

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 26 May 1964 27/0400Z	2. LOCATION Pleasantville, Pennsylvania
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION UNIDENTIFIED
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Case not resolved as conventional object or phenomena. Carried as UNIDENTIFIED.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Varied	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Object was a brilliant white light in a dark field. The brilliance was like that of a flash bulb and as large as the moon or basketball higher in the sky. Observer caught a glimpse of a yellow-orange gaseous bottom of a ball which seemed streaked with blue. It moved at a high rate of speed. Went out of sight in 1-2 seconds. Disappeared and reappeared again, took after it for about 2 miles down the road. It was very low over a field and clearly defined. It looked like a perfect circle of yellow-orange light and was standing still. Object was approx 25 deg off the ground.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE West (?)	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE)

Copy sent to [REDACTED] 14 Oct 65
Previous editions of this form may be used.

UFOs OVER NW PA. CITY NICAP INVESTIGATES

A few days later, we obtained a copy of "The Kane Republican", a newspaper in Kane, Pa. In the issue of October 20th, it reported sightings in the Titusville, Pa. area. (Credit Louise Holt.)

We wrote the Titusville Herald and received an answer from NICAP investigator William B. Weitzel, who was in the area making inquiries. He was kind enough to send us thermofax copies of several cases.

Strange Light Seen At Hilltop Reported . . . October 17, 1964
... Recent reports of UFOs have brought to light a sighting late last May in Pleasantville by two borough residents.

Rev. H. Curtis Shaw, pastor of The First Presbyterian Church in Pleasantville, accompanied by Walter A. MacDonald, reported seeing a "ball of fire" on May 26 or 27 at about 11 P.M.

The two men had been working at the Presbyterian church and were pulling out of Mr. MacDonald's driveway after picking up some equipment, when a large, bright white light, high enough to be mounted on a pole, appeared on the south side of State Street.

Object Reappears . . . The object was approximately as bright as a lightning flash and lasted about four seconds, then disappeared, reappearing on the north side of the street, Mr. Shaw said.

Mr. Shaw followed the ball, now decreased in intensity to about the brilliancy of the moon, as it moved west above State Street. Its color was yellowish at this time, it was reported.

The object traveled west out State Street, coming to a halt near White City Hill, where it hung suspended for a few minutes, then appeared to bounce twice. The watchers shut off the car motor and got out of the vehicle, intending to walk to the top of the hill where the ball seemed to be stationed.

Dwindles Rapidly . . . Suddenly the ball "shot west at a fantastic speed," dwindling to a small pinpoint almost immediately. The effect was as if a camera shutter had been tripped and cut out a large amount of light, he said. Weather conditions at the time of sighting were reported to be relatively clear, and the moon could be seen higher in the sky. The object was clearly defined, and did not seem to have a halo, it was reported.

H. Curtis S.

First United Presbyterian Church

VENANGO COUNTY

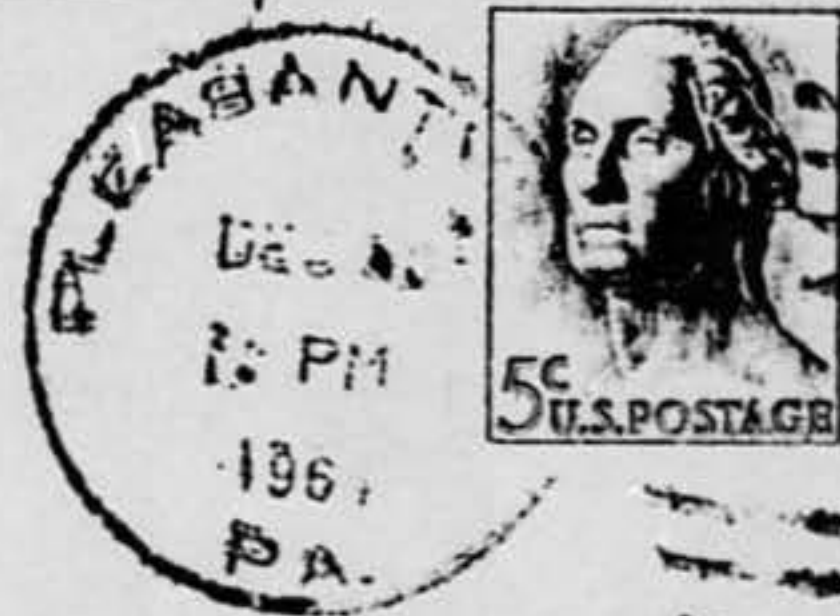
PLEASANTVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA 16341

~~TD EW~~

PROJECT BLUE BOOK

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB

OHIO 454



Rising a little higher, it "shot" west (quite low and with incredible speed, travelling horizontally, and disappeared from sight in about 5 seconds. I drove into Titusville chasing it but it was definitely gone this time.

I didn't talk about this for three months except with [REDACTED]. Then this fall, the local Titusville Newspaper said they had a picture of a UFO. I went to see it and it looked like a cloud. They said the picture was taken below Oil City on Route 8, I believe. It looked like a cloud to me having no particular shape.

The reporter asked me why I had come in. I told him briefly what I had seen in May. He called a man from NICAP (which I had never heard of) who came over to the news office and talked with me a couple of hours and gave me a copy of "The UFO Evidence."

Not long ago he called me and told me to get a copy of the latest issue of "True Magazine" calling my attention to an article by Major Donald Keyhoe. I got the magazine and read it. When I finished it I decided to write a letter to you.

I would like to know if it is true that the Air Force has a policy of censorship concerning all UFO sightings, as Keyhoe asserts.

Most of all I should like to know what you think these white and orange lights were that we saw. NICAP has not been of much help in explaining them except to say that they are space ships from another planet. If this is possible I should like to know this also. I am sure what we saw was no balloon, plane, or bird unless some type which we do not know of.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

HCS/kp

P.S. One detail I neglected to mention. At no time did either of us hear any sound that could be connected with what we were watching.

Also--I could not say for certain that there was a definite connection between the brilliant light first seen and the clear silver white basketball of light. It would appear that they were the same thing or two of the same. I am more certain the yellow-orange lights were the same as we saw it going west ahead of the car and apparently it stopped in the field between Pleasantville and Titusville. We saw it standing still three times, and in motion two times.
(them?)

26 May 64

Pennsylvania

FTD (TDEW)

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433

20 January 1965

████████████████████
First United Presbyterian Church
155 East State Street
Pleasantview, Pennsylvania 16341

Dear ██████████

Your reported observation on the night of 26 May is indeed interesting and I might add some what confusing to us also. Your letter is being forwarded to Dr J Allen Hynek, Director of Dearborn Observatory at Northwestern University and consultant to the Air Force on this matter. We are unable to offer you any explanation for the series of lights which you have described.

The attached brochure represents the Air Force efforts to date relating to this phenomenon. In answer to your specific question regarding NICAP and their publication "The UFO Evidence". NICAP has no connection with the United States Government. The publication was reviewed by the Air Force and close examination failed to reveal any evidence which would indicated that unidentified flying objects exist as space ships under intelligent control. The charges made that the Air Force withholds information is false and refuted by the publication itself, since Air Force case files are the prime source of the material used.

We have also read the article in "True Magazine". Mr Keyhoe has written many similar articles. The Air Force sent a letter to NASA regarding the alleged 8 Apr 64 Gemini capsule incident. NASA informed the Air Force that such an incident did not occur, that the objects tracked by radar were fragments which seperated from the booster. Since these fragments normally seperate from the booster in a successful launch operation, there was no need for NASA to submit a report of any kind. Radar tracked the fragments and the capsule in order to gain scientific orbital flight information.

Sincerely,

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr
Major, USAF
Chief, Project Blue Book

1 Atch
Brochure

cc: Dr J Allen Hynek

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

Shaw, T. Curtis

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTORATE OF LEGISLATIVE LIAISON, SAP-OS
ATTENTION: MAJOR WEART, SAP-LLI, TEAM E

SUBJECT: Congressional Referral on UFOs

Attached is a proposed reply to Congressman Albert W. Johnson on UFOs.

JESSE E. STAY
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Public Information Division
Office of Information

- 3 Atch
1. Draft of Reply
2. FPD Form 164
3. Report (2 cy)

Report on telephone conversation with [REDACTED] First United Presbyterian Church, [REDACTED] Street, Pleasant view, Pennsylvania, phone [REDACTED], regarding his observation of 26 May 64, phone call was made on 10 May 65.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

1. Object of phone call was to determine if possible, through the conversation, of general reliability and excitability of observer and to attempt to bring out any inconsistencies and contradictions during the retelling of the story.
2. As stated in the original report the sighting was divided into three phases:

Phase One: [REDACTED] and a [REDACTED] phone [REDACTED], were driving west on route 36-27 in fairly open country, when for three or four seconds they saw a very bright light, so bright, [REDACTED] said over the telephone that they almost had to squint at it. He said he was sure it was close by because it was in front of trees that were on the other side of the field. The [REDACTED], incidentally is a young man, who on 1 Jun 65 is being transferred to another parish. The light in the field suddenly went out.

Phase Two: Shortly after this, apparently just a matter of a minute or so, both men saw a clearly defined light but not so bright as the first light, somewhat higher in the sky, higher than the treetops, to their right, definitely circular outlines, but appeared as a reflective light, somewhat larger than the moon. If this was the original light it must have crossed the road. [REDACTED] said that it might have crossed over the car. [REDACTED] was frightened. This second phase occurred about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile West of the original sighting. During the second phase [REDACTED] got out of the car and saw the actual moon elsewhere in the sky. He said the sky was very clear. Object was a clear silver white color. He originally stated the second phase lasted 12-15 seconds but agreed that since in this time he had to stop the car, get out, look around and get back into the car and look out the front window the time must have been longer. Here his story is inconsistent.

He said it was very close to the car, so close that he had to look at a sharp angle upward through the windshield to see it, he had started up the car again and at this time object apparently took off at a high fantastic rate of speed. In any case he lost sight of it.

Phase Three: He took off West in the car attempting to trail the object. After proceeding two miles, during a part of which journey he was illegally on blocked road that was under repair, he saw the object again. Now it looked like a circle of stationary yellow orange light, he thinks it was about 500 yards away, again they got out and watched for about two minutes. They got into the car once again and proceeded towards the object along dirt road which circles the lot on which the light was either resting or hovering very low. Very shortly thereafter (██████████ was hazy on exact times and durations) he said the light which now looked like a large setting sun, rose some 25 feet off the field. The he said it rose a little higher and traveled West, horizontally with incredible speed and disappeared within 5 seconds.

2. He said he could have gotten terrific movies of it had he had a camera because the light was so bright. There was no sound, however the light did not give the impression of being attached to anything "just a big ball of light". Sky was almost complete clear with very little wind.

3. ██████████ said they had the feeling "they were observing something in another world".

4. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS RELATIVE TO SIGHTING: The light did not give off beams of light, rather seemed to glow, it went from a dead stop to phenomenal speed. the ██████████ said "it seemed like the thing was looking at us". At one time he turned his headlights off because he was afraid of an attack. He said he felt frightened, got very frightened and for five weeks after this when he took the garbage out, etc and looked at the pine trees he had a chilly, eerie feeling, sort of expecting the thing to come back. It never did.

5. The only other possible collaboration was a [REDACTED], who lives close by who said she saw a bright light in the sky but merely pulled down her shades (A fine example of scientific curiosity)

6. [REDACTED] also indicated that when the light was close to the car it was lower than the top of a telephone pole and seemed to be swooping down.

7. Unfortunately the [REDACTED] was unable to couch anything in scientific terms. He used vague descriptions and was not precise as to the motions of the light. He was precise about the roads used and the distances his car traveled. It was clear from the conversation that he had been deeply moved by the experience, Also, that he didnot want any publicity since he is aware that it would due his reputation any good. He didn't talke about his experience with anyone for several months but finally was inadvertently put in touch with a man from NICAP. This sighting is now, therefore, in the NICAP files.

9. I think it might be worthwhile for me to talk with [REDACTED] also.

ALBERT W. JOHNSON
23rd DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA
1415 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

HOME ADDRESS:
409 FRANKLIN STREET
SMETHPORT, PENNSYLVANIA

COMMITTEE:
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

TELEPHONE:
CAPITOL 4-3121
EXTENSION 5121

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

JAN 12 1965

Washington, D.C. 20515

IN
SA FILE
January 11, 1965

Major General P. M. Hoisington
Office of Legislative Liaison
Department of the Air Force
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Hoisington:

I am sending you a copy of a letter and a newspaper article sent to me by [REDACTED] of Pleasantville, Pennsylvania.

Any information you may be able to give me so that I can reply to [REDACTED] would be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,


ALBERT W. JOHNSON

bh

5. The only other possible collaboration was a [REDACTED], who lives close by who said she saw a bright light in the sky but merely pulled down her shade. (A fine example of scientific curiosity)
6. [REDACTED] also indicated that when the light was closed to the car it was lower than the top of a telephone pole and seemed to be swooping down.
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First United Presbyterian Church

Shuambala, Washington 16341

January 9, 1965

The Hon. Albert W. Johnson
23d District, Pennsylvania
1415 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I was very happy you were elected and supported you in this area even though we differ over Bible Reading in Public Schools.

Something happened to me in May along with another man who was with me (Thank God he was!). This is why I enclose the article on UFO's.

Here is a brief summary of what happened May 26, 1964 at about 11 p.m.:

We were driving west on Route 36-27 towards Pleasantville when we saw a brilliant globe or ball of white light in a field just off to our left (South). We stopped and looked. It was perhaps 150-200 yards away. Suddenly the light went out. We continued into Pleasantville and saw a silver-white light (about the size of a basketball) above the tree-tops just to the right of us. It was not as intense as the first light. We looked at it. All the windows in the car were down so it could not be a reflection. Suddenly it went out.

I turned and looked out the front window and caught a glimpse of the bottom of a yellow-orange ball going west at fantastic speed. (I had the impression it had swept over the car). The bottom of this yellow-orange ball (or globe) was shot through with blue and looked gaseous. I went after it but it was out of sight.

Route 27 was torn up and blocked off but I drove around the road block hoping to see "it" again. We did. It was setting in a field between Pleasantville and Titusville--yellow orange and looked clearly defined (not having the gaseous look it had when in motion). We got out of the car and watched it. It appeared to "hover" for perhaps two minutes. Then it rose up suddenly and shot away from us like a bullet. It looked to be from 4 to 6 feet in diameter in the field but disappeared from view, going west in a straight line, in about 4-5 seconds.

I should like any information you have about UFO's. I was a complete skeptic until May 26. Also I should like to know if the Air Force does censor all sightings unless they can be explained as Maj. Keyhoe asserts. After reading this article two questions came to mind. 1) Was the "blue

light" seen by John Glenn when he was orbiting ever explained? 2) Was there an explanation for Scott Carpenter's radio failure?

Maj. Keyhoe emphasis is upon planes, capsules, and rockets. I assure you what we observed was far lower than any plane capsule or rocket or balloon. I had considered a balloon but the tremendous speed and altitude (to say nothing of the peculiar glowing yellow-orange light) rules it out.

I do not believe that censorship is the answer. If this is some government experiment they are shocking citizens.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

A large, solid black rectangular redaction mark covering the signature of the letter.

First United Presbyterian Church

Pleasantville, Pennsylvania 16341

[REDACTED]

December 30, 1964

Project Bluebook
Wright-Patterson AFB
Ohio

Dear Sir:

Last May 26 about 11:00 p.m. [REDACTED] and I were driving west on Routes 36-27 when we saw a large globe of brilliant white light in a dark field off to our left (south). It was close and either on the field or just off it. Its intensity of brilliance was like that of a flash bulb so its size was difficult to estimate. Suddenly the light disappeared.

Proceeding slowly west we again saw a ball of silver-white light about the size of a large moon or basketball higher in the sky (above the treetops) and stationary. The sky was clear and I stepped out on the road and saw the moon high in the sky in back of us (east). The round light above the treetops looked like a light might look if it was reflected in a mirror. We watched this light with the right front window rolled down. It lasted about 12-15 seconds then went out abruptly. This was about .5 of a mile from the initial bright light in the field west.

As I turned my head and looked out the front window I caught a glimpse of a yellow-orange gaseous bottom of a ball which seemed streaked with blue. It had to be low as I looked out the front window to proceed west on the road. It was moving at a fantastic rate of speed. It got out of sight west of us in 1-2 seconds (unless it went up).

I took after it and had lost sight of it. About two miles down the road (the last section of which was under repair and blocked off) we saw it again. I had gone around the road block travelling west hoping to see it again. It was very low over a field and clearly defined. It looked like a perfect circle of yellow-orange light and was standing still. It was probably 550 yards from us. We got out of the car and watched. It was to the left of the road on the field.

After watching for about two minutes I told [REDACTED] I thought we could get closer. About 100 yards there is a dirt road off to the left which circles the field. We got into the car and started for the road. Just as I began to turn off the main road (Route 27 W) the sphere ascended--perhaps 25 feet off the ground. I immediately stopped the car. (It looked like a large setting sun).