

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 1. 29/0220Z 28 Feb 53 2. 29/0230Z	2. LOCATION Dover AFB, Delaware
3. SOURCE military (mult)	10. CONCLUSION ASTRONOMICAL: VENUS
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS ONE	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1. 15 min 2. 5 min	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ground visual	1. One object of alternating colors predominantly red was observed 20 deg above W horizon at a stationary position. Obj disappeared by fading out.
7. COURSE 1. -- 2. NW	2. White obj later becoming a deep red was observed very close to the W horizon.
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☐ No	(Multiple Reports)

FORM

FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

ACTION

2 MAR 1953 10 44 Z

27 FEB 53 21

39z

1. atia
3. atia
3. C. files

RF176

WPB184

YDC200

TYB313

TMA287

CBD174

TMB212V

JEPOD 33

PP JEPHQ JEPFF JEPEO JEDWP JEDEN 555

DE JEPOD 13A

P 271811Z —

FM CG 30TH ABS ATLD MATS DOVER. AFB DEL

1953 FEB 27

17:35

26/2130
Dover, Del

(Unclassified) Unidentified Flying Object over Delaware.

Delaware

Intelligence Division, ATLD-MATS
Westover AF Base, Mass.

4 March 1953

26 February 1953

F-6

P. K. MEAD, Major, USAF

Statements by personnel at 80th ABS,
Dover, Del.

IR-805-52, dtd 21 Nov 52

1. The following information was received from the 80th Air Base Squadron, ATLD-MATS, Dover, Delaware. The date of the information is 26 February 1953.
2. "Approximately 2130 hours, 26 February 1953 several Air Force personnel observed a predominantly red light in the western sky. Personnel made their observations from the same relative area, within 300 yards of each other, and the majority concurred that although the object appeared predominantly red to "deep red", it initially appeared "white", later irregularly alternating to yellow, green, red, and back to white.
3. "All viewers declared this object to be the lowest eminence above the horizon, all were generally in agreement that its size, shape and speed of movement were indefinable, that its course was from due West to Northwest. All agreed to the absence of sound, smoke, vapor and that the object ultimately appeared to drop over the horizon.
4. "The Officer-of-the-Day was contacted, informed of the incident, scanned the area of the sighting with negative results. Personnel apparently were inclined to muse over the incident and possibly wasted valuable time. From a personal knowledge of the observers, it is the impression that all chroniclers are reliable, not given to exaggeration, and inherently sincere.
5. "Dover Tower Log reflected no air traffic in their vicinity. Intelligence Officer, 4710th Air Defense Wing, New Castle County Airport, Delaware reported several F-4 aircraft, belonging to the 96th FIS, airborne on other missions at the time of Dover sighting. 96th FIS Pilots reported no sightings, has no knowledge of the purported existence and were not alerted.
6. "Existing weather at time of report was clear sky, visibility 8 miles, sea level pressure 29.66, temperature 44°, dew point 30, surface winds South West at 3 knots, altimeter reading 966. Winds aloft at 12 thousand feet from 260° at 60 knots, 15 thousand feet from 270° at 70 to 75 knots, 20 thousand feet from 270° at 85 knots."

APPROVED BY:

PREPARED BY:

MADISON C. THOMAS, Major, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Division
Directorate of PlansP. K. MEAD, Major, USAF
Chief, Current Intelligence Branch

- #1-Statement of Lt Leslie
- #2-Statement of A/2C Candido
- #3-Statement of A/1C Taylor

ATTC ✓

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

TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTELL HQ USAF WASH DC

JEDWP/AIR TECH INTELL CTR WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB DAYTON OHIO

JEDEN/ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COLO

JEPFF/COMATS USAF ANDREWS AFB MD

JEPEO/CO ATLD MATS WESTOVER AFB MASS

O&T 286B PD ATTN: ATIAA-2C ATTN INTELL DIVPD FLYOBRT PD SINGLE WHITE
BRILLIANCE LATER BECOMING DEEP RED IN DETERMINATE SIZE AND DISTANCE
CMA LOWEST LIGHT ON HORIZON BY GRND OBSERVATION CMA NO SOUND PD INITIALLY
OBSERVED COLOR WHITE CMA WHICH CHANGED TO DEEP RED AS OBJECT WITHDREW
PD TIME OF SIGHTING 2130 EST TO 2135 EST 26 FEB 53 PD VISUAL GRND OBSV
BY THREE MIL PERS ON DOVER AFB DEL PD ALL PLACED OBJ DUE WEST OF DOVER
AFB PROCEEDING TO NORTHWEST WHERE IT DISAPPEARED PD EXISTING WEATHER
AT TIME OF OBSV WAS CLEAR SKY CMA VIS 8 MILES CMA SEA LEVEL PRESS 2966
CMA TEMP 44 DEG CMA DEW POINT 30 CMA SURF WIND SW AT 3 KNOTS CMA ALT
READING 966 PD WINDS ALOFT AT 12 THOUSAND FT FR 260 DEG AT 60 KNOTS CMA

PAGE TWO JEPOD 13A

16 THOUSAND FT FR 270 DEG AT 70 TO 75 KNOTS CMA 20 THOUSAND FT FR 270
DEG AT 35 KNOTS PD SEVERAL F-94 ACFT OF 96TH FIS NEW CASTLE COUNTY APT
DEL ABN AT TIME OF SIGHT PD PILOTS HAD OTHER MISSION CMA DID NOT SIGHT
OR PURSUE OBJ

27/1800Z FEB JEPOD

ey!

27 Feb. 53

At approx. 2115, I was on my way to the N. C. O. club, when I spotted a red light in the sky. Its position was approx. North by North West. When I got there, I called some of my friends outside to see it. They all said they saw it, some said it was moving slightly from side to side, others said it was moving away. It change colors in this order, Red, Blue and white. Its predominate color was Red. At approx 2130 it was getting real small, seemed to be moving away. At 2135 it was gone, it having disappeared some distance on the horizon.

Pat A. Condit

A/2c

AF 12294106

Per. Ser.

Saw H F Base
Xa H.B. 50,
1, 1, 1,
1, 1, 1,

27 Feb 1953

On or about ²¹³⁰ 1930 hrs. on 26 Feb 1953
I saw a object in the sky. I can not specify
a definite shape of this object because it
was far in the horizon. I can not specify
how far or close this object was.

When I first saw this object it was
white and gradually turned to red as it
dropped in the horizon. It then disappeared.
My position was ~~sitting~~ in front of the NCO
Club. It took a period of 15 minutes to
disappear. ~~No vapor or smoke was~~
the sky was clear.

Henry E. Kishel
214th VSHF

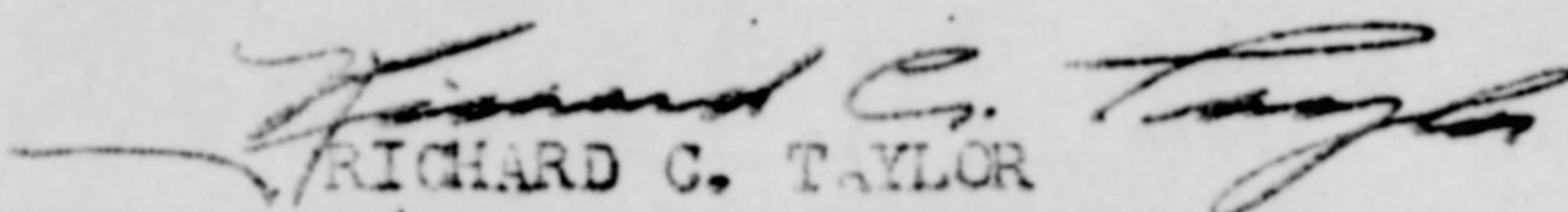
DOVER AIR FORCE BASE

27 Feb 1953

On the night of February 26, 1953, I, A/1C Richard C. Taylor sighted an unknown and unidentifiable object in the sky. When sighted the object was approximately 4000 feet high and looked to be slowly loosing altitude. The object was moving North West at a speed which I could not estimate because the object was moving directly away from me.

When first sighted the object seemed suspended and was emitting a bright red light. As I watched it, it changed colors from red to white to yellow to green and continued to do so but in no set pattern.

When I sighted the object I was at the base theater, leaving for the Photo Lab. With me were A/2C Charles Brown and A/2C Karl Helgeson who also saw the object. Walking toward the Photo Lab, which is approximately North West of the theater, the object seemed to lose altitude and slowly recede. Upon reaching the the Photo Lab we lost sight of the object over the horizon. The time of this sighting was approximately 2130 and continued for about 20 minutes. Upon first sighting it I reported it to the O. D.


RICHARD C. TAYLOR

A/1C

USAF

NGOIC BASE PHOTO LAB

Incl # 3 of AF-173-53

REPLY LINE 01-032A 002 CTEAN SNA CNA MO CTORES CNY AIZ 2 AITIS CAV

BYEY LNO 22500 12V

MOBIL CAV MA CNY HCLIBED CNY YLAI2ED MO 102VADFE 5D EXISTING

ACTION

-3 MAR 1953 14 00 23 Z 3 MAR 53 00

26

*1. Atte
2. Atte
3. C. Jiles*

RB008

WPB006E

YDB001

TYE101

TMA122

CBE070

JEPOD 43

PP JEPHQ JEPEO JEPFF JEDWP JEDEN 555

ATIC
1953 MAR 3
08:35
INFOR
INFOR

UNCLASSIFIED
IR-197-53*78/2/21*
0.004
APB1
DEL

(Unclassified) Unidentified Flying Object over Delaware.

Delaware

Intelligence Division, ATLD-MATS
Westover AF Base, Mass.

9 March 1953

28 February 1953

F-6

P. K. MEAD, Major, USAF

Statements by personnel at 80th ABS,
Dover AF Base, Del.

IR-805-52, dtd 21 Nov 52, IR-171-53, 27 Feb 53

1. The following information was received from the 80th Air Base Squadron, ATLD-MATS, Dover AFB, Delaware. The date of the information is 28 February 1953. A copy of the aforementioned report was forwarded to CG, 26th Air Div., Roslyn, N.Y.

2. "Approximately 2121 through 2135 hours, 28 February 1953, four Air Force Personnel witnessed a single object of alternating colors due West of Dover AF Base. All witnesses made their observations from the Base and within an eighth of a mile of one another. Two of the witnesses, A/2C Pasquale Candido and A/B Leonard G. Whitney, have recently made similar reported sightings.

3. "All observers reported a continual series of alternating colors of no set pattern, with red seemingly predominant, and an object position of approximately 20° above the horizon pursuing a very gradual course from West to North-Northwest. No sound, smoke or vapor was reported. Object ultimately appeared to fade away or disappear over the horizon.

4. "Officer observer requested scramble from Controller of 770th AC&W Squadron at Palermo, New Jersey, but permission was denied by the 26th Air Division since the object had already begun to fade. Officer observer reported no trace of former sight at 2145 hours. Negative air traffic in general area.

5. "Existing weather at the time of sighting was clear sky, no clouds, visibility 6 miles, temperature 30°, surface winds West Southwest at 4 knots. Winds aloft at 12,000 feet from 290° at 60 knots, 15,000 feet from 290° at 70 knots, 20,000 feet from 290° at 100 knots.

6. "Two witnesses mentioned in paragraph 2 were not present on Base for statement. Procedures have been instituted to obviate this possibility in future reportings."

PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

P. K. MEAD, Major, USAF
Chief, Current Intelligence BranchMADISON C. THOMAS, Major, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Division
Directorate of Plans

2

Incl 1-Statement of Lt Bracken

Incl 2-Statement of A/2C Helgeson

ATTC ✓

UNCLASSIFIED

DOWNGRADED AT 2
DECLASSIFIED

FM CO 80TH ABS ATLD MATS DOVER AFB DEL

TO JEPHQ/DIR/INTELL HQ USAF WASH DC

JEDWP/AIR TECH INTELL CTR WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB DAYTON OHIO

JEDEN/CG ADC ENT AF COLO SPRINGS COLO

INFO JEPFF/COMATS ANDREWS AFB WASH DC

JEPEO/COMDR ATLD MATS WESTOVER AFB MASS

APM 19C PD ATTN ATIAA-2C ATTN INTEL DIV FLYOBRPT PD SINGLE OBJ OF

ALTERNATIVE COLORS CMA INDETERMINATE SHAPE AND SIZE CMA PREDOMINANTLY

RED CMA LOWEST LIGHT ON HORIZON BY GRND OBSERVATION PD INDETERMINATE

ALTITUDE CMA DISTANCE CMA AND SPEED PD NEGATIVE SOUND AND SMOKE PD

TIME OF SIGHTING APPROX 2120 EST TO 2135 EST CMA 28 FEB 53 PD OBJ

POSITION CMA APPROX 20 DEG ABOVE WEST HORIZON PD OBSERVATION BY THREE

MIL PERSONNEL AT DOVER AFB AND UNK CIV PD AS OBJ BEGAN TO FADE CMA

CONTROLLER CMA 770 AC & W SQ CMA PALERMO CMA NJ CMA NOTIFIED PD

CONTROLLER ADVISED NO SCRAMBLE AS OBJ DISAPPEARING PD 26TH AIR DIV CMA

ROSLYN CMA NY CMA NOTIFIED CMA ADVISED NO SCRAMBLE PD EXISTING

PAGE TWO JEPOD 16A

WEA AT TIME OF OBSV WAS CLEAR SKY CMA NO CLOUDS CMA VIS 6 MILES CMA

TEMP 30 DEG CMA SURF WIND WEST SOUTH WEST AND 4 KNOTS PD WINDS ALOFT

12 THOUSAND FROM 290 DEGREES AT 60 KNOTS PD 15 THOUSAND FROM 290 DEGREES

AT 70 KNOTS PD 30 THOUSAND FROM 290 DEGREES AT 100 KNOTS PD NEGATIVE

TRAFFIC IN GENERAL AREA PD

32/2235Z MAR JEPOD

Cy 1

2 March 1953

ON the nights of February 27th and 28th, 1953, I observed an unidentified object in the sky at approximately 2120 hours.

The object appeared to be stationary in the sky and its approximate position was north-north west. It was approximately 20 degrees above the horizon.

As I continued to watch the object, it changed colors. When first observed it was a bright red. It then changed from red to white to yellow to green. It repeated this changing of colors but in no particular pattern.

On observing it for about ten minutes it started to recede on a north-north west course and appeared to lose altitude.

I watched it for about ten minutes more, after which time it was lost to sight over the horizon.

On the night of February 28th, its action were the same as the previous night except in the last ten minutes of its occurrence it swerved out of its course by approximately 15 degrees in less than 5 seconds. It swerved onto its original course with the same speed and disappeared over the horizon.

Karl A. Helgeson
Karl A. Helgeson
A/2C USAF
A.F. 11 217 210

Enclosure #2 to 2R-197-53.

27 MAR. 53

At approximately 2100 on 28 Feb 53
the base Photo Lab called me and said
that a civilian in Nouer had reported
an unidentified object NNW of the field.
I went immediately to the control
tower and observed this object through
field glasses. The object appeared to be
due west of the field and about
20° to the horizon. It seemed to
flicker in color from red, pink, white,
& then green toward the top. A/B Howard
G. Whitney was the tower operator
on duty at the time and also observed
this object. I personally observed
this object from 2120 to 2135 on
the above date. At the latter time
it appeared to fade away until
Enclosure #1 to 2R-197-53

no long - visible. When I
first reached the tower & actually
saw this light I observed it for
2 or 3 minutes before I called
the 46th F.I.S. NOX Room & requested
the person on duty to call the
770th AC & W sq. In turn the 770th
AC & W sq. Controller called 26th
Air Division. However Division stated
that since the object was ^{beginning} ~~fade~~ they
would not scramble an aircraft.

I left the tower at approximately
2145 and at that time no trace
of the object was visible.

Harold A. Krueger
1/41 USAF 401853461

11
[REDACTED]
52 10
Dover Air Force Base, Delaware

26 February 1953

I. Description of Incident

At 2130 EST a dull red colored light was observed low on the western horizon by several military personnel. The light was slowly moving from west to northwest alternating color from yellow, green, red, and back to white. After being observed for approximately five minutes, object disappeared below the horizon.

II. Discussion of Incident

Observers were, in the opinion of the preparing officer, reliable. At the time of sighting, weather was clear, visibility eight miles. F-94's in area on other missions noticed nothing unusual. Due to the fact that the light was seen moving from west to northwest low on the horizon and then to disappear over the horizon and that the planet Venus can be seen in that direction very plainly during this part of the year, it is quite certain that the light observed was Venus. ATIC's contract astronomer was consulted and he concluded that the object observed was definitely Venus.

III. Conclusion

Astronomical - Venus.

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

UNCLASSIFIED

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~
52 10
Dover Air Force Base, Delaware

28 February 1953

I. Description of Incident

At 2121 EST four AF personnel observed a single light of alternating colors with red predominant. The light was due west of Dover Air Force Base and about 20° above the horizon pursuing a very gradual course from west to northwest. No sound, smoke or vapor was observed. It appeared to fade away or disappear over the horizon. There was no air traffic in the area.

II. Discussion of Incident

As in the case of the Dover sighting of 26 Feb 53, it was the opinion of ATIAE-5 that Venus caused this sighting. ATIC's contract astronomer was contacted and definitely concluded that it was Venus.

III. Conclusion

Was Venus.

UNCLASSIFIED

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

53-3695

74
~~UNCLASSIFIED~~