

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 1 March 53 02/0230Z	2. LOCATION Dover AFB, Delaware
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION Astronomical (VENUS)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 15 minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Bright light of alternating colors, spherical in shape was observed approximately 5 deg above horizon disappearing by fading out.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE	COMMENTS: Two previous reports from Dover F3 indicate that same object was observed on 26 Mar 53 and 28 Mar 53 at approximately same time of day. Venus responsible.
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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

• EYGE LHO "EROD STV

ACTIONS

Multiple

4 MAR 53 05 43 Z
MAR 79 53 14 44 Z

24
1. Atrial
2. Atr
3. C. files

ATI

27.

45

Y.

2

FM CO 80TH ABS ATLD MATS DOVER AFB DEL
TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTELL HQ USAF WASH DC
JEDWP/AIR TECH INTELL CTR WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB DAYTON OHIO

JEDEN/CG ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COLO

JEPFF/COMATS USAF ANDREWS AFB MD

JEPEO/COMDR ATLD MATS WESTOVER AFB MASS

O&T 34C PD ATTN ATIAA-2C ATTN INTELL DIV FLYOBRPT PD SINGLE INITIALLY
BRIGHT OBJ OF ALTERNATING COLORS CMA SPHERICAL SHAPE CMA EST FIFTY FEET
ACROSS CMA RELATIVELY NO SPEED CMA ESTIMATED DISTANCE FIVE TO TEN MILES
PD OBSERVERS LOCATION DOVER AFB CONTROL TOWER CMA OBJ POSITION 270 DEG
CMA 5 DEG ABOVE HORIZON PD OBSVD BY SIX MIL PERS CMA FIVE OF WHOM RATED
PD PERMISSION TO SCRAMBLE DENIED BY 26 AIR DIV VIA GCI CONTROLLER
CMA PALERMO CMA NJ PD TIME OF SIGHTING APPROX 2130 EST THRU 2145 EST
CMA 1 MAR 53 PD OBJ APPEARED TO FADE OUT OR MOVER AWAY PD EXISTING
WEA AT TIME OF SIGHT WAS 12 THOUSAND FEET SCATTERED CLOUDS CMA 25
THOUSAND FEET THIN OVER CAST CMA VIS 7 MILES CMA TEMP 23 DEG CMA DEW

271865

PAGE TWO JEPOD 01A

PT 18 CMA SURF WINDS NORTHEAST AT 3 KNOTS CMA ALTIMETER 3030 PD WINDS
ALOFT 12 THOUSAND FROM 290 DEG AT 65 KNOTS CMA 16 THOUSAND FROM 230
DEG AT 90 TO 100 KNOTS CMA 20 THOUSAND FROM 270 DEG AT 60 KNOTS PD
NEGATIVE AIR TRAFFIC GENERAL AREA

04/0050Z MAR JEPOD

Cy 1

(Unclassified) Unidentified Flying Object over Delaware.

Delaware

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

9 March 1953

1 March 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 1 March 1953. A copy of this report was forwarded to CG, 26th Air Div., Roslyn, N.Y.

2. "Approximately 2135 to 2145 hours 1 March 1953, six (6) Air Force personnel, five of whom were rated, observed an object from the Dover AFB Control Tower at a position of 270°, five degrees elevation.

3. "According to one observer, an A/W pilot who is considered very astute and one of the alertest, the object was placed at five to ten miles distant, and thereby 'guesstimated' as being fifty feet across. Object shape appeared spherical with the top half the color of a full moon and the bottom half continually changing color from yellow to dark red to a deep orange. No sound, speed, maneuvers or exhaust and the observation ended when light appeared to fade out. Sight made with and without 10 power glasses.

4. "Request to scramble was relayed to 770th AC&W Squadron, Palermo, N.J., but Controller denied pilot permission upon advice of 26th Air Division, Roslyn, New York. No air traffic in general area.

5. "Existing weather at time of sight was 12,000 feet scattered clouds, 25,000 feet thin overcast, visibility seven miles, temperature 28°, dew point 18, surface winds Northeast at 8 knots, altimeter reading 3030. Winds aloft at 12,000 feet from 290° at 65 knots, 16,000 feet from 280° at 90 to 100 knots, 20,000 feet from 270° at 60 knots.

6. "Prevalent explanation of object at New Castle County Airport, Delaware, is that observers are sighting Planet Jupiter. This explanation purportedly emanated from unidentified navigator who plotted object."

PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

P. K. MEAD, Major, USAF
Chief, Current Intelligence Branch

Madison U. Thomas, Major, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Division
Directorate of Plans

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Incl 1-Statement of Lts Rogers & Simpson
Incl 2-Statement of A/2C Wickert

AIRWAYS AND AIR COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE
DETACHMENT 1912-3 AACS SQUADRON
Dover AF Base, Delaware

2 March 1953

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object over Dover, Delaware

TO: Detachment Commander
Det 1912-3 AACS
Dover AFB, Del

1. At approximately 1920 EST the Dover AFB Control Tower received a call from the 46th FIS operations, the subject was an unidentified flying object over the city of Dover Delaware. This call was received from an officer of the base and then forwarded through the 46th FIS to the Control Tower. The tower asked to speak to an officer, this was done, within fifteen (15) minutes five (5) officers came to the tower. Their names are as follows: Lt Rogers, Lt England, Lt Miller, Lt Knight and Lt Simpson. No one could spot the object with the naked eye or binoculars.

2. At 2130 EST another object was spotted by the tower, first person to see object was A/30 Zimmer, Flight Data man in the tower. Immediately I called the 46th FIS and requested that an officer check the object. Five (5) minutes later two (2) officers, Lt Rogers and Lt Simpson, arrived at the tower and verified the report. The closest description I could give would be, it looked circular and would be very bright orange and then fade out then slowly return brighter, within fifteen (15) minutes the object just faded out, but seemed to remain in the same place, looked to be over the city of Dover Delaware, west of Dover AFB. Just before the object faded out the officers were leaving to go after the object, then the object disappeared and the officers, before leaving, told us to scramble the aircraft if anything appears again, and they in turn would let the Radar station know immediately, in case it appeared again. The weather report at this time was one five zero zero zero (15,000) overcast with about six (6) miles visibility. I called M/Sgt White and informed him of the object. The Officer of the Day, Lt Gillard of the 1737th Ferrying Sq, also called the tower to inquire about the object.

3. No more objects were spotted or reported the remainder of our shift, 1700 to 2400.

s/t/WILLIAM E. WICKERT, Jr. A/20
Senior Controller

A True Copy

JOSEPH W. BLAIR

1st Lt., USAF

2nd Lt. IR-176-53

Paragraph 5, ADCL 200-1

(a) For the approximate distance the light appeared to be away, it would have to be at least fifty feet across. As to color, the top half appeared to be the same color as a full moon and the bottom half continually changed from yellow to dark red to a deep orange. The light appeared spherical in shape. Number of the lights: one. It had no outstanding aerodynamic features, but was exceptionally bright at the initial time of sighting. No trail or exhaust. Type of propulsion unknown. Relatively no speed. No sound. Maneuvers, none. Manner of disappearing: Light slowly faded out; could have become dim due to slowly moving away. Other unusual features: bottom half of light continually changed from yellow to dark red to a deep orange throughout the observation.

(b) Time of sighting: Exactly 2135 to 2145, 1 March 53

(c) Manner of sighting: With and without 10X field glasses.

(d) Location of observer: Dover AFB Control tower platform. Location of light from observation position: 270 degrees about 5 degrees elevation approximately 5-10 miles.

(e) One of the undersigned observers has been an experienced pilot for the past nine years and the other observer is a rated R/O.

(f) Weather sequence: Unknown. Observers estimate of weather condition: Clear and 20 miles vis.

(g) Any Metro activity: None known.

(h) Existence of any physical evidence: None

(i) Interception or identification action taken: Lt. Rogers, A/W pilot, who at the time of sighting was sitting on a 5 minute standby Air Defense Alert, requested permission from the GCI station to scramble and attempt to intercept the object. The GCI controller contacted 26th Air Division about the request but was refused. After the pilot's request for a scramble was refused, he and the rest of the observers watched the light until it finally disappeared.

Wilbert S. Rogers
Wilbert S. Rogers
1st Lt USAF

Francis J. Simpson
Francis J. Simpson
2nd Lt. USAF