, showed ceiling 6000 feet, with broken clouds, visibility 15 miles, temperature 87 degrees, and wind from the east north-east at three knots per hour. This object also observed by Mrs. [redacted] daughter, Mrs. [redacted] Lawton, Oklahoma. Mrs. [redacted] not available for interview. Local inquiry at Matador revealed Mrs. [redacted] to be reputable citizen in community, [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, interviewed at 1945 hours, 20 September 1951, and advised that on 30 August 1951, at 2330 hours, he observed a formation of lighted objects passing overhead at great speed. Two more formations passed over [redacted] residence and photographs were obtained by HART. Formations appeared in a loose V or U shape, and the objects gave forth a glow rather than a direct light. Negatives of		OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #23, Carswell AFB	
DISTRIBUTION		STATUS PENDING	
ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO		SECRET, AUTH CS UNAF 3 Oct 51.	
Hq OSI 4	Unauthorized disclosure of information contained in this report is prohibited and will be considered a violation of AFR 205-1 and AFR 205-6.	FILE STAMP	
CG, Air Materiel Comd (thru Hq OSI) 2			
CO, Reese AFB (info) 1			
DO #11 2			
File 2			
APPROVED		DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS, DOD DIR 5200.10	
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY R7C		This is copy #4 of 11 copies	
JAMES C. SCHOFIELD Lt Col, USAF District Commander.			

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Synopsis (Continued)

photographs taken by ~~REDACTED~~ obtained by Reese AFB Intelligence Officer and forwarded in his report to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command. ~~REDACTED~~ stated he heard no noise and saw no exhaust from the objects. Weather observation, Lubbock, Texas, reflected that at 2330 hours, 30 August 1951, a high line of clouds at 28,000 feet, visibility 15 miles, temperature 78 degrees, and wind south southeast at eight MPH. ~~REDACTED~~ stated he observed two more formations pass over Lubbock at approximately 2320 hours, 1 September 1951. Technical data pertaining to ~~REDACTED~~ photographs obtained and set forth in details.

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24-54

Mrs. [REDACTED] stated her daughter has since returned to Lawton, Oklahoma and furnished the full name and address as follows:

Mrs. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Lawton, Oklahoma

Mrs. [REDACTED] furnished the following information concerning herself:

Name: [REDACTED]
Born: 1895 at Old Fort Sill, Oklahoma
Age: 56 years
Residence: [REDACTED] - 8 miles north of Matador, Texas on
U. S. Highway 70) Has lived for 34 years at Matador,
Texas
Marital Status: Married
Husband: [REDACTED] rancher.

7. An examination of the location described by [REDACTED] was made, and it was observed that the terrain to the west of U. S. Highway 70 is rolling land for about 10 to 12 miles (east) to a line of foothills. The land is sparsely to moderately heavily wooded by mesquite with the first 300 yards open flat terrain. The land to the east is fairly flat for approximately 20 to 30 miles, sparsely wooded and the first 1000 to 1200 yards is open terrain. Inquiry was made at "Bob's Oil Well" gas station and disclosed that the derrick is 98 feet in height with an advertising sign on top of approximately 22 feet, or a total overall height of 120 feet.

8. Discreet inquiry of Mr. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] for a number of years of the [REDACTED] disclosed that both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are reputable citizens and have an excellent character and credit reputation in the community.

9. Observation of Mrs. [REDACTED] shows a mature white female in her middle fifties, educated and courteous. She is in full possession of all her mental faculties and was straight forward in all her answers and explanations.

10. Reese AFB, Texas weather observation for 1230 hours, 31 August 1951, was as follows:

Estimated ceiling 6000 feet, broken clouds, thin broken clouds at 25,000 feet, visibility 15 miles, temperature 87 degrees, dew point 60 degrees, wind from the east northeast at 3 knots per hour.

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The 1230 hours observation at Childress, Texas shows:

Estimated ceiling 25,000 feet, overcast, visibility 15 miles plus, temperature 90 degrees, dew point 66 degrees, wind from the north northeast at 7 knots per hour, towering cumulus in the southeast quadrant.

AT LUBBOCK, TEXAS

11. The sighting of unidentified objects and the subsequent pictures taken of these objects in formation at Lubbock, Texas by [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, a college freshman, appeared in the Morning Avalanche newspaper of 1 September 1951. (See Inclosure No. 3)

12. At 1945 hours, 20 September 1951, [redacted], Lubbock, Texas, was interviewed at his residence by the writer and Lt. FARLEY. [redacted] stated that on the night of 30 August 1951, about 2330 hours (CST) he was lying in bed watching the stars and noticed a formation of unidentified aerial objects pass over the house. Being a camera "bug", he secured his camera, a 35 MM Kodak equipped with a range finder and went into the back yard. At about 2332 hours he saw a second formation of the same type objects passing overhead and took two (2) pictures, inclosed as Inclosures No. 7 and 8. Almost at once, at about 2334 hours, the third formation passed over and [redacted] obtained three (3) more pictures, two (2) are inclosed as Inclosures No. 9 and 10. [redacted] was unable to locate the other negative but stated it was almost identical to Inclosure No. 9. [redacted] stated that the aerial objects looked to be at a great height and passed from sight within a space of from three (3) to four (4) seconds.

AGENT'S NOTE: The view in the back yard is restricted, a line of trees obscuring vision to the north and the house preventing vision to the south.

13. [redacted] could not estimate the altitude but stated that all formations looked as if they were approximately the same high altitude. The objects had a brilliance like reflected light but did not glitter. Each object looked like a white stick or a rapidly moving light, white in color, did not twinkle like a star but rather had a glow comparable to the moon. [redacted] estimated that each formation contained 18 or 20 objects and traveled in a U or rough V formation. [redacted] stated that the first group looked like a single line formation, the second and third groups same as the first.

AGENT'S NOTE: Development of the negatives obtained from [redacted] shows (Negative #4, see Inclosure No. 7) a double line formation as do Inclosures No. 8 and No. 9 (Negatives #5 and #7); however, Inclosure No. 10

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(Negative #8) shows a single line. The 35 MM negatives furnished by HART were badly scratched and extreme care was taken in the enlarging process. The negatives were turned over to the Reese AFB Assistant Intelligence Officer, 1st Lt JOHN FARLEY for inclusion in his report as requested by the Commanding General, Air Materiel Command.

14. According to [REDACTED], the objects in the formations kept shifting position but he was not too certain of that fact. [REDACTED] was emphatic in his assertion that there was no noise, no exhaust reflections, or any visual means of propulsion within his scope of sight or hearing. He could make no approximation of the size of the objects due to the great altitude.

15. [REDACTED] stated that the weather was clear with very little wind. The Lubbock, Texas weather observation at 2330 hours for 30 August 1951, was listed as: Thin scattered clouds at 28,000 feet, visibility 15 miles plus, temperature 78 degrees, dew point 56 degrees, with wind from the south southeast at eight MPH.

16. [REDACTED] stated that on 1 September 1951, he saw two more formations pass over Lubbock, approximate time 2320 hours, with about a two minute interval between the formations. [REDACTED] did not get any photographs of these formations, but said the passage was identical, except that the objects seemed to be at a much greater altitude and although the formations passed over Lubbock in about the same position as before, the course seemed to be from the northwest to the southeast. Each group looked to be a single line formation.

17. The Lubbock, Texas weather observation at 2330 hours, 1 September 1951 was: Clear, visibility 15 miles plus, temperature 77 degrees, dew point 61 degrees, wind from the southeast at six MPH.

18. [REDACTED] photographic equipment was checked by the writer, and information was obtained relative to the photographs taken on 30 August 1951.

Date: Thursday, 30 August 1951
Time: 11:30 PM (CST) 2330 and 2332 hours
Camera: Kodak, 35 MM with range finder (Model number not shown)
Film: Type PLUS X
Lens: Kodak Anastar F3.5 50 MM ES 553198L
Exposure: F3.5 at 1/10 of a second
Developing Solution: Panthermic 777
Tank: Bell Film, Hard Rubber, Clean
Developing Time: 15 minutes
Washing Solution: Speed 3
Dryer: Electric Flat Plate
Printer: Federal Enlarger #269 35 MM to 4 X 5
Paper: Bromide F-1 Single Edge

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24-36

19. Description of [REDACTED]

Full Name: [REDACTED]
Address: [REDACTED] Lubbock, Texas
Nationality: United States
Race: White
Sex: Male
Age: 18 years
Birth: 24 March 1933, at Lubbock, Texas
Father: [REDACTED]
Mother: [REDACTED]
Marital Status: Single
Occupation: Student - Freshman at Texas Technological College,
Lubbock, Texas
Height: 5' 11"
Weight: 155 lbs.
Eyes: Blue
Hair: Blond - Cut short - Crew cut style
Complexion: Fair
Build: Medium slender
Marks or Scars: None visible

20. Two photographs were taken of [REDACTED] at his residence using an Argoflex 75, fixed focus, with flash, lens Argus Luxar, 75 MM, inclosed as inclosures No. 11 and No. 12.

21. [REDACTED] was observed by the writer to be a very intelligent young man, very interested in photography, which is a hobby. He seemed sincere in his efforts to relate all incidents to the best of his ability.

22. Information obtained in this investigation was reported direct to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, based upon concurrent investigation conducted by 1st Lt JOHN A. FARLEY, Assistant Wing Intelligence Officer, Reese Air Force Base, Lubbock, Texas, in accordance with Air Force Regulation 200-15. This case is continuing in pending status for development of lead by 11th OSI District at Lawton, Oklahoma.

Inclosures:

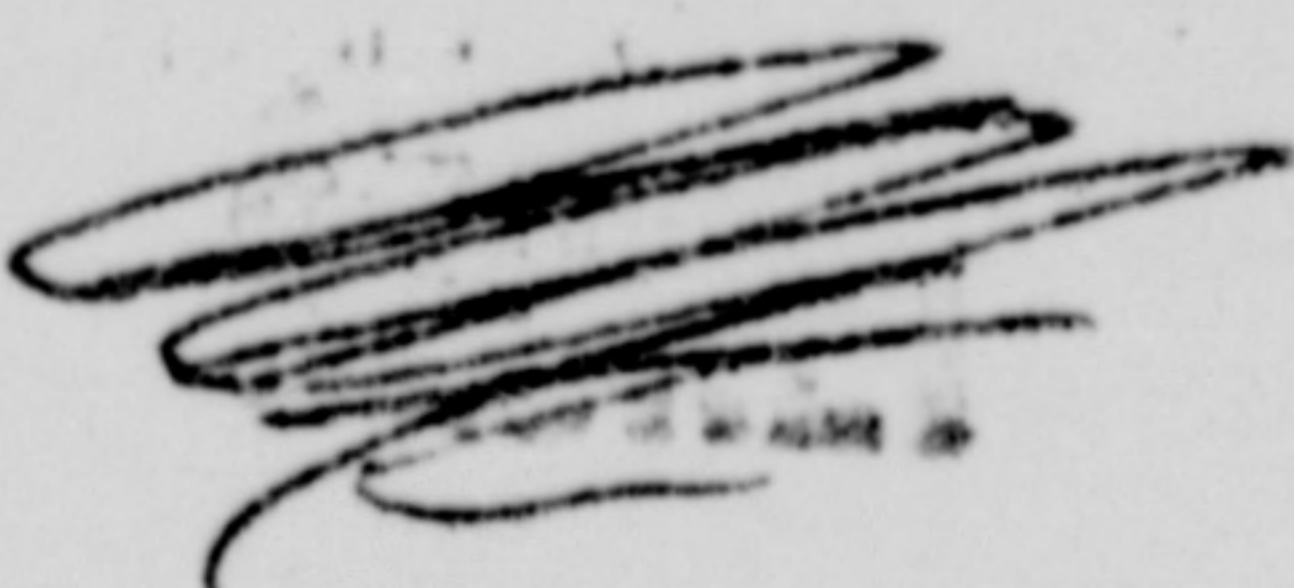
FOR HEADQUARTERS OSI, WASHINGTON, D. C.

1. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas
Avalanche Journal, 26 August 1951 (trip)

2. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas
Avalanche Journal, 28 August 1951 (trip)

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3. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Morning Avalanche, 1 September 1951 (trip)
4. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Morning Avalanche, 1 September 1951 (trip)
5. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Avalanche Journal, Sunday, 2 September 1951 (trip)
6. Photostat, news article on unidentified objects, Lubbock, Texas Morning Avalanche, 6 September 1951 (trip)
7. Print of photograph taken by [REDACTED]. (trip)
8. Print of photograph taken by [REDACTED]. (trip)
9. Print of photograph taken by [REDACTED]. (trip)
10. Print of photograph taken by [REDACTED]. (trip)
11. Photograph of [REDACTED]. (trip)
12. Photograph of [REDACTED]. (trip)

FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, AIR MATERIEL COMMAND, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

12 inclosures as listed above, one copy each.

FOR DISTRICT OFFICE NO. 23, CARSWELL AFB

Inclosures 1 through 10 as listed above.

11. Negative of photograph of [REDACTED]
12. Negative of photograph of [REDACTED]
13. Seven negatives of newspaper items. (Reference inclosures 1 through 6 as listed above).

P E N D I N G

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

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

~~FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY~~ R7C

REPLY REFER TO:

5D 24-21

15 November 1951

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unidentified Objects in
Flight Over Lubbock, Texas
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commanding Officer
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: ATI

~~SECRET~~
R7C
15 NOV 1951

1. Attached hereto for your information are two copies of the report of investigation by Special Agent DELZON L. DURHAM, 11th OSI District, file 24-79, dated 23 October 1951, subject as above.

2. This investigation is continuing, and subsequent reports will be furnished your headquarters upon receipt of same in this office.

3. Attention is invited to paragraph 7, AFR 205-1, dated 14 March 1949, which prohibits the disclosure of classified information to unauthorized personnel.

1 Incl (in dup)
R/I, DO #11, dtd 23 Oct 51

Reagan A. Scurlock
REAGAN A. SCURLOCK
Lt Colonel, USAF
Acting District Commander

Copy to:
Hq OSI w/o abv incl

When Inclosure No. 1 is withdrawn or not attached, the classification of this correspondence will be downgraded to ~~SECRET~~ in accordance with par 25e, AFR 205-1.

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51S-156260-A

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		FILE NO. 24-79 cp	DATE 23 October 1951
TITLE UNKNOWN SUBJECT Unidentified Objects in Flight Over Lubbock, Texas FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY R7C		REPORT MADE BY DELZON L. DURHAM, S/A	
		REPORT MADE AT DO #11, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma	
		PERIOD 16 October 1951	
		OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #23, Carswell AFB, Texas	
STATUS R U C		SECRET	
CHARACTER SPECIAL INQUIRY		Auth: CS, USAF <i>SEN</i>	
REFERENCE Rpt of S/A HOWARD N. BOSSERT, DO #23, file 24-84, dtd 8 October 1951		23 October 1951	
SYNOPSIS Mrs. ██████████ advised she observed a pear-shaped object flying one hundred twenty-five yards (125) in front of her automobile north of Matador, Texas at approximately 1245 hours 31 August 1951. Mrs. ██████████ stated the object moved with smaller end forward with no sign of exhaust or noise heard. This object ascended rapidly and moved toward the east in a circular pattern. Object appeared to be landing or taking off from an area used by aircraft engaged in crop dusting. Local inquiry at Lawton, Oklahoma revealed Mrs. ██████████ considered a reputable citizen in community. ATTENTION Disclosure of the nature, sources, or even the existence of such investigative information to persons mentioned in the report or to other persons not normally entitled to such information may be made only when expressly authorized by the Director of Special Investigations, 12, or higher authority. Unauthorized disclosure of such information will be considered to be a violation of AFR 205-1. DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DIR 5200.10			
DISTRIBUTION Hq OSI 4 (Action copies for CG, AMC thru DO #5) DO #23 2 File 2	ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY R7C APPROVED <i>Donald B. White</i> DONALD B. WHITE Colonel, USAF UNCLASSIFIED Direct Commander.		FILE STAMP

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DETAILS:

AT LAWTON, OKLAHOMA

1. At 1615 hours on 16 October 1951, Mrs. [REDACTED], Lawton, Oklahoma, was interviewed and stated in substance that on 31 August 1951 at approximately 1245 hours, while driving on the highway from White Flatt to Matador, Texas, she observed an object entering her line of vision from the left rear. The object was between 125 and 150 yards from the automobile and looked to be about the same size as a B-29 aircraft without wings. The object appeared to be taking off or landing in an area to her left which was used by aircraft engaged in crop dusting as a landing area.

2. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that when she first sighted the object it appeared to be floating at a speed less than the speed required for take-off in a Cub aircraft. Suddenly the object ascended very rapidly, moving in an easterly direction and disappeared from sight. There was no noise nor sign of exhaust or smoke. No wings or visible means of propulsion were observed. The object appeared to be floating at approximately the same height as the derrick at Bob's oil well, Matador, Texas. (Described in referenced report as 120' overall height.)

3. In describing the object, Mrs. [REDACTED] stated that the only object which resembled the shape of the object was that of a pear. She further stated that there appeared to be a door or window located on the tapered end of the object; that the object was flying with the tapered end forward. The bulbous part of the object reflected the rays of the sun and made accurate description of the large part of the object impossible. It was believed by Mrs. [REDACTED] that members of a highway repair gang saw the same or a similar object later the same day, following the course of a small creek in the area, because of a conversation members of the highway crew held with her father.

AGENT'S NOTE: Mrs. [REDACTED] appeared sincere and honest in her description of this incident and impressed this agent as an intelligent and serious individual.

4. Discreet inquiry in the vicinity of [REDACTED], Lawton, Oklahoma disclosed that Mrs. [REDACTED] is considered a reputable citizen with excellent character and credit reputation in the community.

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States Report # 2

Appendix III

MATADOR, TEXAS - 31 August 1951

I. DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT

On 31 August 1951 at approximately 1245 CST two ladies were driving in an automobile several miles north of Matador, Texas. The object was described as a pear-shaped object about the length of a B-29 fuselage, aluminum or silver in color, which readily reflected the sunlight. The object had a port or some type of aperture in the side and moved through the air with the small end forward. There was no sign of any exhaust and no noise was heard.

As the two ladies were driving north from Matador, Texas, the driver of the automobile first noticed the object about 150 yards ahead of the automobile. They stopped and both ladies got out to observe the object. It was drifting slowly in an eastward direction at a speed they judged to be less than the speed required to take off in a Cub aircraft and an altitude of about 120 ft. Seconds later the object began to ascend rapidly and moved out of sight into the wind in a circular ascent. (The wind at this time was from NE at about 5-7 knots.)

A background investigation showed that both women were of excellent character.

This incident is of interest because it was observed during the same period as the objects over Lubbock, Texas (See Appendix I).

II. WEATHER

- A. 1230 CST - Reese AFB - 31 August 1951
Estimated ceiling 6,000 ft., broken clouds, with thin scattered clouds at 25,000 ft. Visibility 15 miles. Wind ENE at 3 knots.
- B. 1230 CST - Childress, Texas - 31 August 1951
Estimated ceiling 25,000 ft., overcast. Visibility 15 miles.
Wind NNE at 7 knots. Towering cumulus clouds in SE quadrant.

III. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

It has been reported that a road repair crew saw the same object later on the same day. Attempts will be made by Project Grudge personnel to contact members of this road crew and obtain their statements. There were also reports of crop dusting activity in the area, so attempts will be made to determine whether or not the ladies could have seen this activity.

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Appendix V

Status Report #1

MATADOR, TEXAS - 31 August 1951

On 31 August 1951 at approximately 1245 CST two ladies were driving in an automobile several miles north of Matador, Texas. The object was described as a pear-shaped object, aluminum or silver in color, which readily reflected the sunlight. The object had a port or some type of aperture in the side. It moved through the air with the small end forward. They judged the size to be about that of a B-29 fuselage. There was no sign of any exhaust and no noise was heard.

As the two ladies were driving north from Matador, Texas, the driver of the automobile first noticed the object about 150 yards ahead of the automobile. They stopped and both ladies got out to observe the object. It was drifting slowly in an eastward direction at a speed they judged to be "less than the speed required to take off in a sub aircraft" and an altitude of about 120 ft. Seconds later the object began to ascend rapidly and in a few seconds it moved out of sight to the east in a circular ascent. (The wind at this time was from the NE at about 5-7 knots.)

A background investigation showed that both women were of excellent character.

This incident is of interest because it was observed during the same period as the objects over Lubbock, Texas, (see Appendix I).

Weather

- a. 1230 CST - Reese AFB - 31 August 1951
Estimated ceiling 6,000 ft., broken clouds, with thin scattered clouds at 25,000 ft. Visibility 15 miles. Wind ENE at 3 knots.
- b. 1230 CST - Childress, Texas - 31 August 1951
Estimated ceiling 25,000 ft., overcast. Visibility 15 miles.
Wind NNE at 7 knots. Towering cumulus clouds in SE quadrant.

Status of Investigation

It has been reported that a road repair crew saw the same object later on the same day. Attempts will be made to contact members of this road crew and obtain their statements. There were also reports of crop dusting activity in the area, so attempts will be made to determine whether or not the ladies could have seen this activity.

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Appendix V

MATADOR, TEXAS - 31 August 1951

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A background investigation showed that both women were of excellent character.

This incident is of interest because it was observed during the same period as the objects over Lubbock, Texas, (see Appendix I).

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- b. 1230 CST - Childress, Texas - 31 August 1951
Estimated ceiling 25,000 ft., overcast. Visibility 15 miles. Wind NNE at 7 knots. Towering cumulus clouds in SE quadrant.

Status of Investigation

It has been reported that a road repair crew saw the same object later on the same day. Attempts will be made to contact members of this road crew and obtain their statements. There were also reports of crop dusting activity in the area, so attempts will be made to determine whether or not the ladies could have seen this activity.

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Appendix V

MATADOR, TEXAS - 21 August 1951

On 31 August 1951 at approximately 1245 CST two ladies were driving in an automobile several miles north of Matador, Texas. The object was described as a pear-shaped object, aluminum or silver in color, which readily reflected the sunlight. The object had a port or some type of aperture in the side. It moved through the air with the small end forward. They judged the size to be about that of a B-29 fuselage. There was no sign of any exhaust and no noise was heard.

As the two ladies were driving north from Matador, Texas, the driver of the automobile first noticed the object about 150 yards ahead of the automobile. They stopped and both ladies got out to observe the object. It was drifting slowly in an eastward direction at a speed they judged to be "less than the speed required to take off in a sub aircraft" and an altitude of about 120 ft. Seconds later the object began to ascent rapidly and in a few seconds it moved out of sight to the east in a circular ascent. (The wind at this time was from the NE at about 5-7 knots.)

A background investigation showed that both women were of excellent character.

This incident is of interest because it was observed during the same period as the objects over Lubbock, Texas, (see Appendix I).

Weather

- a. 1230 CST - Reese AFB - 31 August 1951
Estimated ceiling 6,000 ft., broken clouds, with thin scattered clouds at 25,000 ft. Visibility 15 miles. Wind ENE at 3 knots.
- b. 1230 CST - Childress, Texas - 31 August 1951
Estimated ceiling 25,000 ft., overcast. Visibility 15 miles. Wind NNE at 7 knots. Towering cumulus clouds in SE quadrant.

Status of Investigation

It has been reported that a road repair crew saw the same object later on the same day. Attempts will be made to contact members of this road crew and obtain their statements. There were also reports of crop dusting activity in the area, so attempts will be made to determine whether or not the ladies could have seen this activity.

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Appendix III

MATADOR, TEXAS - 31 August 1951

I. DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT

On 31 August 1951 at approximately 1245 CST two ladies were driving in an automobile several miles north of Matador, Texas. The object was described as a pear-shaped object about the length of a B-29 fuselage, aluminum or silver in color, which readily reflected the sunlight. The object had a port or some type of aperture in the side and moved through the air with the small end forward. There was no sign of any exhaust and no noise was heard.

As the two ladies were driving north from Matador, Texas, the driver of the automobile first noticed the object about 150 yards ahead of the automobile. They stopped and both ladies got out to observe the object. It was drifting slowly in an eastward direction at a speed they judged to be less than the speed required to take off in a Cub aircraft and an altitude of about 120 ft. Seconds later the object began to ascend rapidly and moved out of sight into the wind in a circular ascent. (The wind at this time was from NE at about 5-7 knots.)

A background investigation showed that both women were of excellent character.

This incident is of interest because it was observed during the same period as the objects over Lubbock, Texas (See Appendix I).

II. WEATHER

- A. 1230 CST - Reese AFB - 31 August 1951
Estimated ceiling 6,000 ft., broken clouds, with thin scattered clouds at 25,000 ft. Visibility 15 miles. Wind ENE at 3 knots.
- B. 1230 CST - Childress, Texas - 31 August 1951
Estimated ceiling 25,000 ft., overcast. Visibility 15 miles. Wind NNE at 7 knots. Towering cumulus clouds in SE quadrant.

III. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

It has been reported that a road repair crew saw the same object later on the same day. Attempts will be made by Project Grudge personnel to contact members of this road crew and obtain their statements. There were also reports of crop dusting activity in the area, so attempts will be made to determine whether or not the ladies could have seen this activity.

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EXTRACT FROM STATUS REPORT # 3

DATE: 31 Aug 51

TIME (Local): 1245

LOCATION: Matador, Texas

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: Several Seconds.

SOUND: None

SPEED: Hovering to high speed

ALTITUDE: low to high

HEADING: 90°

SOURCE: Two ladies

ACTION OR COMMENTS: No conclusions - Investigation closed.

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: Pear-shaped aluminum object seemed to hover then leave the area at high speed.