

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian

18 DEC 1957

26-8-0 DATE

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
17TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

18 November 1957

UNCLASSIFIED

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S): Unidentified Flying Object Sighted near Orogrande, New Mexico at approximately 1310 hours, 4 November 1957 by Mr. [REDACTED], Civilian Employee, Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico

TO: Commander
34th Air Division (Defense)
Kirtland Air Force Base
New Mexico

ATTENTION: Inspector General

1. Forwarded herewith in accordance with AFR 200-2, is information obtained by our OSI Detachment, Holloman AFB, New Mexico, from Mr. [REDACTED], Civilian Employee (Electronics Technician - Telemetry, GS-11), Holloman AFB, New Mexico, who advised that while driving south of Orogrande, New Mexico on Highway 54 at approximately 1310 hours, 4 November 1957, he noticed that his car radio began to fade as though the radio tube filaments had been turned off, and the engine of his car slowed and quit. [REDACTED] advised that he pulled off the highway and at that time noticed another motorist pointing toward the sky. He stated that he then observed an unidentified flying object approaching from a northeast direction which appeared to swoop toward the town of Orogrande and headed north. [REDACTED] estimated the speed of the object to be extremely fast (in the Mach 1 or Mach 2 range), stating that this estimation was based on his comparison of the time the object was visible and the known distance between the San Andres Mountain Range and the Sacramento Mountain Range. [REDACTED] indicated that he felt a rising temperature and that his face was slightly sunburned, however, the burn was not painful. [REDACTED] furnished the following information which is submitted for any action you may deem appropriate:

Description of the Object:

- (1) Parabolic shape.
- (2) Size compared to a known object: size of a pea held in the hand at arms length.
- (3) Color: Egg shell white or pearly color.
- (4) Single object, sighted twice or two objects sighted at two separate and distinct intervals.
- (5) No discernible features or details other than general shape.
- (6) No tail, trail or exhaust or means of propulsion visible.

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SPEC 11

24-185-17-127
26 Nov 57

17D INV 24-8-0 (18 Nov 57) SUBJ: UNKNOWN SUBJECT(S): Unidentified Flying Object Sighted near Orogrande, NMex at Approx 1310 hrs, 4 Nov 57, by Mr. [REDACTED], Civ Emp, Holloman AFB, NMex.

- (7) No sound.
- (8) Heat was noticed by the observer when object passed, allegedly giving the observer a sunburn, reportedly not painful.

b. Description of the Course of Object:

- (1) Attention of the observer was called to the object when his car radio faded as though the tube filaments had been turned off and his car engine died, and upon pulling off highway noted other motorist pointing toward sky.
- (2) Angle of Elevation when first observed; approximately 30 degrees, azimuth approximately 45 degrees true.
- (3) Angle of Elevation when object disappeared; approximately 15 degrees; azimuth approximately 270 degrees true.
- (4) Object approached from about a 45 degree azimuth, dipped toward Orogrande, New Mexico and headed north. Object approached a second time after disappearing, following the same path.
- (5) Length of time in sight; briefly, viewed about 3 minutes total.
- (6) Manner of observation; ground visual without aids.
- (7) Time and Date of sighting; 1310 hours, 4 November 1957.
- (8) Light conditions; day.
- (9) Position of observer; 10 miles south of Orogrande, New Mexico on U.S. Highway 54.
- (10) Identification of Observer; [REDACTED] Alamogordo, New Mexico. Civil Service Employee, Holloman AFB, New Mexico, Electronics Technician-Telemetry.

c. Weather and Winds Aloft Conditions at Time of Sighting:

- (1) Observers account of weather; cloudy - good visibility.
- (2) Weather report from Air Weather Service at time of sighting and winds aloft:
 - (a) 1400 feet scattered, 2500 feet broken, high overcast, visibility 40 miles, temperature 62 degrees, Dew Point -46, surface winds SSW at 6 knots, Sea Level pressure 121 Mbs.

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(b) Winds aloft:

6,000 ft - 170 degrees at 10 knots
10,000 ft - 220 degrees at 35 knots
16,000 ft - 230 degrees at 45 knots
20,000 ft - 230 degrees at 60 knots
30,000 ft - 240 degrees at 100 knots
50,000 ft - 240 degrees at 65 knots
80,000 ft - 330 degrees at 10 knots

(3) No thunderstorms in area.

(4) No other unusual activity, meteorological or astronomical.

d. No interception

e. Location of any aircraft in the area; unknown.

f. Existence of physical evidence; unknown.

2. In addition to the foregoing information, Mr. [REDACTED] prepared a U. S. Air Force Technical Information Sheet which is attached to this letter as an inclosure.

3. This letter is classified ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ pursuant to authority contained in Paragraph 30c(2)(a), AFR 205-1.

Incl
U.S.A.F. Tech
Info Sheet

R. S. RIFE
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Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

cc: Dir OSI
w/o Incl