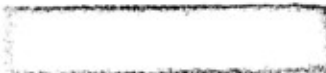




Incident #122, a, b -- Holloman Air Force Base -- 5 April 1948

At the moment there appears to be no logical explanation for this incident.

There is nothing to indicate an astronomical origin of the object observed.



Incident No. 122 -- 5 April 1948, Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico.

Three balloon observers saw an object very high in the sky, moving faster than any known aircraft and possessing a rounded indistinct form, which disappeared suddenly. It was seen less than thirty seconds and was apparently not manned, judging by its violent maneuvers. For analogous size they stated if the moon were the size of an orange the object would approximate the size of a disc.

AMC Opinion: No explanation. However, the above comparison of size is to be noted. A dime held at arms length would shield the moon from the eye even if the moon appeared several times larger than it does. To reduce the proportion then, this object must have appeared as an infinitesimal point. From trained observers, this is certainly a major discrepancy.

HEADQUARTERS  
AIR MATERIEL COMMAND  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio

MCIAXO-3/HWS/rm  
Jan 5 1949

MCIAXO

SUBJECT: Project "SIGN"

TO: Chief, Air Weather Service,  
Andrews Air Force Base,  
Washington 25, D. C.  
ATTN: DS3

1. Project "SIGN" is responsible for the collection, investigation and interpretation of data relative to sighting of unidentified flying objects. Attached Incident Summaries 1 thru 172 from the files of Project "SIGN" are forwarded for study and recommendations as to which of the incidents may be eliminated as balloons released on routine synoptic ascents by the Air Weather Service, the Navy Aerological Service or the United States Weather Bureau. The summaries attached may be retained in your headquarters for working and reference purposes.

2. The Air Weather Service is the only agency of its type that has been asked to assist in the accomplishment of Project "SIGN" except that the United States Weather Bureau has provided information on ball lightning. Research projects in which balloons are used and which are conducted or sponsored by the Army, Navy or United States Air Force are checked by the Intelligence Department of this Command. These checks are usually made direct from the Project "SIGN" Office, MCIAXO-3. These checks are distinct from the check of synoptic balloon flights made by weather service stations of the Air Force, the Navy and the Department of Commerce. (U. S. Weather Bureau) requested of Air Weather Service.

3. It is the opinion of this office that the below listed incidents are those having the greatest possibility of being balloons. This list does not eliminate the possibility that many of the remaining incidents are balloons.

|    |     |    |               |     |     |
|----|-----|----|---------------|-----|-----|
| 2  | 24  | 50 | 91            | 113 | 155 |
| 3  | 25  | 52 | 92            | 115 | 156 |
| 4  | 28  | 72 | 96            | 126 | 157 |
| 11 | 30  | 73 | 104           | 141 | 159 |
| 14 | 31  | 81 | 105           | 143 | 163 |
| 16 | 32  | 87 | 107, 8, 9     | 151 | 167 |
| 22 | 33  | 89 | 112 (See 122) | 154 | 169 |
| 23 | 443 |    |               |     |     |

7-4431-1

Hq AMC, Chief, Air Weather Service, Washington 25, D. C.  
Subj: Project "SIGN"

4. The form used in interrogating witnesses to sightings is inclosed as a matter of interest. Comment as to possible improvement of the "Essential Elements of Information" in regard to routine synoptic balloon flights is invited.

5. It is requested that correspondence be forwarded to the Commanding General, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, attention MCIAXO-3.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

2 Incls;  
Summaries 1-172 incl  
"SEI"

/s/ W. R. Clingerman, Col, USAF  
for H. M. McCoy  
Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Intelligence Dept

Copies furnished:

AFOIR, Hq. USAF  
Capt Trakowski, Geophysics Lab  
Major Kodis, MCREEP  
Colonel Neal, MCLAWS

# 122

APPENDIX P

3610th Electronics Station

Analysis of Project Grudge Reports

AIR MATERIAL COMMAND  
3160 Electronics Station  
Cambridge Field Station  
230 Albany Street  
Cambridge 39, Mass.

010.02

To supply address  
both communication  
and envelope to the  
Commanding Officer  
and attach to the  
following cables  
Symbol: BEM

April 1, 1948

SUBJECT: Analysis of Project "Grudge" Reported Incidents

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

1. Reference is made to the letters from your Headquarters to this station of 22 November 1947, 6 December 1947, and 14 January 1948. Subjects: "Project 'Sign' ", requesting that reported incidents 1 through 172 be analyzed to determine whether or not these might have been caused by balloons launched by these laboratories.

2. A listing has been compiled of all balloons launched by these laboratories and its contractors for special atmospheric research purposes, from the first such launching to No. 101 on 17 November 1947. Each of these launchings has been compared with the reported incidents 1 through 172. Factors of comparison were date of launching and date of recovery with respect to date of reported incidents; place of launching and place of recovery with respect to the place of reported incidents, and possible deviations from the known flight path with respect to the place of reported incidents. So that your office may make an independent analysis, three copies of the launching list are inclosed.

a. Incidents No. 5 through No. 16 reported on 4 July 1947 throughout Oregon, Idaho and Washington gave, in general, descriptions of clusters or groups of objects. The 3 July 1947 balloon launching No. 8 at Alamogordo was a cluster of balloons and was not recovered, and so might be suspected of being the cause of these reports. However, although not recovered, this flight was terminated in the New Mexico Tularosa Valley only a few miles northwest of Alamogordo. That the balloons were downed was determined both by airplane spotting and by radio direction finding upon the balloon telemetering instruments. Recovery of the balloons and instruments was prevented by the inaccessibility of the terrain.

b. Balloon release No. 11 of 7 July 1947 could compare with respect to date with incident No. 1 through No. 4, and again with incident No. 40. This balloon flight was again a cluster.

3-34560



147, BRL, to CG, AMC, Subj: Analysis of Proj. "Grand" Report

The description of Incident No. 140 is in contrast with the description of Incident No. 11. Also, in view of the fact that the balloon was very unlikely that it was launched from a few miles westward of Alamogordo, although it is possible that a long flight west of the launching point could be possible.

c. Incident No. 147 compares somewhat in size with balloon launching No. 10 of 5 July 1949. However, balloon No. 10 although recovered this known to have been launched northeast of Alamogordo, New Mexico. It was not recovered due to impossibility of terrain. Incident No. 147 is a reasonable description of the 20 ft. plastic balloons and instruments used by these laboratories. This incident was on the day of balloon release No. 46 of 9 April 1949 at Alamogordo. However, the time of the reported incident (1506 GMT) is about 1/2 hour before the time of balloon release (1432 LST), thus the incident could not have been that balloon.

d. It is of interest to note that Incident No. 122 was reported by an employee of these laboratories who had considerable experience in the use of balloons of all kinds, and could have been depended upon to know the appearance and behavior of a balloon if it was this he saw.

e. Incident No. 163 bears a fair description of the appearance of a large plastic balloon in sunset light. The object's disappearance could be accounted for either by its movement into the earth's sunset shadow or by an accidental defocusing of the observer's eyes. This incident could possibly have been balloon release No. 75 or No. 76 or 20 and 21 July 49 from Alamogordo. Balloon No. 75 was recovered at Hollister, California, which is in the Monterey Bay area, on 22 July 1949 and could have easily had a trajectory which would have been within sight of the Los Angeles area. Balloon No. 76 was never recovered. It is possible that it had a trajectory similar to No. 75.

f. All other reported incidents from 1 to 172 do not seem to have reasonable comparison with balloons launched by these laboratories.

3. The balloons used by these laboratories are now somewhat standardized. They are 20 feet long, plastic, white in color, and hemispherical-cone in shape. Nearly all launchings are made at the Holloman AFB at Alamogordo, New Mexico. Two photographic prints are included showing the appearance and size of these balloons. The larger photograph shows the typical flight appearance at any altitudes where it would be visible. It is hoped that this information may be of some use to you in identifying future reports of incidents.





Mr, DME, to CG, AMB, Subj: Analysis of Proj. "Scrudge" Reported Incident

From flying camera; two flying cameras, "three flying cameras" and  
from ground sighting speed. On the other hand it is not easy to  
ascertain and to the same time make all the other possibilities  
known to be considered that when a person is credited with a sighting  
this are apt to be rather inaccurate.

4. Estimation of the elevation on to of the object. All  
all persons when observing elevation is 90°. This tendency can be  
reduced by the observer extending one arm vertically and the other  
horizontally to observe a 90° angle. The vertical arm can then be  
lowered to point to the observed object. In this way the observed  
angle can be compared with a 90° angle and a more accurate estimate  
obtained.

5. It is realized that it might not be possible for an observer  
to perform the operations suggested in the preceding paragraph, during  
the period the object is sighted. If he would immediately recon-  
struct what he saw and then estimate such measurements, he should be able  
to furnish the answers accurate to at least 85%. In interrogating  
observers, they should also be asked to reconstruct their observations  
and then estimate these same factors. It is suggested that instructions  
for making such quick and estimated observations be given to weather  
observers, control tower operators, civil police, forest and fire  
rangers, and other such people who might have good chance of seeing  
unidentified flying objects. If any information concerning unidentified  
flying objects is given to the public, instructions for reliable obser-  
vation should be included.

7. This organization will be pleased to be of any further assistance  
required in connection with this matter.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

- 3 Encls.
1. List of balloons  
launched (in trip)
  2. 8" X 10" photo print  
of plastic balloon
  3. 4" X 5" photo print  
of plastic balloon

/s/ A. C. Trakowski, Jr.  
A. C. TRAKOWSKI, JR.  
Captain, USAF  
Director, Base Directorate  
for Geophysical Research

5 APR 48

With 104 incidents thus eliminated, there remain thirty-four which contain some evidence but have no apparent ready explanation. This statement is true only under the assumption that the evidence is accepted as reliable and accurate. When psychological and physiological factors are taken into consideration, all of these incidents can be explained rationally, as pointed out by Rand Corporation and the Office of Air Materiel Command Aero-Medical Laboratory (see Appendix VII and VIII).

Air Materiel Command Aero-Medical Laboratory (Dr. Paul M. ...)  
312 Incidents considered)

There are sufficient psychological explanations for the reports of unidentified flying objects to provide plausible explanations for reports not otherwise explainable. These errors in identifying real stimuli result chiefly from inability to estimate speed, distance, and size.

All of the remaining 34 incidents are treated in detail in this report. These incidents form no pattern in regard to area of sighting, type of object, or manner of performance. There are indications, however, that some sightings were influenced by earlier reports, and probably would not have been considered unusual or reported had there been no publicity.

APPENDIX I

Project Gemini

Summary of AEC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

VII. Summary of AEC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

The remaining unexplained incidents (see Appendix "V") exhibited few common characteristics. Two of them, by statements of the reporters, could not have been made had the witnesses not read of the Mt. Ranier incident (Incident No. 17). Most were distributed without pattern throughout the United States. A few were outside the U. S. No two descriptions of appearance or performance were exactly alike. The reported sightings occurred at various times of day and year.

APPENDIX II

In the following section of this report, each remaining unexplained incident is considered separately. It is not the intent to generally discredit the character of observers, but each case has undesirable elements, and these cannot be disregarded. The numerical designation is merely the catalog number of the incident in the project files.

- 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 35, 37, 40, 51, 58, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84,  
111, 122, 134, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 235.

# CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 122

1. Date 5 April 1948
2. Time N/S
3. Location Holloman Air Force Base
4. Name of observer Mr. [REDACTED]
5. Occupation of observer Trained balloon observer, Geophysics Lab Section
6. Address of observer N/S
7. Place of observation From the ground
8. Number of objects One
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight 30 seconds
11. Altitude Very high
12. Speed Faster than any known aircraft
13. Direction of flight N/S
14. Tactics Erratic - completing a large loop after its downward descent, then soaring upward and disappearing suddenly
15. Sound None
16. Size Large
17. Color Gray-white
18. Shape Rounded, indistinct form
19. Odor detected N/S
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails N/S
22. Weather conditions C.A.V.U.
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs None
25. Manner of disappearance Disappeared suddenly
26. Remarks: This was evidently the one object, of two sighted by another witness, that veered to the right and down. Its vaguely

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 122 b

1. Date 5 April 1948
2. Time N/S
3. Location Holloman Air Force Base
4. Name of observer Mr. [REDACTED]
5. Occupation of observer Trained balloon observer, Geophysics Lab Section
6. Address of observer N/S
7. Place of observation From the ground
8. Number of objects Two
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight 30 seconds
11. Altitude Very high
12. Speed Very high, faster than any known aircraft
13. Direction of flight 1 straight up, 1 disappeared in the west  
First one veered to the right, started down and was lost to view.
14. Tactics Second one made arc into the west at a terrific speed and  
disappear/suddenly.
15. Sound N/S
16. Size N/S
17. Color Golden hue
18. Shape Had appearance of a major's insignia, that is, irregularly  
rounded and slightly concave on top
19. Odor detected N/S
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails N/S
22. Weather conditions N/S
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs None
25. Manner of disappearance Disappeared suddenly
26. Remarks: Mr. [REDACTED] was the only one of the three witnesses who  
saw two objects. When he first perceived them, they were going

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

straight up then one veered to the right, started down, and was lost to view. Directing his attention to the other object, Mr. ~~XXXX~~ saw it arc into the west at a terrific speed and disappear suddenly. Mr. ~~XXXX~~ described the object as being of a golden hue, rather indistinct in outline and possessing somewhat the appearance of a major's insignia, that is, irregularly rounded and slightly concave on top.

~~The statements of other witnesses to this incident are contained in reports 112 and 112a.~~

All witnesses agreed that the object was very high, moved faster than any known aircraft; possessed a rounded, indistinct form, and disappeared suddenly rather than fading away in the distance. It was under observation 1/2 minutes or slightly less. It was definitely not a balloon, and apparently not manned, judging from the violent maneuvers which were performed at a high rate of speed.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident #122 a

1. Date 5 April 1948
2. Time Afternoon
3. Location Holloman Air Force Base
4. Name of observer Mr. [REDACTED]
5. Occupation of observer Trained balloon observer, Geophysics Lab Section
6. Address of observer N/S
7. Place of observation From the ground
8. Number of objects One
9. Distance of object from observer N/S
10. Time in sight 30 seconds
11. Altitude Very high
12. Speed Tremendous
13. Direction of flight West
14. Tactics Object made three vertical loops, upon completion of which it  
it disappeared in a large arc to the west
15. Sound None
16. Size Considering the moon the size of an orange, the object was the  
size of a dime
17. Color N/S
18. Shape Bore some resemblance to, but definitely not, a balloon
19. Odor detected None
20. Apparent construction N/S
21. Exhaust trails N/S
22. Weather conditions N/S
23. Effect on clouds N/S
24. Sketches or photographs None
25. Manner of disappearance Disappeared suddenly
26. Remarks: Presumably Mr. [REDACTED] saw the object that did not veer  
to the right. (See Incident #112 b) He stated that it was absolutely



silent on the desert that afternoon and that no audible noise was heard from the object. Neither was any signal nor atmospheric noise heard on the 400-meter receiver to which he was listening at the time. He further stated that the wind at high altitude that day was very calm being only 10 to 15 miles an hour from the west at 65,000 feet.

~~The statements of other witnesses to this incident are contained in reports 112 and 112b.~~

All witnesses agreed that the object was very high, moved faster than any known aircraft, possessed a rounded, indistinct form, and disappeared suddenly rather than fading away in the distance. It was under observation 1/2 minutes or slightly less. It was definitely not a balloon, and apparently not manned, judging from the violent maneuvers which were performed at a high rate of speed.



8-2913  
 WF-1-2 357 47 25007  
 SAVE

IN REPLY ADDRESS BOTH  
 COMMUNICATION AND EN-  
 VELOPE TO COMMANDING  
 GENERAL, AIR MATERIEL  
 COMMAND, ATTENTION  
 FOLLOWING OFFICE SYMBOL:

MCIAKD

HEADQUARTERS  
 AIR MATERIEL COMMAND

UNCLASSIFIED

MCIAKD/JCB/amb  
 Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
 WRIGHT-PATTERSON, DAYTON, OHIO  
 12 May 1948

SUBJECT: Project "SIGN"

TO: Commanding Officer  
 Holloman Air Force Base  
 Alamogordo, New Mexico

1. On 5 May 1948, Lt Colonel James C. Beam and Mr. Alfred C. Loedding, representatives of Intelligence Department, this Command, visited your headquarters for the purpose of interviewing Dr. Peoples of the Watson Laboratories.

2. It was learned that a Lt Markley has, in several instances in the past, detected on a radar scope unidentified flying objects moving at an excessive rate of speed. It is desired that a report be submitted to this headquarters giving all available information on these reported sightings. Future observations of this type should be reported to this headquarters immediately.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL McNARNEY:

DOWNGRADED AND RECLASSIFIED  
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
 DOD DIR 5200.10

*W. R. Clinger*  
 W. R. CLINGERMAN  
 Colonel, USAF  
 Chief, Tech Intelligence Div  
 Intelligence Department

*No Incident*

HOOP

1st Ind

RJN:ecy

Eq, Holloman Air Force Base, Alamogordo, New Mexico, 24 May 1948

To: CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio

Enclosed is statement of Lt. Markley in answer to basic communication.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

1 Incl  
 Lt. Markley's Statement

*James C. Peterson*  
 JAMES C. PETERSEN  
 Major, Air Corps  
 Adjutant

*See 122*  
*File 122-15*  
*Frank*

UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~  
HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE  
ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO  
OPERATIONS & PROJECTS  
ELECTRONIC & ATMOSPHERIC DIVISION

UNCLASSIFIED  
HGM/ctd

S-T-A-T-E-M-E-N-T

1. Reference is made to Par 2, basic communication. Apparently a misunderstanding exists in that I did not personally see unidentified objects moving at an excessive rate of speed on a radar scope. Rather, Mr. P. [REDACTED], of Watson Laboratories, very probably saw unidentified objects. However, Mr. [REDACTED] informed me that the objects seen were not moving at an excessive speed, but rather were motionless at an altitude somewhere in the vicinity of 200 miles. When these were seen on the Radar scope of the CPS-4 (Modified) the angle of elevation of the Radar antenna was approximately 70 degrees from horizontal.

2. During the latter part of August, 1947, this organization was carrying on several test runs with a modified SCR-270 at this base. I had released a corner reflector and two balloons and was watching them in their flight as they drifted to the southeast from this base. While watching the balloons through a pair of ten power binoculars, a white object, appearing to be round, came into my field of vision. I followed the object as far as possible but lost it within seconds after picking it up. The object was traveling at an unprecedented rate of speed and appeared to be several thousand feet over the top of the Sacramento mountain range, traveling in horizontal flight south to north.

3. There have been other times when manning the M-2 Optical tracker, that I have seen round or flat-round objects that were unexplainable.

4. In view of Par 1, this indorsement, it is suggested that Mr. P. [REDACTED] of the Radar Laboratory, AMC Watson Laboratories, Red Bank, New Jersey be contacted.

~~SECRET~~  
1st Lt. USAF  
Communications Officer

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

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

MCIAKD/JCB/amb  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

XXXXXX

12 May 1948

MCIAKD

Project "SIGM"

*Info to Markley  
Radar Group*

Commanding Officer  
Holloman Air Force Base  
Alamogordo, New Mexico

1. On 5 May 1948, Lt Colonel James C. Beam and Mr. Alfred C. Loedding, representatives of Intelligence Department, this Command, visited your headquarters for the purpose of interviewing Dr. Peoples of the Watson Laboratories.

2. It was learned that a Lt Markley has, in several instances in the past, detected on a radar scope unidentified flying objects moving at an excessive rate of speed. It is desired that a report be submitted to this headquarters giving all available information on these reported sightings. Future observations of this type should be reported to this headquarters immediately.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL McARMY:

W. R. CLINGERMAN  
Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Tech Intelligence Div  
Intelligence Department

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

*See 7252*



UNCLASSIFIED

11 May 1948

Report of Trip to Holloman Air Force Base, 5 - 8 May 1948

1. The primary purpose of this trip was to interview Dr. [REDACTED], representing the Watson Laboratories, who was temporarily on loan to Holloman Air Force Base. Upon arrival, it was learned that Dr. [REDACTED] had returned to the Watson Laboratories at Red Bank, N. J. A teletype sent from Holloman Air Force Base stating that Dr. [REDACTED] would not be available for interview did not reach Hq, AMC in sufficient time to postpone the visit. However, it was learned that Dr. [REDACTED] would be at Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Ala. on or about 11 May 1948 for an indefinite period of time.

2. A civilian, Mr. [REDACTED], who works in the same laboratory with Dr. [REDACTED] had also seen the unidentified flying object while in the presence of Dr. [REDACTED]. Mr. [REDACTED] was interviewed with the following stated results:

a. The object definitely was not a balloon.

b. The object appeared round and white; was at a great altitude and moved at a high rate of speed.

3. Mr. [REDACTED] promised to send in a detailed report through channels, together with the report of another civilian who also witnessed the phenomenon.

4. It was also learned that a Lt Markley who works in the Radar Laboratory at Holloman AF Base has, on several occasions in the past, witnessed on his scope unidentified flying objects at high altitudes, moving at a very high rate of speed. Lt [REDACTED] was not available for interview; however, a request for a detailed report of these observations was forwarded to the Commanding Officer, Holloman Air Force Base.

5. Lt Colonel James C. Beam and Mr. Alfred C. Loedding proceeded to Phoenix, Ariz. to interview Mr. [REDACTED] and follow up on the report and photographs submitted by him some months ago. Although Mr. [REDACTED] is currently employed as a pianoplayer in a night club, his primary interest is in a small but quite complete laboratory behind his home. According to his business card, this laboratory is called "Panoramic Research - Laboratory and Observatory", and Mr. [REDACTED] is referred to as the "Chief of Staff". Mr. [REDACTED] appeared to be completely sincere and apparently is quite interested in scientific experiments. Mr. [REDACTED] stated he was an aircraft recognition instructor during the last war, and that in his opinion, the object sighted definitely was not a wind-blown object. He reiterated that the object was not less than 2000 ft. away and that it was not much more than 2000 ft. away unless he had greatly underestimated its size. Mr. [REDACTED] pointed out where he had stood when he took the pictures of this flying object and indicated the exact paths of approach and departure of the object. He added that when the object turned directly away from him, he observed what appeared to be one large opening, or vent across the entire trailing edge. Mr. [REDACTED] promised to send in another more detailed report, incorporating this observation.

DOWNGRADED AT 5 YEAR INTERVALS

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCL. 5200.10

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

6. Mr. [REDACTED] also mentioned having seen a series of photographs taken by another civilian in Phoenix, Ariz. on approximately the same day. He promised to investigate this phase and to forward a set of these photographs to this headquarters if they are available. Mr. [REDACTED] permitted the ordinary box type camera with which he took his pictures to be brought to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base for examination.

93  
JAMES C. BEAM  
Lt Colonel, USAF  
Project Officer

Concurred in:

ALFRED C. LOEDDING  
Technical Assistant  
Tech Intelligence Div  
Intelligence Department

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Supplement to Trip Report to Watson Laboratories - 3 and 4 Jun 48

TRU: Col Clingerman

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

TO: Col McCoy

1. Personnel interviewed on this trip were Dr. [REDACTED], Mr. [REDACTED], Mr. [REDACTED] and Mr. [REDACTED] of the Geophysics Laboratory Section and Mr. [REDACTED] of the Radar Laboratory.
2. Contrary to existing reports, Dr. [REDACTED] was not witness to the sighting at Holloman Air Force Base on or about 5th April 1948. However, Dr. [REDACTED] was very cooperative and called in his assistants, Messrs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], remaining present while they presented their versions of the sighting which occurred in the afternoon of the 5th April 1948 while the three of them were searching the skies for an experimental balloon released a short time before. The sighting was made by all three men at approximately the same time. It was first believed to be the balloon; however, they almost immediately discovered their error and agreed that while the sighted object bore some resemblance to a balloon, it was definitely not that.
3. Mr. [REDACTED] was the only one of the three who saw two objects. When he first perceived them they were going straight up then one veered to the right, started down, and was lost to view. Directing his attention to the other object, Mr. [REDACTED] saw it arc into the west at terrific speed and disappear suddenly. Mr. [REDACTED] described the object as being of a golden hue, rather indistinct in outline and possessing somewhat the appearance of a major's insignia, that is, irregularly rounded and slightly concave on top.
4. Mr. [REDACTED] saw only one object which was evidently the one that veered to the right and down. He was able to keep it in sight longer than did Mr. [REDACTED] and described its maneuvers as completing a large loop after its downward descent, then soaring upward and disappearing suddenly. To him it appeared gray-white in color, its vaguely defined form giving the appearance of a large object at great distance.
5. Presumably Mr. [REDACTED] saw the object that did not veer to the right. He stated that this object made three vertical loops upon completion of which it disappeared in a large arc to the west at tremendous speed. He admitted that at first glance it seemed to resemble a balloon but in his considered opinion it was definitely not that. He stated that it was absolutely silent on the desert that afternoon and that no audible noise was heard from the object. Neither was any signal nor atmospheric noise heard on the 400-meter receiver to which he was listening at the time. He further stated that the wind at high altitude that day was very calm being only 10 to 15 miles an hour from the west at 65,000 feet. As for any possible size, if the object were considered the size of an orange the object would approximate the size of a dime.

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Page 2

Supplement to Trin Rpt to Watson Labs - 3 and 4 Jun 48

6. All agreed on the following: the object was very high, moved faster than any known aircraft, possessed a rounded, indistinct form, and disappeared suddenly rather than fading away in the distance. It was under observation 1/2 minutes or slightly less. It was definitely not a balloon and apparently not manned judging from the violent maneuvers which were performed at a high rate of speed.

7. Dr. [REDACTED] stated that he placed great credence upon these observations because all three men are trained balloon observers. He suggested that an observation team equipped with search apparatus both optical and radar be placed at Holloman Air Force Base in order that more definite information might be secured in the event of a recurrence of an incident of this type. He also suggested that the radio sonde stations in the U. S. be alerted for incidents of this type. He promised to alert the observers in his department to be on the watch for and to report any similar incidents.

8. Mr. [REDACTED] of the Radar Laboratory was interviewed on 4 June 1948. His statements do not check very closely with those contained in Lt [REDACTED]'s report to this office. Mr. [REDACTED] stated that Lt [REDACTED] was one of two observers on a modified CPS 4 Optical Tracking Device. The observations Lt [REDACTED] reported seeing on this equipment could not be confirmed at any time by the other tracker. Mr. [REDACTED] passed off the "ghost" he personally observed on the radar equipment as merely the illusion of the equipment. He explained that this "ghost" did not move, and was possibly the echo from a distant mountain on a side wave of the radar equipment. He also spoke of "crazing" which is the effect on radar by the white gypsum sand in the area directly west of the Air Base. He also mentioned another form of "ghost" called "Angels" which have been detected and which are believed to be caused by changes in air density. Such phenomena have been observed and reported from Camp Edwards.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION TO BE TAKEN

1. In the light of Mr. [REDACTED] statements, the frequency of the sightings at Holloman Air Force Base does not warrant the placing of an observation team at that station. Should the sightings become more frequent and more substantial evidence be received from Dr. [REDACTED] alerted observers, further consideration will be given to the initiation of such a project.

2. The Weather Service Headquarters at Tinker Field will be questioned as to the feasibility of alerting their radio sonde stations to be on the lookout for unidentified aerial objects. A similar request will be made to the Signal Corps and Coast Artillery through Headquarters, Army Field Forces.

DOWNGRADED AT 5 YEAR INTERVALS:  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.  
DOD DIR 5200.10

[REDACTED]

JAMES C. BEAM  
Lt Col., USAF  
Project Officer  
Tech Intel Div.

UNCLASSIFIED



## Request for Travel

TO:

FROM:

DATE:

1. It is requested that travel orders be prepared for:

a. Name: (1) Officers (2) Enlisted Men (3) Civilians

(1) JAMES C. BEAM Lt Col AO-34418 USAF  
First Init Last Grade Serial No Arm Of

(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
First Init Last Grade Serial No Sq A

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ Aeronautical Engineer  
First Init Last Civil Service Designation

b. Travel to begin on or about 3 May 1948c. For approximate number of days 2 daysOffice of Director of Intelligence,d. To Air Intelligence Req. Div (AFOR) Hq, USAF, Washington 25, D.C.Activity to be visited City StateActivity to be visited City StateActivity to be visited City StateActivity to be visited City Statee. Is any change in itinerary necessary? \_\_\_\_\_ If "Yes" give  
reason: \_\_\_\_\_f. Purpose of travel is to discuss classified Project HT-304(1) Justification: per orders of Colonel Clingermang. Travel is in connection with Project No. HT-304h. Individual is cleared for access to \_\_\_\_\_ Lt Col James C. Beam  
material pertinent to these orders. (Top Secret) (Secret)i. Mode of travel desired is by mil air and/or \_\_\_\_\_



j. Is per diem requested: X  
Yes No

k. Funds are chargeable to MCIA  
Division Symbol

l. If travel is to Washington, authority from Washington must be shown

(1) Letter

Office of origin Subject Date

(2) Teletype

Office of origin Number Date

(3) Telephone

Col Robert Taylor, III

AFOIR

conversation  
or verbal  
orders

Name of person in Washington

Office

Col H. M. McCoy

MCI

Name of person at this Hq

Office

Date

m. For permanent change of station (scientists only) list dependents showing name, relationship and age; also, state whether shipment of household goods and personal effects at government expense is requested:

(1) Dependents

|      |              |     |
|------|--------------|-----|
| Name | Relationship | Age |
| Name | Relationship | Age |
| Name | Relationship | Age |
| Name | Relationship | Age |

(2) Is shipment of household goods requested?

Yes

No

I certify that I have checked this request for travel orders and consider travel essential to effectively discharge the functions of this position.

Signature of Section Chief  
W. R. CLINGERMAN, Col, USAF  
Chief, Tech Intelligence Div  
Intelligence Department

NOT RECORDED

MAY 15 01 14

*media*

WED

1. MAY 15 1948

RECEIVED 11:30 HOLLOWAY NEW YORK 3322751

CC AND WRIGHT PAT AND DAYTON OHIO

101

AT 6:00

1. MAY 15 1948 TO ATTN: TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION  
 CURTIS MOIR-4-1 LTD 33 AND 43 PD DR [REDACTED] OF WATSON LABORATORIES  
 STARTED FOR MAXWELL FIELD CMA MONTGOMERY ALA 1 MAY 48 TO [REDACTED]  
 CAN BE CONTACTED AT MAXWELL FLD ON OR ABOUT 11 MAY 48 RECENT YOU  
 [REDACTED] FOR AVAILABILITY TO OTHER COM. FOR

4413132

*For [unclear] [unclear]*

MCIA/ACL/amb

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| A. G. P. |   |
| PRIORITY |   |
| UTIME    | X |
| LTITLE   |   |
| ADDRESS  |   |

# TELETYPE MESSAGE

AIR SERVICE COMMAND TELETYPE NETWORK

FROM: AMC

DATE: 30 Apr 48

W. R. CLINGERMAN, Col, USAF  
Chief, Tech Intelligence Div  
Intelligence Department

TO: COMMANDING OFFICER  
HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE  
ALAMOGORDO, NEW MEXICO  
ATTN: COL PAUL F. HELMICK

NAME, RANK AND TITLE OF AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

TELETYPE NO. MCIA-4-1

*Subject: Interview Dr J. C. Peoples*

MR. ZABRISKI OF THIS HQ INDICATED THAT DR. [REDACTED] OF THE WATSON LABORATORIES HAS INFORMATION THAT WOULD BE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE TO THE INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT. CONFERENCE WITH [REDACTED] REQUESTED ON 5 OR 6 MAY 1948. ADVISE IF CONVENIENT. INTELLIGENCE REPRESENTATIVES LT-COL JAMES C. BEAM AND MR. [REDACTED] WILL TRAVEL BY MILITARY AIR.  
SIGNED, TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

COORDINATION

| C. G. OR C. O. | CONTROL OFFICE | MAINTENANCE | P G T | SUPPLY | BUDGET & FISCAL | OTHERS |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|-------|--------|-----------------|--------|
|                |                |             |       |        |                 |        |
|                |                |             |       |        |                 |        |