

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 25 June 55		2. LOCATION Hillcrest Heights, Maryland		12. CONCLUSIONS XXX ☐ Was Balloon ☒ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 26/0245Z (N)		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION XX ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes XXX ☒ No		6. SOURCE civilian & military		☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 7 Min		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE E	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Round. Yellowish, very brilliant had a trail 4 to 5 times the length of object. No sound. Sometimes stopped, then "oscillated," then moved off at high speed. Erratic motion. 15 pages				11. COMMENTS Awaiting 4602d AISS evaluation. - 7/22/55 - Prob Ball. WX Balloon released from Silver Hill WX Observatory.	

Multi IN

27 JUN 1957 07 52

53114
ATIC O.D.
28 JUN 57 07 20
DA
0745Z-DA
0806Z-
will be in AM
in AM

WFF066 YMA070 TYB087 TMA037NLA014

PP RJEDEN RJEPNY RJEDWP RJEPHQ RJEPNB RJEPJR

DE RJEPNL 4E

P 260545Z

FM COMDR 647TH AC&W SQ MANASSAS VA

TO RJEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO

RJEPNY/COMDR 26TH AD ROSLYN NY

RJEDWP/COMDR AIRTECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJEPHQ/DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE HQ USAF WASH DC

RJEPNB/COMDR 4602ND AISS STEWART AFB NY

RJEPJR/COMDR 4602ND NLIGHT 3H MEGUIRE AFB NJ

RJEPNE/COMDR HQ EADF STEWART AFB NY

BT

/U N C L A S/ ACCMO 5-738 PD ATTN: CIC PD SUBJECT:UFOB FOUR
REPORTS ON ONE OBJECT

1.

A. ROUND

B. GRAPEFRUIT WITH TRAIL

C. YELLOWISH VERY BRILLIANT

D. ONE (1)

E. NEGATIVE DATA

F. NEGATIVE DATA

G. TRAIL FOUR(4) TO FIVE (5) TIMES THE LENGTH OF OBJECT

1 ATIA
2 ATIG
3 ATIG
4 Kfile

PAGE TWO RJEPNL 4E

H. NO SOUND

I. OSCILLATED AT TIMES THEN STOPPED OSCILLATED MOVED OFF

2

A. APPROACHED OBSERVERS HOME WITH ERRATIC MOTION

B. FROM 45 DEG ELEVATION TO OVERHEAD

C. FROM OVERHEAD TO 45 DEG

D. ERRATIC MOTION - FLT PATH FROM NATL AIRPORT TO HILLCREST HIGHTS MD

E. MOVED OFF AT HIGH SPEED

F. SEVEN (7) MINUTES

3.

A. GROUND - VISUAL

B. NONE

C. N/A

4

A. 26/0245Z

B. NIGHT

T

A. PK0502 (ESTIMATED)

6

A. CIVILIAN - MR [REDACTED] SR 54 YEARS OLD [REDACTED]

HILLCREST HIGHTS

7-3745-5

PAGE THREE RJEPNL 4E

WASH 21 DC ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO CONGRESSMAN [REDACTED] MR [REDACTED]

B. MILITARY -- COL. EW KELLY HQ MATS - DIRECTOR OF PLANS - RELIABILITY

- EXCELLENT -- MAJ. LE CURDES - HQ MATS MANPOWER AND ORGANIZATION

-EXCELLENT

7

A. 4,000 TO 6,000 FT CEILING OVERCAST VIS 8 MI

B. 6,000 250 DEG 25KTS

10,000 270 DEG 40KTS

16,000 240 DEG 50KTS

20,000 250 DEG 55KTS

30,000 280 DEG 65KTS

45,000 270 DEG 48KTS

50,000 NEGATIVE DATA

80,000 NEGATIVE DATA

C. 4,000 OVERCAST

D. 7 MILES

E. OVERCAST

F. MAINLY S AND SE

8. NONE

PAGE FOUR RJEPNL 4E

9. NONE

10. NONE

11. 1ST/LT ALFRED J RICKEY SR DIRECTOR GCI COMMENTS: NONE

12. NONE-NOTE-OBSERVERS STATE THAT SEVERAL SEARCH-LIGHTS WERE TRAINED ON THE UFOB AND THAT THE LIGHTS WENT OUT WHEN THE BEAM APPROACHED THE UFOB THE CEILING LIGHTS AT WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT WENT OUT WHEN

F. MAINLY S AND SE

8. NONE

PAGE FOUR RJEPNL 4E

9. NONE

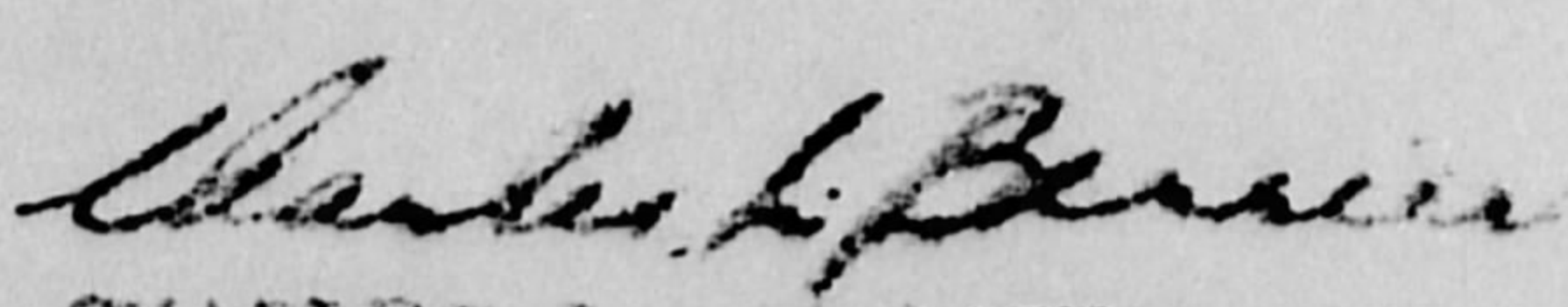
10. NONE

11. 1ST/LT ALFRED J RICKEY SR DIRECTOR GCI COMMENTS: NONE

12. NONE-NOTE-OBSERVERS STATE THAT SEVERAL SEARCH-LIGHTS WERE TRAINED ON THE UFOB AND THAT THE LIGHTS WENT OUT WHEN THE BEAM APPROACHED THE UFOB THE CEILING LIGHTS AT WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT WENT OUT WHEN THE UFOB APPROACHED, AND RETURNED TO OPERATION WHEN THE UFOB PASSED OVER PD

BT

26/0600Z JUN RJEPNL

(CLASSIFICATION)		(SECURITY INFORMATION when filled in)	
COUNTRY OF ORIGIN USA	REPORT NO. 3H-UFOB-6-55	(Leave blank)	
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
AREA OF ORIGIN WASHINGTON, D.C.			
AGENCY OF ORIGIN Flight 3-H, 4602d AISS		DATE OF REPORT 30 June 1955	
SOURCE OF INFORMATION Lt/Col. [REDACTED] and others		DATE OF INFORMATION 28 June 1955	
PREPARING OFFICER CHARLES L. BERRIER, 2/Lt., USAF		EVALUATION	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) TT ACCMO 738 FM COMDR 647TH AC&W SQ, MANASSAS, VA.; FOWLECON, W/Sgt Thoennessen, Flight 3-H, & Ops Sq Hdq 27 June 1955.			
SUBJECT UFOB			
SUMMARY (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin report on next line.)			
I. CONTENTS: PART ONE: Description of sighting by Lt/Col. [REDACTED] DCS/Plans, HQ MATS, Andrews AFB, Maryland. (Georef CJRJ 0847) PART TWO: Description of sighting by Maj. Louis E. Curdes, Office of Manpower & Organization, HQ MATS, Andrews AFB, Maryland. PART THREE: Description of sighting by Mr. [REDACTED] Admin. Ass't. to Congressman [REDACTED] (Wash.). PART FOUR: Supplementary Investigative Efforts PART FIVE: Comments of Preparing Officer II. SUMMARY: An unidentified flying object was sighted in the vicinity of Hillcrest Heights, Maryland, (Georef CJRJ 0453), at 26/0242Z June 55. The information contained in this report was obtained from persons visually observing the object and from an investigation conducted to determine the actual cause of the phenomenon. III. INVESTIGATOR: 2/Lt. Charles L. Berrier AO 301981A			
1 INCL. (See Individual Parts)		 CHARLES L. BERRIER 2/Lt, USAF Ass't. CIC, Flt. 3-H	
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR D/I, USAF; Comdr, AFIC; D/I, 26 ADiv; Comdr, 4602d AISS; CIC, Flight 3-H, 4602d AISS			
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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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APPROVED:

John M. White Jr.

JOHN M. WHITE JR
Colonel, USAF
Commander

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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I. SOURCE: [REDACTED], Lt/Col, USAF

Office: [REDACTED], DCS/Plans, MATS Hdq, Andrews AFB, Md.

Home Address: [REDACTED] Hillcrest Heights, Maryland

Age: 38

Occupation: Lt/Col., USAF

Education: College Graduate

Qualifications: Senior Pilot

II. RELIABILITY: Excellent

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: (The following is a verbatim account)

" On 25 June 1955, at approximately 10:45pm (EDST), my wife and I were visiting [REDACTED] and Mrs. [REDACTED] at their home in Hillcrest Heights, Md. At approximately 10:45, a neighbor of the [REDACTED], Mr. [REDACTED], called Maj [REDACTED] to come outside to observe an object in the sky, which Mr. Zumwalt didn't or couldn't identify. We all went outside and looked. The object was a yellow light in the sky, which was moving from East to West, then SW, and moving very rapidly. It seemed to stop and hover for about one minute, then move to the left (SW). There were no airplanes flying at this time. The sky was overcast with five to seven-tenths coverage, visibility over fifteen miles under the overcast. The object seemed to be controlled, because it seemed to hover for awhile and then move. The size and shape can only be guessed at. It was round or at least resembled a glowing light bulb. I looked at my watch as soon as I stepped outside and it read 10:46. We all observed the object for approximately six minutes, after which time the object disappeared."

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I. SOURCE: [REDACTED] Maj., USAF

Office: Office of Manpower & Organization, MATS Hdq., Andrews AFB, Maryland.

Home Address: [REDACTED], Hillcrest Heights, Maryland.

Age: 35

Occupation: Major, USAF

Education: Three years college

Qualifications: Senior Pilot

II. RELIABILITY: Excellent

III. SOURCES DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING:

" We had just finished dinner and had begun watching television on the evening of 25 June 1955 in my home in Hillcrest Heights, Washington 21, D.C., when our neighbor, Mr. [REDACTED], knocked on the door and yelled for us to come outside to observe something (a flying object), which we might be able to identify. Myself, Col. [REDACTED] and guests went out on the front lawn and I immediately checked my watch. It was 10:45 P.M. EDT. We saw a bright, yellowish-orange object, approximately 70° elevation, traveling at great speed in a zigzag course to the Southwest. It stopped and hovered once, then circled and departed in a straight line due west. It appeared to over the vicinity of Washington National Airport from our position as it disappeared into the overcast, at about 30° elevation. When it had disappeared, I again checked my watch and it was 10:51 P.M. EDT.

The object at no time emitted any noise, nor did it change color or intensity. It appeared to have a triangular-shaped tailcone attached to the round object the size of a grapefruit. Both the tail cone and the circular part of the light were of the same color and intensity. At no time did this object change color, nor did it appear to get larger or smaller from the time of my first observation until it disappeared into the overcast."

(Signed)

[REDACTED]

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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I. SOURCE: [REDACTED] Address: [REDACTED] Hillcrest Heights, Maryland Age: 54 Occupation: Administrative Ass't to [REDACTED] (Wash). Education: College Graduate Qualifications: Good vision and above average intelligence II. RELIABILITY: Good III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: SOURCE had been standing in the driveway of his home when his son brought his attention to a strange object in the sky. The first impression was that it might have come from a landing gear of an aircraft, however, the absence of noise seemed to rule this out as a possibility. The time of the original sighting was 10:43 P.M. EDT. A brilliant red ball of light was passing overhead from east to west at what SOURCE estimated to have been 2000 to 3000 feet. There was no visible outline of the object nor was there any trail of exhaust. There was also no sound of aircraft aloft in the area, which is extremely rare. SOURCE further estimated the object's course to have been on a direct line from Andrews AFB, Md., to Washington Nat'l. Airport. It continued on this course until directly over Washington Nat'l, where it hovered for ten to fifteen seconds. As the object hovered, <u>its light blinked off for approximately three seconds, then came back on, shifting course abruptly 90° to the left.</u> As the object proceeded now on a southwesterly course, SOURCE called next door for Maj. Curdes to come outside and help identify the object. It then shifted directions several times as it <u>rose gradually</u>, disappearing finally into the overcast. The phenomenon was observed for a period of ten minutes.		

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SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS:

1. A check with the Air Traffic Control Center at Washington National Airport revealed that the only information which they had on the UFOB was what had been relayed to them by Maj. Curdes. They had received no confirmation either from their units or from any surrounding radar installations.
2. The Ass't. Operations Officer at Andrews AFB was contacted. Confirmation negative. The above-referred officer contacted the local AC&W Det, GCA unit, each giving negative reports.
3. Maj. Springer and Capt. Casey at Bolling AFB Operations reported negative confirmation of the June 25 sighting. Capt. Casey helped contact the Flight Service Center at Washington National, which was unable to offer any confirmation.
4. A phone call to Capt. Gray, Ass't. Supt. of the Washington Naval Observatory, revealed that no UFOB's had been sighted by his faculty for over a year. Results negative.
5. The Director of the Georgetown University Observatory was contacted but was unable to give confirmation. Their observations on the night of 25 June had been restricted to less than an hour due to a heavy overcast.
6. A check with the Silver Hill Weather Observatory (Hillcrest Heights, Md.), located approximately five blocks from the area of first sighting of the UFOB, produced the following information: Namely, that twice daily, 0500 EST and 2200 EST, weather balloons are released from their station. One of these balloons had been released at about 10:45 EDST, 25 June 1955, containing a small, bright magnesium light. The ground winds at 10:45 EDST were 7 Knots East. (From the east) At 2000' the wind was from the NE. At 6000' the wind had shifted to the NW. Such wind conditions could easily have carried the balloon along the approximate path of the unidentified object.
7. The Baltimore Filter Center was contacted but no information could be furnished on the June 25 sighting.
8. The Ground Observer Corps Hdq. in the Pentagon was contacted. Results negative.
9. Both the Processing Branch and D&D of DCS/OPS, Hdq. USAF were contacted but results were negative.
10. Col. Mason at the Command Post, Hdq. USAF was called by telephone, but aside from the information which Maj. Curdes had relayed to him nothing additional had been reported to his office in regard to the June 25 sighting.
11. Finally, the DCS/I, MATS, Lt/Col. Rhody, was interviewed at Andrews AFB. He surrendered a copy of his report of the incident to the 4602d AISS Investigating Officer. From conversations which he had had with the authorities at the Silver Hill Weather Station regarding weather and wind conditions at the time of the balloon's release (10:45 EDST 25 June 1955), Lt. Col. Rhodes concluded that the UFOB sighted could have been this very same balloon.

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Weather data during observed flight of UFOB:

Ceiling	Condition of Clouds	Visibility
4000'	Complete overcast	8 miles

Winds Aloft during observed flight of UFOB:

Altitude	Degrees	Knots
6,000'	250	25
10,000	270	40
18,000	240	50
20,000	250	55
30,000	280	65
45,000	170	48
50,000	Neg	Neg
80,000	Neg	Neg

1 Incl:

1. TT MSG FRM COMDR 647TH AC&W SQ, MANASSAS, VA.

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TT MSG FRM COMDR 647th AC&W SQ MANASSAS VA

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

JRA009

PP RUFEN RUEPNY CJEDWP RUEPHQ RDUPNE RUEPJR

DE RUEPCL 4E

P 28354Z

FM COMDR 647TH AC&W SQ MANASSAS VA

TO RUEEN/COMDR ENT AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO

RUEPNY/COMDR 26TH AD ROSLYN NY

RUEPWP/COMDR AIRTECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

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RUEPHE/COMDR 4602D AISS STEWART AFB NY

RUEPJR/COMDR 4602D AISS FLIGHT 3H MCQUIRE AFB NJ

RUEPND/COMDR RADE STEWART AFB NY

BT

/E B C L A S/ ACCMO -738 PD ATTN: CIC PD SUBJECT: UFOB FMUR

REPORTS ON MNS OBJECT

1.

A. ROUND

B. GRAPEFRUIT WITH TRAIL

C. YELLOWISH VERY BRILLIANT

D. ONE(1)

E. NEGATIVE DATA

F. RELATIVE DATA

G. TRAIL FOUR(4) TO FIVE(5) TIMES THE LENGTH OF OBJECT

PAGE TWO RUEPNL 4E

H. NO SOUND

1. OSCILLATED AT TIMES THEN STOPPED AUCIPLATED MOVED OFF

2.

A. APPROACHED OBSERVERS HOME WITH ERRATIC MOTION

B. FROM 45 DEG ELEVATION TO OVERHEAD

C. FROM OVERHEAD LOI 45NDEC

D. ERRATIC MOTION - FLT PATH FROM NATL AIRPORT TO HILLCREST HEIGHTS MD

E. MOVED OFF AT HIGH SPEED

F. SEVEN MINUTES

3.

A. GROUND- VISUAL

B. NONE

C. N/A

4.

A. 26/0245Z

B. NIGHT

5.

A. PKPTPW (ESTILATED)

6.

A. CIVILIAN - MR [REDACTED] 54 YEARS OLD [REDACTED] HILLCREST HEIGHTS

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WASH 21 DC ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO CONGRESSMAN — MR

JR 28 YEARS OLD SAME ADDRESS - PRINTER

B. MILITARY - COL. — RELIABILITY -

EXCELLENT -- MAJ — H. MATS MANPOWER & ORGANIZATION - EXCELLENT

7.

A. RHPPP TO /4,000 FT CEILING OVERCAST VIS 8 MI

B. 6,000 250 DEG 25 KTS

10,000 270 DEG 40 KTS

18,000 240 DEG 50 KTS

20,000 250 DEG 55 KTS

30,000 260 DEG 65 KTS

45,000 170 DEG 48 KTS

50,000 NEGATIVE DATA

80,000 NEGATIVE DATA

C. 4,000 OVERCAST

D. 7 MILES

E. OVERCAST

F. MAINLY S AND SE

8. NONE

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9. NONE

10. NONE

11. 1/LT ALFRED J RICEY SR DIRECTOR GCI COMMENTS: NONE

12. NONE—NOTE—OBSERVERS STATE THAT SEVERAL SEARCH LIGHTS WERE TRAINED ON THE UFOB AND THAT THE LIGHTS WENT OUT WHEN THE BEAM APPROACHED THE UFOB THE CEILING LIGHTS AT WASH NATL AIRPORT WENT OUT WHEN THE UFOB APPROACHED, AND RETURNED TO OPERATION WHEN THE UFOB PASSED OVER PD

BT

26/0600Z JUN RJEPNL

why?

TRUE COPY:

Charles L. Berrier

CHARLES L. BERRIER

2/Lt, USAF

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COMMENTS: of Preparing Officer:

1. The opinion of the Preparing Officer is that the UFOB sighting of 25 June was in fact the sighting by several observers of a weather balloon being carried aloft through shifting currents of air. It is further the opinion of this officer that the balloon sighted by the several observers in Hillcrest Heights, Maryland was the same which was released by the Silver Hill Weather Observatory at approximately 26/0245Z Ju55.

a. The object's general appearance and behavior seem to have been very deceptive to the observers on the ground.

- (1) First, the object's ~~apparent~~ speed seemed to rule out all possibility of its being a balloon. However, this could easily have been the deception created by the balloon's low altitude at the time it was first observed.
- (2) The object's altitude could easily have been misinterpreted by the observers on the ground since the absence of any sound being emitted from it, in addition to the fact that it was nightfall and the object was suspended in space, would have made it virtually impossible for an observer on the ground to have accurately estimated its altitude.

b. All SOURCES when informed of the coincidence in time of the release of the Silver Hill Observatory balloon and their sighting of the UFOB conferred that the two objects could well have been one and the same.

- ✓ (1) All SOURCES were aware of the nearness of the Silver Hill Observatory to their observation posts in Hillcrest Heights.
- (2) SOURCES generally acknowledged this Officer's belief that the sporadic action of the object can be explained by the constant shifting of wind currents at various altitudes during its ascent, and that the brilliant light observed on the object could easily have been the glow from the magnesium light attached to the Silver Hill balloon.
- (3) The searchlight beam neutralizing phenomenon which was noted in the original TT message was what the Hillcrest Heights observers seemed to see, yet in fact it was probably caused by advertising searchlights in the city some 10 miles away. A clicking on and off at the source of light or a sudden power failure at the source might have given the effect of their being neutralized to an observer 10 miles away.

c. In the absence of any positive radar or other confirmation of the nature of the object sighted, and in view of the overwhelming coincidence surrounding the release of the Silver Hill Weather Observatory balloon on the night of 25 June 1955, this Officer concludes that the phenomenon observed was the ascent of the Silver Hill weather balloon.

Charles L. Berrier
CHARLES L. BERRIER
2/Lt, USAF
Ass't. OIC, Flt. 3H

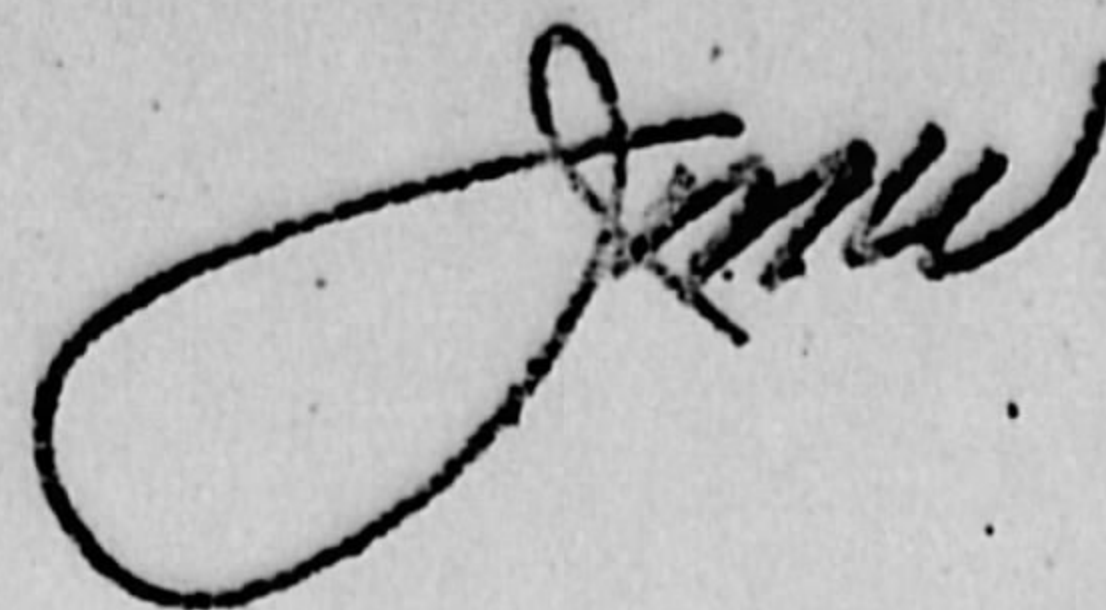
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COMMENTS of Approving Officer:

Concur with the opinion of the Preparing Officer that the sighting was probably caused by the balloon released from the Silver Hill Weather Observatory, Hillcrest Heights, Maryland.



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