

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 20 March 66 20/0735Z	2. LOCATION Surfside, Texas (Freeport) multiple
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION Other(Blown Transformer)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Varied	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual	Observers noted the lights in two houses about 100 yds apart from each other and approximately one mile from the ship, blink on and off very rapidly and at an intensity extremely brighter than normal. Immediately following this, all power was cut in the area, which the observers noticed after a tremendous blue flash of light had occurred approximately in the center of the two houses. Also observed was a whitish glow to the right of where the blue flash was seen. This object appeared to be about from 300-500 feet above the ground. Another observer said the object had a orange glow and had windows. The UFO moved away at a fast rate of speed. Local power reported a blown transformer which was defective.
7. COURSE N/A	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

STATEMENT OF U.F.O. SIGHTING BY JOHN R. WEITLICH RM3 358-266 USCG:

WHILE STANDING ON THE BRIDGE ON QUARTERMASTER WATCH AT 0125S ON THE MORNING OF 3/20/66, I HAD BEEN STARING UNTHINKINGLY OUT THROUGH THE PORT-HOLES WHEN I NOTICED THAT THE LIGHTS IN TWO HOUSES ABOUT 100 YARDS APART FROM EACH OTHER AND APPROX ONE MILE DIRECT FROM OUR SHIP, BLINKED ON AND OFF VERY RAPIDLY AND AT AN INTENSITY EXTREMELY BRIGHTER THAN NORMAL, AS IF THESE TWO HOUSES IN PARTICULAR WERE COMPLETELY FLOODED FROM WITHIN BY FLUORESCENT LIGHTS. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THIS, ALL POWER WAS CUT IN THE AREA, WHICH I NOTICED AFTER A TREMEEDOUS BLUE FLASH OF LIGHT HAD OCCURED APPROX CENTER OF THESE TWO HOUSES. TO GET A CLEARER LOOK AT THE SITUATION, I THEN WENT OUT TO THE PORT SIDE WING OF THE BRIDGE AND NOTICED A DISTINCT WHITISH GLOW ABOUT 45 DEG TO THE RIGHT OF WHERE I HAD NOTICED THE BLUE FLASH. THIS OBJECT APPEARED TO BE ABOUT FROM 300 TO 500 FEET ABOVE GROUND, AND EMITTED AN "EERIE" GLOW OF WHITE LIGHT THAT APPEARED TO PULSATE IN ITS INTENSITY. I MUST SAY NOW I TRIED TO KID MYSELF INTO BELEIVING THIS WAS AN OBJECT OF SOME EARTHLY FORM BUT RULED THIS OUT AND INFORMED MY SUPERVISOR WHO WAS SITTING IN THE RADIO SHACK AT THIS TIME, THAT I SAW A U.F.O. AND I THEN POINTED IT OUT TO HIM. I WAS ORDERED TO IMMEDIATELY GET A CAMERA BUT UPON MY RETURN THE U.F.O. HAD DISAPPEARED, THUS MY STORY ENDS HERE.

John R. Weitlich
JOHN R. WEITLICH RM3

STATEMENT MADE BY GLENN A. MUSHETT, RM1 326-518, U.S.C.G.:

I WAS IN THE RADIO SHACK WORKING WHEN THE QUARTERMASTER OF THE WATCH REPORTED SEEING A BLUE FLASH IN THE SKY. THIS WAS ABOUT 1:35 AM LOCAL TIME. A FEW SECONDS LATER THE SHIP AND ENTIRE AREA HAD A POWER FAILURE. THE QUARTER MASTER WENT OUT ON THE BRIDGE, AND AS HE WALKED OUT HE REPORTED SEEING A UFO IN THE SKY. HE HOLLERED FOR SOMEONE ELSE SO I WENT OUT. AS SOON AS I WALKED OUT I SAW A VERY LARGE OBJECT IN THE SKY. IT WAS OVEL IN SHAPE. IT WAS GIVING OFF A ORANGE GLOW AND AROUND THE OBJECT ITSELF IT WAS GIVING OFF A BLUE LIGHT, SHORTELY AFTER SEEING IT THE BLUE STOPPED. I TOLD THE QUARTER MASTER TO GET SOME BINOCULARS, AND THEN TO GO BELOW AND GET A CAMARA. AS I OBSERVED THE UFO THROUGH BINOCULARS, I COULD SEE IT HAD PORTS OR WINDOWS. THESE WINDOWS WERE OPEN. AS I COULD SEE COMING FROM INSIDE THE UFO IT WAS GIVING OFF A DARK ORANGE GLOW. I MUST HAVE OBSERVED IT FOR ABOUT A MIN OR LONGER. THEN IT STARTED TO MOVE UP FROM ABOUT 500 FEET TO ABOUT A THOUSAND FEET VERY SLOWLY. AS IT REACHED SOMEWHERE AROUND A THOUSAND FEET THE ORANGE GLOW IT WAS GIVING OFF GOT LARGER, THEN THERE WAS ANOTHER BLUE FLASH THE ORANGE GLOW SUBSIDED AND THE UFO MOVED AWAY AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED, WAS OUT OF SIGHT IN SEVERAL SECONDS.

THE QUARTERMASTER AND ANOTHER MEMBER OF THE CREW AND MYSELF WAS WATCHING THE AREA TWO OBJECTS SHOT UP FROM THE GROUND AT A HIGH RATE OF SPEED. THE OBJECTS GAVE OFF A WHITE GLOW, BUT WHEN THEY GAVE NO TRAIL OR STREAM AS THEY MOVED UP. ALSO IN SEVERAL SECONDS THEY WERE OUT OF SIGHT.

Glenn A. Mushett
GLENN A. MUSHETT RM1

STATEMENT MADE BY KEITH VANORDEN, FA 360-317 USCG:

AT 0135S TWO OBJECTS VERY BRIGHT SHOT UP INTO THE SKY AND DISAPPEARED QUICKLY AT ABOUT 1 AND ONE HALF MILES FROM OUR SHIP, 350 DEG MAG.

KEITH VANORDEN FA

Keith Van Orden

CPI

Mrs. Sarah Hunt, Community Relations Office,
USAF

17 MAY 1966

Chief, Public Information Division, USCG

UFO Sighting statements

1. Forwarded for proper routing and information are statements of three Coast Guardsmen assigned to the USCGC LEGARE. One 20 March 1966 they claimed to have sighted a UFO.

W. K. THOMPSON, JR.

Enclosures:

Surfside, Texas
20 March 66

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

ADDRESS REPLY TO:

Commanding Officer
USCGC LEGARE (WMEC-144)
Freeport, Texas 77541



5700
Ser: 177
12 September 1966

From: Commanding Officer, USCGC LEGARE (WMEC-144)
To: COLONEL Warren S. WHEELER, USAF, Deputy for Technology & Subsystems

Subj: UFO Sighting; supplementary information

Ref: (a) COL WHEELER ltr of 16 AUG 66
(b) CO, LEGARE ltr 5720, Ser 120, dtd 4 MAY 66

1. Further investigation into the circumstances surrounding the power failure referred to in reference (a) was conducted by contacting MR. ECKERBERGER of the Houston Lighting and Power Company. This revealed the following information:

(a) On the early hours of 20 March 1966, the LEGARE was moored at the U. S. Coast Guard Station, Surfside, Texas. The ship was utilizing electrical power supplied by shore tie.

(b) A power failure occurred at 0135, 20 March 1966, which encompassed the entire Surfside area. MR. ECKERBERGER reports that this was caused by a blown transformer on a power pole.

(c) The electric Company's night trouble crew replaced the line fuse before checking the poles, hoping that this would correct the situation. Several minutes later the fuse blew again. The trouble crew checked the poles in the area and found a defective transformer. It was repaired and power restored to the area. This sequence of events took approximately one hour.

2. The Coast Guardsmen who sighted the UFO report that:

(a) The visibility was good, and the Surfside Bridge could be clearly seen, a distance of about three miles.

(b) The first power failure occurred simultaneously with the sighting of the large UFO, mentioned in the original statements made by those Coast Guardsmen concerned. As this UFO rose slowly and then sped away, the power was restored.

(c) A few minutes after restoration the power died again. Then the two small UFO's (streaks of light shooting quickly up from the ground) were sighted. They rapidly disappeared.

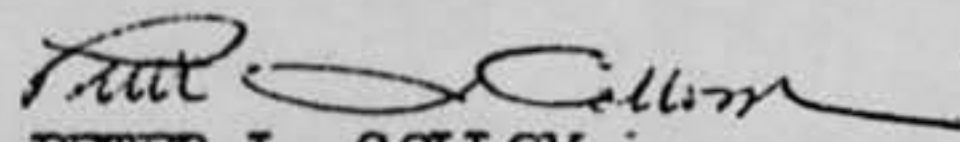
(d) Some time later the electric company's repair truck was sighted with its rotating orange beacon and spotlight. It was recognized as a truck and it was not in the same location where the UFO had been seen.



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CONT CO, LEGARE ltr 5700 Ser 177 dtd 12 SEP 66

3. The delay in answering your letter was due to the vessel being located in the shipyard in Harvey, Louisiana during the month of August.


PETER L. COLLOM
Lieutenant, USCG
Commanding Officer
USCGC LEGARE (WMEC-144)

10 Oct 68

Mr. (S)

23 Lt Marano/70916/dms/7 Oct 68

Request for JPO Information

Mr. (S) 3 Lines
 2nd Lt Marano, 3rd
 2nd Lt Marano, 3rd

1. Under this year, 15 Lt Marano, 3rd, started a project to
 collect data which... (text is faint and partially illegible)

2. Below are some of the data... (text is faint and partially illegible)

DATE	LOCATION	REMARKS
10 Oct 68	Albanyville, California	Unidentified
11 Oct 68	Salisbury, North Carolina	Unidentified
12 Oct 68	Louisa, Va	Other (Conflicting data)
13 Oct 68	Marathon, Texas	Other (Flow information)
14 Oct 68	Truth or Consequences, N.M.	Aircraft
15 Oct 68	Brooklyn, New York	Unidentified
16 Oct 68	Blackington, Indiana	Other (data)
17 Oct 68	San Francisco, North Carolina	Unidentified
18 Oct 68	Caryville, Illinois	Unidentified
19 Oct 68	Waco, Texas	Aircraft

23 Lt Marano, 3rd, Lt Marano, 3rd
 2nd Lt Marano, 3rd
 2nd Lt Marano, 3rd
 2nd Lt Marano, 3rd

SURFACE OBSERVATIONS DATA SHEET

20 Mar 66
Surfside, Tex.

Amarillo AFB, Texas - March 6, 1968

0400L *3505 7402* 10205 ***** 52***
0500L *3305 7402* 10505 ***** 52***
0600L 83306 74012 10905 20977 53303
0700L *3304 7402* 12902 ***** 53***
0900L *0204 7402* 13005 ***** 52219

Winona, Minnesota - April 3, 1968

1800L 91321 08515 95211 9***** 10629 70030
1900L 61418 5645* 92510 ***** 09***
2200L 81610 5845* 91708 ***** 08***

Salisbury, N.C. - February 3, 1966

0430Z 03002 74000 14300 00900 55***

Houston, Texas - February 4, 1966

1200Z 00204 74000 32101 00900 52***

Surfside, Texas - March 20, 1966

0735Z 72112 74022 20819 754** 16302

Truth or Consequences, N.M. - April 3, 1966

0100Z 22915 74031 03328 00901 00***

Lycoming, New York - April 5, 1966

0800Z 82710 58858 99600 883** 51***

Bloomington, Indiana - July 4, 1966

0130Z 22405 6603* 14432 214** 28***

Donnybrook, North Dakota - August 19, 1966

2250Z 61208 6403* 18421 6087* 07***

Pecos, Texas - August 27, 1966

0300Z 21605 7402* 13124 214** 13***

Rome, Georgia - August 27, 1966

0251Z 33005 7402* 19323 3086* 18***

East Dennis, Mass. - October 8, 1966

2350Z 81808 48585 14512 872** 12***

Proj: 5992D - STAR TREK

TIME: 1200Z

SOUNDING # 30 LOCATION: Surfside, Texas DATE: March 20, 1966

HEIGHT gpm	PRESSURE mb	TEMP °C	DEW POINT R.H. %	DIRECTION deg	SPEED kts
186	1000	16	90	230	10
620	950	12	97	230	18
1073	900	13	59	240	20
1556	850	14	20	260	28
2064	800	11	26	270	22
2590	750	7	23	270	22
3162	700	3	29	280	18
3750	650	-2	33	310	18
4388	600	-6	18	300	18
5050	550	-9	18	320	22
5797	500	-14	20	320	20
6580	450	-20	21	320	28
7456	400	-25	23	320	24
8411	350	-32	24	330	26
9480	300	-41		340	36
10696	250	-51		340	42
12125	200	-59		330	50
12951	175	-65		330	48
13898	150	-64		300	50
15009	125	-66		300	52
16359	100	-68		300	50
17699	80	-66		290	40
20557	50	-65		290	24

REMARKS:

DATA SOURCE: ETAC Upper-air History Files.

ANALYST: TSgt Dunham

Texas 20 March

TDETR

UFO Sighting

AUG 16 1966

Commanding Officer
USCGC LEGARE (WSC-144)
Freeport, Texas 77541

1. Reference your letter of 4 May 1966 concerning the alleged observation of an unidentified flying object over Freeport, Texas by members of the crew. Our initial report stated that during the observation of the alleged unknown the ship experienced a power failure.
2. If an investigation was undertaken request any information as to the cause of this power failure. Such information will aid our analysts in their evaluation.

FOR THE COMMANDER

W. S. W.
WARREN S. WHEELER, Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Technology & Subsystems

COORDINATION:
ORIGINATOR:

H. Quintanilla, Jr. DATED *15 Aug 66*
TDETR MAJ H QUINTANILLA, JR.

W. Upchurch, Capt DATED *15 Aug 66*
TDET *W. Upchurch, Capt*
W. Upchurch, Capt

TDETR OFFICIAL FILE COPY

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mrs. Sarah Hunt, Community Relations Office,
USAF

CPI
DATE: 17 MAY 1966

FROM : Chief, Public Information Division, USCG

SUBJECT: UFO Sighting statements

1. Forwarded for proper routing and information are statements of three Coast Guardsmen assigned to the USCGC LEGARE. On 20 March 1966 they claimed to have sighted a UFO.

[Signature]
W. K. THOMPSON, JR.

Enclosures.



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD



ADDRESS REPLY TO:

Commanding Officer
USCGC LEGARE (WSC-144)
Freeport, Texas 77541

. 5720
Ser: 120
4 May 1966

From: Commanding Officer, USCGC LEGARE (WSC-144)
To: Commandant (CPI)
Via: Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District (dpi)

Subj: UFO Sighting Statements

Ref: (a) Comdt (CPI) ltr dtd 13 APR 66

1. In accordance with paragraph 2 of reference (a), the following information is submitted:

(a) Moored to USCG dock, USCG Station, Freeport, Texas.

(b) Moored

(c) The time of the sighting was at 0135, 20 March 1966. The majority of the crew was on liberty. The OOD was retired for the night. The Commanding Officer was at home.

The vessel was on B-2 SAR status. The QM of the watch, who observed the UFO, was standing his watch on the bridge. An off duty OOD, MUSHETT, RM1 was in the radio shack, adjacent to the bridge writing letters. He also observed the phenomenon. The third observer was VAN ORDEN, FA who was placing a ships generator on the line after a shore power failure.

The OOD was called, but the object had disappeared by that time.

(d) The Commanding Officer was contacted by telephone immediately after the incident occurred. He spoke with the OOD and all three observers. They were in a highly excited state and related their observations to him. None of the observers had been drinking.

The phenomenon was observed on Sunday morning, the same day that UFO's were observed in Houston, Texas and in Michigan. It is significant to note that the crew's sightings was reported to the Commanding Officer before either of the other sightings had been made known to the public through the news media.

To assign a degree of credibility to such an incident when the assessor was not actually a witness is a difficult task, however the surrounding circumstances and the fact that one observer was a qualified OOD lends validity to the story. It is the opinion of this command that these men did indeed see some sort of flying object, although without having personally observed the UFO, to assess its origin or identity would be purely supposition.

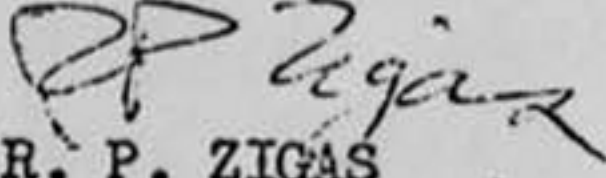
dpi
11 May 1966

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, USCGC LEGARE (WSC 114) ltr 5720 Ser 120 of 4 May 66

From: Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District
To: Commandant (CPI)

Subj: UFO Sighting Statements

1. Forwarded as requested.


R. P. ZIGAS
By direction



TREASURY DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

Address reply to:
COMMANDER (dpi)
8TH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
CUSTOMHOUSE
NEW ORLEANS, LA. 70130

7 April 1966

From: Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District
To: Commandant (CPI)

Subj: UFO Sighting Statements; information concerning

1. Enclosure (1), received from the USCGC LEGARE (WSC-144), is forwarded for your information and for further transmittal to the United States Air Force UFO Investigating Unit.

R. P. Zigas
R. P. ZIGAS
By direction

Encl: (1) UFO Sighting Statements

Copy to:
USCGC LEGARE

RECEIVED
PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION

APR 11 1966

U. S. COAST GUARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.



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OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : 8th CG District Public Information Officer DATE: 24 March 1966

FROM : USCGC LEGARE (WSC-144) - Freeport, Texas

SUBJECT: UFO Sighting statement; forwarding of

1. Enclosed statements forwarded for disposition.

Stephen J. Ratey, Jr.
STEPHEN J. RATEY, JR.
Executive Officer