

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 9 October 1951		LOCATION Terre Haute, Indiana		12. CONCLUSIONS	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1342 GMT 09/1942Z		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 <u>UNIDENTIFIED</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 15 Seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	9. COURSE SE		
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Round silver object without fins or protrusions observed in flight from overhead to disappearance over the horizon. Flight straight. Total observation 15 seconds, conservation. Size of 50¢ piece at arm's length. No sound. Witness considered "hard headed".			11. COMMENTS Possible a/c sighting, however, to duration of 15 seconds for flight from 44 zenith to point over the horizon in 15 seconds is not consistent with this analysis and the case is carried as unidentified.		

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Status Report # 2

Appendix V

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA - 9 October 1951

I. DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT

On 9 October 1951 at 1342 CST, a CAA Chief Aircraft Communicator observed a silver object pass directly overhead while he was at Hulmen Municipal Airport, five miles east of Terre Haute, Indiana. The object was judged to be approximately the same size as a 50 cent piece held at arm's length. The object passed overhead at a very high rate of speed going in a southeasterly direction, passing from directly overhead to the horizon in about 15 seconds. There was no sound or vapor trails. The shape and general form of the object could be seen as the object passed over the horizon and out of sight.

(For related incident, see Appendix VI.)

II. WEATHER

Clear, bright sun, no clouds or haze.

III. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

Further investigation revealed no additional information.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

None.

7-3712-39
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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Stat Report # 1

Appendix VIII

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA - 9 October 1951

On 9 October 1951 at 1342 CST, a CAA Chief Aircraft Communicator observed a silver object pass directly overhead while he was at Ellettsville Municipal Airport, five miles east of Terre Haute, Indiana. The object was judged to be approximately the same size as a 50 cent piece held at arm's length. The object passed overhead at a very high rate of speed going in a southeasterly direction, passing from directly overhead to the horizon in about 15 seconds. There was no sound or vapor trails. The shape and general form of the object could be seen as the object passed over the horizon and out of sight.

(For related incident, see Appendix IX.)

Weather

Clear, bright sun, no clouds or haze.

Status of Investigation

Further details on the incident will be obtained but it is doubtful if any further information will indicate the possible identity of the object.

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194 OCT 11 17 15

EC 46

ECESU

INFOIT

YDD 22

TYD 46M

JEPNE A112

FF JEDUP JEDEN 222 ✓

DE JEPNE 39 ✓

P 111615Z ZNJ ✓

FM HQ EADP STEWART AFB NEWBURGH NY ✓

TO JEDWP/CG AMC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB DAYTON OHIO ✓

INFO JEDEN/CG ADC ENT AFB COLO SPGS COLO

[REDACTED] / INT 28447. /ATTN AMC FOR MCIS/ /ATTN ADC FOR

DEPUTY FOR INTELLIGENCE/ FOR YOUR INFO A UNITED PRESS NEWS

RELEASE APPEARING IN THE 13 OCT NEWSPAPERS RPTD MR. [REDACTED] CMA

A CAA EMPLOYEE CMA AT HOLMAN MUNICIPAL APRT CMA TERRE HAUTE CMA IND.

SAW A "HUGE METALLIC OBJECT SPEEDING ACROSS THE FIELD" ON 9 OCT.

RELEASE STATES THAT MR. [REDACTED] CMA "A HARDHEADED CAA OFFICIAL" JOINED

THE RANKS OF THOSE WHO NOW BELIEVE IN FLYING SAUCERS. NO FURTHER INFO

AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. PARA. DO YOU DESIRE ANY INVESTIGATIVE ACTION

BY THIS CMD /QUERY/

11/1644Z OCT JEPNE

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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JOINT MESSAGEFORM

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SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

DATE-TIME GROUP

112030Z Oct 51

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

PRECEDENCE
FOR:

ACTION

Priority

INFORMATION

Priority

☐

BOOK MESSAGE

☐

ORIGINAL MESSAGE

☐

MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

INT 28447

CLASSIFICATION

TO: Commanding General
Eastern Air Defense Force
Stewart AF Base
Newburgh, New York

INFO: Director of Intelligence
Headquarters, USAF
ATTN: Tech Capabilities Branch
Col Willis
Washington 25, D. C.

Cite INT 28447. Request immediate field investigation of Hollman Municipal
Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana, incident of 9 Oct 51.

Request any information that could be submitted as a flash intelligence report,
followed by Form 112 in accordance with ASCI Letter 85.

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DOD DIR 5200.19

518-148235-3

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

Lt. [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

SYMBOL

ATIAA-2a

TELEPHONE

65376

OFFICIAL TITLE

MURRAY S. STORRIS, Captain, USAF
Air Adjutant General

DD

FORM
1 OCT 49

173

REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 49,
WHICH MAY BE USED.

UNCLASSIFIED

121900Z Oct 51

CO, ATIC

Routine

Director of Intelligence, Hq USAF,
Washington 25, D. C.
(R A D N O T E)

X

X

AFOIN-ATIAA-10-1-E: For AFOIN-V/TS, Col. [REDACTED]. The following message is quoted for your information from Hq EADP, Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N.Y. to CG, AHC, W-P AFB, Site INT 23447, "For your information a United Press news release appearing in the 10 Oct newspaper reported Mr. [REDACTED], a CAA employee, at Holman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Ind., saw a 'huge metallic object speeding across the field' on 9 Oct. Release states that Mr. [REDACTED], 'a hardheaded CAA official' joined the ranks of those who now believe in flying saucers. No further information available at this time. Do you desire any investigative action by this Command?"

Refer info copy of our teletype to Hq EADP, dtd 11 October 1951, for our action.

5110.1

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DOD DIR 5200.19

1 1

121900Z Oct 51

Lt. H. Motscher

ATIAA-2a

65376

MURRAY S. STURGIS, Captain, USAF
Air Adjutant General

UNCLASSIFIED

51 OCT 20

04:17

NBR 27

20 OCTOBER 51

PRIORITY

C-1

PRIORITY/ROUTINE

FM EASTERN ADF STEWART AFB N.Y. 1920058Z

TO AMC WPAFB DAYTON OHIO ATTN MCIS

INFO ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO ATTN DEPUTY FOR INT

CITE C2550

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER
BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

REUR MSG MFT 28447. INQUIRY REVEALS OSI CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION OF
HOLMEN MUNICIPAL APRT, TERRE HAUTE, IND, INCIDENT OF 9 OCT 51. SUGGEST
CONTACTING OSI, INDIANAPOLIS FOR CY OF RPT

20/0657Z OCT

ACTION COPY

MFT-28447

Operations Office
Change OSI
12th Dist

ATTC

515-153339-1

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231400Z Oct 51

CO, ATIC

Routine

Twelfth District O.S.I.
Chanute AFB
Rantoul, Ill.

x

R A D M O T E

x

D/I, Hq USAF, Washington 25, D. C.
R A D M O T E

ATIAA-10-15-E. Eastern ADF has informed the Air Technical Intelligence Center that O.S.I. is investigating unidentified aerial object sighted over Holman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Ind., on 9 October 1951. Please advise when results of investigation will be available to this Center. Ref: AFCS-1 letter No. 85, dated 23 October 1950. In reply refer to Project Grudge.

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1 1

Lt E. J. Ruppelt/vs

ATIAA-2c

54261

MURRAH S. STURGIS, Capt, USAF
Air Adjutant General

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1951 OCT 26 00:00

NR26 26 OCT 51

C-1 CONF PRIORITY

(CRYPTOPRECAUTION APPLIES)

FM CO CHANUTE AFB RANTOUL ILL 252215Z

TO CC AMC WP AFB OHIO ATTN AIR TECH INTELL CENTER

INUSAF CHIEF OF STAFF WASH DC ATTN DIR OF INTELLIGENCE AND DIR
OF SPECIAL INVEST

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER
BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

PRIORITY

REUR TUX AT865 DTD 25 OCT 1951 PROJECT CRADGE THIS DIST IS NOT
CONDUCTING ANY INVEST REGARDING UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECT
SIGHTED OVER HOLMAN MUNI APT, TERRE HAUTE, IND 19 OCT 51.

INFO RECEIVED BY OSI AGT FROM APT AUTHORITIES REGARDING INCIDENT
BEING FWD YOUR HQ BY MOST EXPEDITIOUS MEANS. REF PAR 2

AND PAR 4 AFCSI LTR NO 85 DTD 23 OCT 50

26/0415Z OCT

AT-5607-ATLAA-245
513-154940A-1

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SECURITY INFORMATION
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

The Inspector General USAF
12th District Office of Special
Investigations
Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois

25 October 1951

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

12D 1-11-100

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT
Unidentified Aerial Object Sighted Over
Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute,
Indiana, 9 October 1951

TO: Director,
Office of Special Investigations
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D.C.

1. SYNOPSIS: Chief Aircraft Communicator, CAA, Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana, reported to the Office of Special Investigations agent that on 9 October 1951 at 1342 hours he observed an unknown unidentified aerial object directly overhead at Hulman Municipal Airport. The object was approximately the size of a half-dollar coin held at arm's length and was flying in a southeasterly direction. The day was clear and informant's vision was unobstructed. Exact size and altitude of the object unknown. Informant advised that a pilot, one ~~Quarles~~, sighted a similar object on the same date at approximately 1345 hours just east of Paris, Illinois at approximately 5,000 feet. Object was last seen traveling in a northeasterly direction, south of the Atomic Energy Plant at Newport, Indiana.

2. DETAILS: Mr. ~~Claude W. Sonner~~, 1833 North Eighth Street, Terre Haute, Indiana, Chief Aircraft Communicator, Civil Aeronautics Authority, Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana, was interviewed on 12 October 1951 by Special Agent Elbert W. Farris, and stated that he had observed an unknown unidentified aerial object at 1342 hours, Tuesday, 9 October 1951. The object was sighted directly overhead at Hulman Municipal Airport which is located approximately five (5) miles east of Terre Haute, Indiana, on Indiana State Road No. 42. According to Mr. ~~Sonner~~ the object was approximately the size of a one-half dollar held at arms length; was silver in color and flew in a southeasterly direction. Mr. Sonner stated that the object pursued a straight path of flight; that he

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12D 1-11-100, Subject: UNKNOWN SUBJECT, Unidentified Aerial Object Sighted Over Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana, 9 October 1951

observed no vapor trails; heard no noise and observed no protruding fins or other protrusions on this aerial object. Mr. ~~sonner~~ stated he observed the object pass from directly over his head to the horizon in approximately fifteen seconds which he considered to be a conservative estimate of time. The day was clear, a bright sun, no clouds or haze, vision was not obstructed by trees or other foliage or buildings and the object traveled over flat terrain; shape and general form of object could still be observed at the time it disappeared over the horizon. Mr. ~~sonner~~ stated that he could not estimate the object's size or altitude. According to Mr. Sonner, if this object was 200 feet high, it would have been traveling approximately 2,880 miles per hour and that the speed in miles per hour would increase in proportion to the object's height. Mr. ~~sonner~~ further stated that either this object or another was sighted by Charles Warren, South Seventh Street, Terre Haute, Indiana, at approximately 1345 hours, Tuesday, 9 October 1951, just east of Paris, Illinois. Warren was flying a private plane at an altitude of 5,000 feet from Greencastle, Indiana, to Paris, Illinois, and sighted this silver object just east of Paris, Illinois at 5,000 feet. The object appeared to be stationary at 5,000 feet, inasmuch as it did not increase or diminish in size with the approach of the plane. The object then reversed its direction and was last seen traveling in a northeasterly direction south of the Atomic Energy Plant at Newport, Indiana.

3. ACTION: Commanding General, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, notified by two (2) information copies of this report.

LEROY BITCON
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

3 cys - Hqs
2 cys - CG, ATIC

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ATTC 32638-1

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COUNTRY U. S. A.	REPORT NO. IR-56-51E	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT Unidentified Aerial Object <i>QAR-18 Dec 51</i>		
AREA REPORTED ON Holman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Ind.	FROM (Agency) Hq, EADF, Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N.Y.	
DATE OF REPORT 30 November 1951	DATE OF INFORMATION 9 October 1951	EVALUATION F-6
PREPARED BY (Officer) Major J. L. Hudelson	SOURCE 12th District OSI, Chanute AFB, Illinois	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) ADC Letter 200-1, and 12th District OSI Report 1-11-100, 25 Oct 51		

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

1. On 9 October at Holman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana, Chief Aircraft Communicator, CAA, Claude W. Sonner observed an unidentified aerial object directly overhead at 1342 CST for approximately 15 seconds.

2. A second sighting reported approximately 30 miles distant three (3) minutes later indicates the "objects" may have been jet aircraft observed when the reflection of the sun may have distorted the aircraft in the eyes of the observers.

APPROVED:

Bruce K. Baumgardner
BRUCE K. BAUMGARDNER
Lt. Colonel, USAF
Director of Intelligence

1 INCL.

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DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

2 cys - CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, Attn: MCIS
1 cy - CG, ADC, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo., Attn: Deputy for Intelligence

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C.—31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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AF FORM 112—PART II

APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	Hq, EADF, Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N.Y.	REPORT NO.	IR-56-51E	PAGE 2	OF 2	PAGES
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1. An unconventional unidentified aerial object was observed by ~~Mr. [redacted]~~, Chief Aircraft Communicator, CAA, Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana. Observation was made on 9 October 1951 at 1342 CST for approximately 15 seconds.

2. The following descriptions were obtained in an interview with Mr. ~~Mr. [redacted]~~ and OSI agent, 12th District Office OSI, Chanute AFB, Illinois: Single object was round and the size of a half dollar piece held at a distance of arms length, silver colored with no vapor or exhaust trail and no sound. Propulsion system unknown, speed estimated up to 2880 MPH.

3. Object was sighted visually from the ground and observed to travel a straight path in a south-easterly direction. Electronic surveillance device (TPS-1B located at Rockville, Ind) was used but no sighting was reported.

4. Weather: CAVU with bright sun; winds at Chanute AFB on 9 October; surface 270° at 3 knots; 1000 feet to 10,000 feet average direction 315° and at 9 knots average. No physical evidence available. No interceptions made.

5. Mr. ~~Mr. [redacted]~~ stated Charles Warren, a pilot, sighted a similar object on the same date at 1345 CST just east of Paris, Illinois, at 5000 feet. Object was last seen travelling in a north-easterly direction south of atomic energy plant at Newport, Indiana.

6. Although accurate measurement of the distance between sighting number one by Mr. ~~Mr. [redacted]~~ and sighting number two by Mr. Warren is not possible from the information furnished, it appears as though the object could not have been travelling more than 600 MPH (30 miles from Hulman Airport to Newport) if the two sightings were of the same object.

James L. Hudelson
JAMES L. HUDELSON
Major, USAF
Chief, Opnl Intel Div

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16-55570-1 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950-O-518332

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Appendix VIII

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA - 9 October 1951

On 9 October 1951 at 1342 CST, a CAA Chief Aircraft Communicator observed a silver object pass directly overhead while he was at Milan Municipal Airport, five miles east of Terre Haute, Indiana. The object was judged to be approximately the same size as a 50 cent piece held at arm's length. The object passed overhead at a very high rate of speed going in a southeasterly direction, passing from directly overhead to the horizon in about 15 seconds. There was no sound or vapor trails. The shape and general form of the object could be seen as the object passed over the horizon and out of sight.

(For related incident, see Appendix IX.)

Weather

Clear, bright sun, no clouds or haze.

Status of Investigation

Further details on the incident will be obtained but it is doubtful if any further information will indicate the possible identity of the object.

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EXTRACT Status Report 2

Appendix V

TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA - 9 October 1951

I. DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT

On 9 October 1951 at 1342 CST, a CAA Chief Aircraft Communicator observed a silver object pass directly overhead while he was at Hulman Municipal Airport, five miles east of Terre Haute, Indiana. The object was judged to be approximately the same size as a 50 cent piece held at arm's length. The object passed overhead at a very high rate of speed going in a southeasterly direction, passing from directly overhead to the horizon in about 15 seconds. There was no sound or vapor trails. The shape and general form of the object could be seen as the object passed over the horizon and out of sight.

(For related incident, see Appendix VI.)

II. WEATHER

Clear, bright sun, no clouds or haze.

III. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

Further investigation revealed no additional information.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

None.

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