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Incident #115 *11/15/72*

DATE OF INFO 09 April 1948

LOCATION Greenville AFB, SC

SOURCE USAF Officers

DATE INFO ACQ ----

COLOR white

SHAPE Elliptical

HEIGHT Stationary then climbing

WEIGHT 15,000-20,000 lb

LOCATION North

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED 2 minutes

NO. OF GROUPS 3, 1 first and two later

TYPE OF EVASION ground

MANEUVER Hovering then acceleration & climb

REMARKS 2

Witnesses were attracted by sound of fighter aircraft in vicinity. They started searching the sky for the aircraft and sighted the objects. When first sighted, the witnesses thought the objects might be weather balloons. However, when they accelerated so rapidly in a northerly heading, they determined the objects could not be balloons. They were in a trail formation on a North-South line, and moved so rapidly they were out of sight within a few seconds. From original sighting in the stationary position to their disappearance, a period of approximately two (2) minutes elapsed, at which the objects were in a stationary position for approximately one (1) minute.

NOTE: Wind at 20,000 ft from 340° at 10 knots per hour (1230 EST Rpt)
Wind at 20,000 ft 32° at 13 knots per hour at (1830 EST Rpt)

NOTE: Nearest weather station releasing balloons is Spartanburg, S. C.
One black balloon was released at 1230 EST.

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CONFIDENTIAL

AMC
Subject: "Report of Sighting Flying Discs"

1st Ind

MCIA/JCB/smb

Hq, AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio APR 27 1948

TO: Commanding General, Greenville Air Force Base, Greenville, S. C.
ATTN: Intelligence Officer, 5th Liaison Squadron

Reference is made to paragraph 2, basic communication. Request clarification as to whether the fighter aircraft heard were actually observed in addition to the unidentified flying objects.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

W. A. McGuff
W. A. McGuff

Colonel, USAF

Chief of Intelligence

2nd Ind

TO: Commanding General, 5th Liaison Squadron, WAFB, Greenville,
South Carolina, 6 May 48

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Pat-
terson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.
ATTENTION: Chief of Intelligence

One witness states he actually saw and identified
fighter aircraft which attracted his attention, and also
saw unidentified flying objects.

Thomas J. Maher
THOMAS J. MAHER

1st Lt, USAF

Intelligence Officer

1 Incl
Statement of 1st Lt
Francis L. Hennin Jr.
USAF

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

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Inc #115A

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OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
5TH LIAISON SQUADRON
Greenville Air Force Base
Greenville, South Carolina

19 April, 1948

SUBJECT: Report of Sighting Flying Discs

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTENTION: TSDIN

1. In accordance with instructions contained in TAC Letter, file TAC 000.92 (16 Feb 48), Subject: Reporting of Information on Flying Discs, dated 16 February, 1948, the following information is submitted:

a. Objects sighted at 1615, 19 April, 1948 over Greenville Air Force Base, Greenville, South Carolina.

b. Weather at time of sighting: clearing and visibility unlimited.

c. Witnesses:

1st Lt Francis W. Hennin Jr, HEAD, AO-971104
5th Liaison Squadron, Greenville Air Force Base,
Greenville, South Carolina

1st Lt Robert G. Loomis, USAF, AO-38318
5th Liaison Squadron, Greenville Air Force Base,
Greenville, South Carolina

d. No photographs available.

e. Sketches of objects configuration attached.

f. Objects sighted:

1. Number of objects sighted: two (2).
2. Shape: elliptical.
3. Size: undetermined.
4. Color: white.

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DOI DIR 5200.10

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Ltr Hdqrs 5th Liaison Squadron, GAFF, Office of the Intelligence Officer, Greenville, S. C. Subj: Report of Sighting Flying Discs, dtd 19 April, 1948 to Commanding General, AMC, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio. ATTN: TSDIN

5. Speed: Undetermined. Stationary, then rapidly accelerating and climbing.
6. Heading: North.
7. Maneuverability: No display except acceleration.
8. Altitude: approximated 15,000 feet plus.
9. Sound: none audible.
10. No exhaust or condensation trail.

g. General remarks: Witnesses were attracted by the sound of fighter aircraft in the vicinity. They started searching the sky for the aircraft and sighted the objects. When first sighted, the witnesses thought the objects might be weather balloons, however, when the objects accelerated so rapidly in a northerly heading, they determined that the objects could not be balloons. The objects were in a trail formation on a North-South line. The objects moved so rapidly that they were out of sight within a few seconds. From original sighting in the stationary position to their disappearance, a period of approximately two (2) minutes elapsed, of which the objects were in a stationary position for approximately one (1) minute. As a precaution against submitting an erroneous report, the local weather office was checked to see whether any weather balloons had been released and a negative reply was received. The winds aloft report made at 1230 hours EST, 19 April, 1948, indicated at 10,000 feet that winds were from 90 degrees at 3 knots per hour and at 20,000 feet, from 340 degrees, at 10 knots per hour. The 1830 hour EST report indicated winds at 10,000 feet to be from 25 degrees at 2 knots per hour, at 14,000 feet from 24 degrees at 4 knots per hour and, at 20,000 feet to be from 32 degrees at 13 knots per hour. Nearest weather station releasing balloons is Spartanburg, S. C., one black balloon was released at 1230 EST.

2. Statement of 1st Lt Robert G. Loomis is enclosed. Statement of 1st Lt Francis W. Hennin Jr. is not available at this time due to his absence from this station, however statement will be forwarded under separate cover when statement is available.

3. The undersigned officer interviewed witnesses and investigated weather conditions.

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THOMAS J. MAHER
1st Lt, USAF
Unit Intelligence Officer

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S T A T E M E N T

On the 19th day of April, 1948, at approximately 1615 hours, I, with Lt. Loomis, was standing in front of our squadron orderly room. As we were talking, I heard the sound of fighter aircraft flying and searched the sky in the direction of the sound, whereupon, I noticed one (1) white balloon object on a Northeast heading. I then noticed that there were two (2) objects.

These objects were at an estimated 15,000 to 20,000 feet and seemed to be stationary; then these two (2) objects seemed to accelerate very rapidly in a northerly direction and at the same time, seemed to be climbing until they were lost to sight. It is estimated that these objects were visible for not more than three (3) minutes.

Lt. Loomis and myself discussed the possibility that the objects were weather balloons. I, personally, checked the weather office to determine if weather balloons had been released and I was informed that no balloons had been sent aloft.

Francis W. Hevren Jr.
FRANCIS W. HEVREN JR
1st Lt, USAF

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