

04/0452

DATE OF INFO 3 March 1950

LOCATION Selfridge AFB, Mich

NO. AF Matter

SOURCE AF Pilot

DATE OF OBS 3 April 1950

TYPE INFO AFIC

TIME OF OBS 2305 IST

COLOUR White

TYPE OF LIGHT Source

HEIGHT 5,000'

MODE OF FLIGHT Erratic (W to S to N)

DURATION OF THE OBSERVED 4 Min.

NO. OF WITNESSES 1

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground

Descended vertically before fast horizontal flight

Source observed the erratic flight of this light. Compared it to house window at night viewed from 30 yards.

(Filed: 9 March 1950 -- Selfridge folder.)

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UNIDENTIFIED

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On the first occasion of noticing the strange object 3 Mar 60, at 2305, I had just come from the Selfridge AFB Officers' Club and as I turned down Wright Blvd. on the way to the main gate I noticed a strange object directly over the Post Exchange Bldg., descending vertically at a slow rate. I stopped the car and watched this object descend to an approximate height of 5,000 feet, hovering there for approximate one (1) minute then proceeding in a westerly direction to approximately fifty (50) miles west of my position. Then the object turned south and flew approximately fifty (50) miles, then turned around and flew back north for approximately fifty (50) miles, then stopped and disappeared from my view. The above took place in four minutes, (time checked with my personal wrist watch).

True perspective was not possible because it did not diminish in size or intensity as it increased its distance from me. The movement was as stated above but I cannot state the figures given above as accurate, because of the false perspective. An airplane flew by on an approximate heading of 285° at 3,000 feet just after the object moved on a heading of 270°. It was easy to determine the relative size and the diminishing size of this aircraft (C-47), as it proceeded on its course and completely faded at approximately eight (8) miles.

The object was distinguished from an airplane by its vertical descent and its great speed in the lateral plane. It was distinguished from heavenly bodies by its rapid change in relative position from the vertical to the horizontal. Also its abrupt change in course.

The only way I can describe the light from this object is by comparing it to the light of a house window at night, at a distance of thirty (30) yards and the yellowish glow it gives off. The object had a slightly darker color and a greater intensity than a house light as mentioned above.

The object did not light up the area beneath it, although it seemed to burn with an extremely intense dull light, nor did it light up the surrounding light haze. In watching this object I was unable to determine the size, the intensity and the size of the light did not change appreciably (not noticeable to me) during the entire time I watched its movement.

Although I had just come from a stag party at the Officers' Club, I was completely sober, having only one glass of beer during the entire evening. Because of this, I did not mention this experience until 9 Mar 60, the night I saw strange happenings on the radar scopes (AN/CPS-4 and AN/CPS-5 Radar).

UNCLASSIFIED

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

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Incl 2

DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVER	EVALUATION
1-3	Knoxville, Tenn	Gd RADAR	1,2. Ground Returns 3. A/C
3	Selfridge AFB, Mich	Mattson	UNIDENTIFIED
4	Grass Plains, Texas	Eubank	A/C
5	Vaughn, N Mexico	Hayner	Astro (Venus)
6	Ft Bliss, Texas	Arent, Adams	Astro (Venus)
8	W-P AFB, Ohio	Air Visual	Astro (Solar Image)
		Gd Visual	Astro (Venus)
		Gd RADAR	Other (Returns in Ice Clouds)
9	Orangeburg, Columbia, S Carolina	M21	Astro (Meteor)
9	Selfridge AFB, Michigan	Parker	Balloon
10	Bethel, Conn	Vaghi	Other (Psychological)
11	Biggs AFB, Texas El Paso, Texas	Ziegler, Alford	Astro (Venus)
11	Chile	Multi	Astro (Venus)
11	Holloman AFB, N Mexico	Hayner (VideomP)	Insufficient Data
13	St Johns, Mich	Bosworth	Insufficient Data
14	Piggott, Arkansas	Taylor, Thompson	Balloon
14	Pacific Beach, Washington	Bellieu	Insufficient Data
15	Guatemala	Neuman, Christ, Gebbauer	Insufficient Data
15	Little Silver, N Jersey	Jerman	Other (Contrails)
	Red Bank, N Jersey	Lyons, Kincaid	" "
	Fair Haven, Watervich, N Jersey	Prentiss, Weiczereck	" "
	Ft Monmouth, N Jersey	Koch	" "
17	Roslyn, L I, N York	Farth	A/C
17	Little Rock, Arkansas	Bradford	A/C
18	Bradford, Ill	Fisher	A/C
20	N York, N York	Underhill (PHOTO)	Astro (Moon)
20	Stuttgart, Arkansas	Anderson	UNIDENTIFIED
22	Montpelier, Vermont	Cozzi	Other (Reflection)
23	85 mi NW Jacksonville, Fla	Military Air	Astro (Meteor)
24	Sandia Army Base, N Mexico	4 Soldiers	Balloon
24-25	Chile	Civilians	Insufficient Data
26	Adamant, Vermont	Berba	A/C
26	Brunswick, Ga	Preston, Dubs, Rozier	A/C
27	Motubu, Okinawa	Military RADAR	UNIDENTIFIED
28	Chattanooga, Tenn	Romite, Winfield	Balloon
28	Santiago, Chile	Patterson	UNIDENTIFIED
28	Hibbing, Minn	Larsen	Astro (Meteor)
29	Marathon Lake, Tenn	Williams, Whitehead	UNIDENTIFIED
29	Maxwell AFB, Alabama	Turner	Insufficient Data
30	Sioux City, Iowa	Bohmer, Hyde, Baker	Balloon
30	Sioux City, Iowa	Wagner, Kjos	Other (Debris in Air)
30	Pittsburgh, Pa	Pioretti	Balloon
30	Selma, Ala	4 Civilians	A/C

ADDITIONAL REPORTED SIGHTINGS (NOT CASES)

DATE	LOCATION	SOURCE	OBSERVER
DR Mar	Hawthorne, Calif	Los Angeles Times	Palles PHOTO
DR Mar	Mexico	Newspapers	Dismick (Landing w/wm)
DR Mar	Baldwin Hills, Calif	Newspapers (P.S.)	Wolford Kite
DR Mar	N Mexico-Colo	Newspapers	Locke Tanner
DR Mar	Pennsylvania	Keyhoe	Bunter
2	Mexico City, Mexico	Newspaper	Erre (PHOTO)
11	LaCrescenta, Calif	Newspaper	Lytle
13	Mexico City, Mexico	Newspaper	Smith, DeLaVega, Sote
26	Wash, D C	Newspaper	Tooten
27	Hong Kong, China	Newspaper	American Seamen
DR 30	Mediterranean Area	Newspaper	Multi