[redacted]

(Incident #139

12 Sept 1948

Turner AFB, Albany, Ga.

USAF Pilot

1530 EST

Metallic and shiny

250 MPH

5' - 10'

1500-2000'

335°

3 sec.

1

Aerial

Anc. Possible Drone

Dupont Date.

[redacted]

RESTRICTED

UNCLASSIFIED

Incident #189 -- Albany, Georgia -- 22 September 1948

There is nothing astronomical in this incident.

Since the object looked like a drone, perhaps it was one.

UNCLASSIFIED

RESTRICTED

7-3713-10

HEADQUARTERS
AIR WEATHER SERVICE
Andrews Air Force Base
Washington 25, D. C.

In Reply
Refer To: AWS DSS

11 May 1949

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

TO : Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAXO-3

1. Reference is made to letter from your headquarters, MCIAXS, dated 9 March 1949, subject "Unidentified Flying Objects," and first indorsement thereto by this headquarters, dated 31 March 1949.

2. The incident summaries 173 through 233 have been checked against routine weather-balloon ascents made by the Air Force, Navy and Weather Bureau. Comments based on this review are inclosed.

3. It is recommended that the "Guide To Investigation Of Unidentified Aerial Objects" be changed as follows: Item 13, "Direction of Flight of Object," should be clarified so that vertical and horizontal motions are distinguished if possible, and so that motion is specified as the direction towards which the object appears to move. "Relative to Radar Settings" should include a statement of the type of radar set used.

FOR THE CHIEF, AIR WEATHER SERVICE

/s/ W. A. West
W. A. WEST
Lt. Col., USAF
Adjutant General

2 Incls:
1 - Incident Summaries
2 - Comments 173 thru 233

22 Sep 42

No. 189: Rawinsondes released at Montgomery and Atlanta 1 1/2 hours earlier and would have been blown into sighted area by upper winds. Only a faulty balloon, however, could have descended to that low altitude. From description, balloon is most unlikely.

Incident: 189

While acting as co-pilot on a C-47 aircraft enroute from Eglin Auxiliary Field #2 to Turner AF Base at approximately 1530 hours EST 22 Sept 48, Lt [redacted] observed an object approaching at an angle of about 25°. The C-47 at the time was approaching Turner Field from the Southwest at an altitude of about 2,000 ft. The object appeared to be about 500 feet lower and about 2,000 to 1500 feet away and traveling at an estimated speed of 250 MPH. Lt Rubisch stated that the object appeared about the size of a radio controlled model airplane (5 to 10 ft). He could not determine the shape but said he could not observe wings or rudder. He could give no other description other than it was a metallic shiny object. No one else aboard the C-47 observed the object.

Ability to determine color, speed of moving objects and size at distance was determined excellent, however the observer's Squadron Commander was interviewed and he stated that Lt [redacted] is inclined to exaggerate and is a person whose opinion is not highly regarded by associate officers.

Observer was able to closely corroborate information given by him at first interrogation, though the interrogating officer was inclined to think that Lt [redacted] was given to exaggeration. It was the opinion of the interrogating officer that the observer was of normal intelligence and sound character.

INCIDENT SUMMARY SHEET

Incident No. 189

1. Date and Time of Observation: 22 Sept 1948 about 1530 hours

2. Where Sighted: Near Turner AF Base, Albany, Ga

3. Observer's Position: Air - while acting as co-pilot
(i. e., ground, air, control tower, etc.)

4. Name and Address of Observer: Lt [redacted], Eglin Auxiliary Fld #2, Eglin AF Base, Fla.

5. Occupation and/or hobbies: Asst Combat Operations Officer - Co-pilot

6. Attention Attracted by: motion of an approaching object

7. Number of Object(s) Seen: 1

8. Size of Object(s): Size of a radio-controlled model plane (5 to 10 ft)

9. Color of Object(s): metallic and shiny

10. Shape (Sketch if Possible) Undetermined

11. Nature of Luminosity: N/S - apparently none
(directed beam of light?)

12. Altitude of Object: Between 1500 and 2000 ft
(estimated)

13. Estimated Distance of Object from Observer: ~~N/S~~ - 1/2 mile horizontally Approximately 500' laterally.

14. Estimated Speed of Object: about 250 MPH

15. Time in Sight: ~~N/S~~ 3 seconds

16. Tactics: ~~N/S~~ Level flight

17. Sound Made by Object(s): ~~N/S~~ - Unknown

18. Direction of Flight of Object(s) 335°

19. Apparent Construction: Metallic

20. Effect on Clouds: N/S - CAVU

21. Exhaust Trail (Color of): N/S

22. Manner of Disappearance: N/S

23. Weather Conditions at Time of Sighting: CAVU

24. Peculiarities Noted: No wings or rudder

25. Summary of Incident: (over)
(See attached page)

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS NINTH AIR FORCE
GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA

12

A2

9AF 000.92

SUBJECT: Report of Flying Discs

27 OCT 1948

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
Attn: M.C.I.

In accordance with instructions contained in TAC letter, file TAC 000.92 (16 Feb 48), subject: "Reporting of Information on Flying Discs", the following information is submitted:

a. Object sighted at about 1530 hours EST, 22 Sep 48, near Turner Air Force Base, Albany, Georgia.

b. Weather at time of sighting, CAVU.

c. Lt [redacted] Asst Combat Operation Officer, Eglin Auxiliary Field #2, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

d. No photographs taken.

e. Lt [redacted] could not sketch object.

f. Object sighted:

(1) One object sighted.

(2) Undetermined.

(3) About the size of a radio controlled target airplane.

(4) Color: Metalic and shiny.

(5) Speed: Estimated 250 miles per hour.

(6) Heading: 335°.

(7) Maneuverability: No display.

(8) Altitude: Between 1500 and 2000 feet.

(9) No exhaust or condensation trails observed.

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

UNCLASSIFIED

189

9AF 000.92, Subj: Report of Flying Discs

g. General Summary:

(1) On the 22 September 1948 Lt. [redacted] was on a flight from Eglin Auxiliary Field #2 to Turner Air Force Base. He was co-pilot on a C-47 type aircraft on an Administrative flight. At about 1530 hours, EST, he observed an object approaching from an angle of about 25 degrees. The C-47 was approaching Turner Field from the south-west at an altitude of about 2000 feet. The object appeared to be about 500 feet lower and about 2000 to 1500 feet away and traveling at an estimated speed of 250 mph. Lt. [redacted] stated that the object sighted appeared to be about the size of a radio controlled model airplane. He also stated that he did not observe Wings or rudder on object. Lt. [redacted] could not give any description other than the fact that it was a metallic shiny object. No one else aboard the plane observed the object.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

s/ W. L. Baxter
t/ W. L. BAXTER
Major, USAF
Asst. Adj. General

1st Ind MCIAXO-3/GWC/jjg

Hq AMC Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, Nov 5 1948

TO: Commanding General, Ninth Air Force Base, Greenville Air Force Base, Greenville, South Carolina

1. It is requested that the Base Intelligence Officer immediately initiate further investigation of subject report..

2. An Essential Elements of Information List is inclosed as an aid to the interviewing officer in obtaining, insofar as possible, the desired information.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

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

s/
t/ H. M. McCOY
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Intelligence Department

1 Incl
EEI List

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

BASIC: Ltr fr Hq 9AF, Subj, "Report of Flying Discs", file 9AF 000.92, dtd 27 Oct 48

9AF 000.92 (27 Oct 48) 2d Ind

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, HEADQUARTERS NINTH AIR FORCE, Greenville, South Carolina, 16 November 1948

TO: Director of Intelligence, Headquarters Twelfth Air Force, March Air Force Base, March Field, California

1. Request compliance with paragraph 1, preceding indorsement.

2. Information available this headquarters indicates that Lt. [redacted] is presently assigned 1st Fighter Group, March Air Force Base, March Field, California.

1 Incl
n/c

HENRY H. WALLER, Jr
Colonel, USAF
Director of Intelligence

INT (27 Oct 48) 3d Ind

HEADQUARTERS TWELFTH AIR FORCE, Office of the Director of Intelligence, March Air Force Base, March Field, California, 22 November 1948.

TO: Wing A-2, 1st Fighter Wing, March Air Force Base, March Field, California

Request investigation be made in accordance with paragraph 1, 1st indorsement, and report forwarded this headquarters at the earliest practicable date.

1 Incl:
n/c

GEORGE M. SANDER
Major, USAF
Director of Intelligence

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

189

[redacted]

orig in center file Hyo

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJ: Ltr fr Hq USAF, Subj: "Report of Flying Discs", File 9AF 000.92, dtd 27 Oct 48

INT 4th Ind

HEADQUARTERS 1ST FIGHTER WING, March Air Force Base, March Field, California, 26 NOV 1948

TO: Commanding Officer, 1st Fighter Group, March Air Force Base, March Field, California

1. Forwarded for compliance with 1st and 3rd Indorsements.

2. Request that the completion of the investigation be expedited and that report be forwarded to this headquarters at earliest practicable date.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL BEES:

MONROE S. SAMS
Major, USAF
Adjutant

1 Incl:
n/c

INT 5th Ind

HEADQUARTERS 1ST FIGHTER GROUP, March Air Force Base, March Field California 2 DEC 1948

TO: Commanding Officer, 1st Fighter Wing, March Air Force Base, March Field, California

Investigation completed in compliance with 1st and 3rd Indorsements and S-2 Officer's completed Interrogation Report is Inclosed.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

LAWRENCE V. DUGH, JR.
Captain, USAF
Adjutant

2 Incl
EEI List
EEI Typed Form
Completed

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

MF3113-48

BASIC: Ltr fr Hq USAF, Subj: "Report of Flying Discs", file 9AF 000.
92 27 Oct 48

6th Ind

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS, 1ST FIGHTER WING, Office of the Intelligence Officer, March AF Base, March Field, California 3 Dec 48

TO: Director of Intelligence, Twelfth Air Force, March AF Base, March Fld California.

2 - Incls: n/c

JOSEPH E. COSGROVE,
1st Lt., USAF
Wing A-2 O

INT 7th Ind

HEADQUARTERS TWELFTH AIR FORCE, Office of the Director of Intelligence, March Air Force Base, March Field, California, 3 December 1948.

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. ATTN: M. C. I.

Interrogation Report forwarded herewith for your information.

2 Incls:
n/c

GEORGE M. SANDER
Major, USAF
Director of Intelligence

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

UNCLASSIFIED

MF3113-48

[redacted]

REPORT OF INTERROGATION

SUBJECT: 1st Lt. [redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

REPORT BY: EDWARD D. MICHELSON, Captain USAF, 1st Ftr Gp S-2 Officer

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION
(Resightings of Unidentified Aerial Objects)

PROJECT "SIGN"

1. 22 September 1948
2. Approximately 1530 EST
3. A. NA
   B. (1) C-47, 160 MPH, approximately 2500 feet, approximately 90°
      (2) 10 Miles West of Turner AFB, Georgia
      (3) 4 o'clock, low
      (4)
   C. NA
4. One
5. a. Approximately 1/2 mile - horizontally
   Approximately 500' laterally
   b. 10°
   c. Approximately 2000 feet
6. Approximately three (3) seconds
7. a. Silver
   b. Undistinguishable - Lacked wings and rudder.
   c. Unknown
   d. Appeared smaller than civilian light plane.
8. Approximately 355°
9. Level Flight
10. None
11. NA
12. None
13. Undetermined
14. Undetermined
15. None apparent
16. None apparent
17. Approximately 250 MPH
18. Unknown

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DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

REPORT OF INTERROGATION CONTINUED:

19. None Apparent

20. Disappeared under airplane

"I Certify that the foregoing information volunteered by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief."

[redacted]

1st Lt. USAF

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

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]
UNCLASSIFIED

EEI Relative to Observer

1. [redacted] 1st Lt., [redacted]

2. 71st Fighter Squadron, 1st Ftr Gp, March AFB, March Fld, Calif.

3. USAF Pilot (Jet)

4. Same as #2

5. Denies

6. A. Excellent
   B. Excellent
   C. Excellent

7. a. Observer's Squadron Commander was interviewed and stated that, while he is not completely unreliable, Lt. [redacted] is inclined to exaggerate and is a person whose opinion is not highly regarded by associate officers.

8. b. Attention was drawn by motion of object.

9. None

10. Observer was able to closely corroborate the information given by him at the first interrogation, however I would be inclined to concur with the remarks set out in #7a above. Observer appears to be of normal intelligence and sound character.

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DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted]
UNCLASSIFIED

Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

a. High probability:
#26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140, 147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216, 219, 238.

b. Fair or low probability:
#19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100, 112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192, 199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:
#3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115, 126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:
#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107, 108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):
#39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:
#38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118, 125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213, 229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:
#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.