

14 May 2004
Richmond, Indiana

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Pictures

Change field out

Richmond, Indiana

1963 JUN 2

RECEIVED JUN 20 1961

POST OFFICE BOX 10000 RICHMOND INDIANA 47401

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STIMMONS, IRENE

20 MAY 1954

At 1200 (GMT) on 24 May 1954, an Air Force Major, flying a photographic gapping mission near Portland, Indiana, observed and photographed what appeared to be a large, high-velocity light moving below his aircraft. The light traveled a distance of six miles over the ground at a speed twice that of the aircraft.

Intensive studies of the photographs were made. The studies indicated that the light was not a material object.

Extensive investigations, exploring all possible views and avenues of approach to the probable nature of the object were made. The ground under both the path taken by the aircraft and the object were examined with a fine tooth comb. Photographs were made of the area for a study of ground characteristics of other class. Aircraft flights, radar units and other operations were ~~also~~ strictly checked carefully, with negative results.

The data was submitted to a panel of scientists and specialists, which included astronomers, microbiologists, and a physicist. It was concluded that the sighting was a very rare aerial phenomenon caused by the reflection of the sun's rays upon an ice-crystal platelet formation.

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This case contains 1
9" x 9" negative, 10 9" x 9" photos,
3 9" x 18" photos and 15, 3" x 4"
photos.

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File
with
Case

24 May 1954
Richardson Prod.
Ice Crystal Photo

~~Make a View Graph to
from the map.~~

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MICHIGAN, INDIANA

24 MAY 1954

As 1205 (GMT) on 24 May 1954, an Air Force Major, flying a photographic mapping mission near Hammond, Indiana, observed and photographed what appeared to be a large, high-intensity light moving below his aircraft. The light traveled a distance of six miles over the ground at a speed twice that of the aircraft.

Intensive studies of the photographs were made. The studies indicated that the light was not a material object.

Extensive investigations, exploring all possible cases and avenues of approach to the probable nature of the object were made. The ground under both the path taken by the aircraft and the object were examined with a fine tooth comb. Photographs were made of the area for a study of ground characteristics or other clues. Aircraft flights, radar with and without operations were immediately checked carefully, with negative results.

The data was submitted to a panel of scientists and specialists, which included astronomers, meteorologists, and a physicist. It was concluded that the sighting was a very rare aerial phenomenon caused by the reflection of the sun's rays upon an ice-crystal platelet turbulence.

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24 May 1957

Capt. Howard F. Ruppelt, formerly head of the Project "Bluebook" investigation, told in his book Report on Unidentified Flying Objects, Doubleday, 1956, p. 311) of the May 24, 1946, photograph taken over the area of an F4U near Dayton.

Since the Air Force has allegedly declassified this report, I wonder if it would be possible to obtain a print of the photograph Ruppelt referred to. I am aware that it shows only light and I would like to see a print of it nevertheless.

Sincerely,

Richard Hill

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DRAFT COPY

Mr. Richard Hall
221 Burdette Street
New Orleans 18, La.

Dear Mr. Hall -

With reference to your letter of 19 September 1951, your request for a photograph should be directed to the Department of Defense, Office of Public Information, Memorial Branch, Room 21790, Pentagon, Washington, D. C.

A charge of \$54 is made for each picture releasable through that office. We suggest that you do not send the money until you are certain the photograph is available. If the office of Public Information can identify and supply the requested picture, then your remittance should be by Postal Money Order made payable to the Treasurer of the United States.

Sincerely,

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TO: Colonel O'Ware
Commander, AFICATTN: Capt. Martin
RL/TJH/7
7 June 1954SUBJECT: FOR REVIEWREQUEST:

1. To obtain approval for proposed travel by Captain Charles A. Martin to Richmond, Indiana and vicinity.

FACTS AND SITUATION:

2. On 28 May 1954 an unidentified flying object was sighted and photographed from a mapping aircraft near Richmond, Indiana.
3. The purpose of the trip will be to determine the area characteristics and whether or not anyone sighted the object from the ground.
4. This appears to be a significant case in which a complete investigation should be made.
5. It is proposed that the traveler be in Richmond, Indiana for one day, 3 May 1954, travel time should not exceed one day.
6. The traveler certifies that no suspense items for which he is responsible will become delinquent during the period of his temporary duty and travel outside the AFIC.

COORDINATION:

AFIC Lt. Col. Harry C. Johnston, Branch Chief _____

AFIC Col. Wayne A. O'Ware, Division Chief _____

AFIC Col. Oscar F. Justice, Sr., Office Chief _____

AFIC Col. J. A. O'Ware, Commander _____

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10

MAY 1962 EDITION
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27T
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1944 (20, 100 1944)

1. The very matter of arrival in the... referred to in the enclosed letter from Mr. Taylor is... as a reflection.
2. The man was... place to get a photograph... extensive coverage... the witness was alert... identified in... from... signing... -17, identified in... from... -10-representations...
3. While there... attributed to the... errors in... reporting, which are... compared with... almost date... of the... the photograph... that the subject is a reflection of... of the... source as... from the... available.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Rich Post

JERRY S. STAM
Colonel, USAF

Deputy for Defense and Comports

2 Apr
-2 Air B - at 20 from
Robert S. Taylor

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McCarthy Lt 404 11/1/47

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AND-414

Mr. Slating (Re New ISA)

1965 001

SAFID-36 (Major Tamm)

1. The sighting referred to in the attached letter from Mr. Taylor is carried in the NYD file as a reflection.
2. The case was given very extensive coverage and the witness was alert enough to get a photograph (the aircraft from which this sighting took place was a B-27, suitable for photo-communication work).
3. While there are certain errors in the reporting, which can probably be attributed to the excitement of the witnesses, the photograph, when compared with altitude data and the position of the B-27, leaves no doubt that the object is a reflection of the sun from ice crystals.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Rich Post 4/1/57
 WELF G. BRADY
 Colonel, USAF
 Deputy for Detachment and Components

1 copy
 -2 Mr. G. et al. from
 Herbert J. Taylor

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

2-12-1954

AA 1005 (INT) on 24 May 1954, at Air Force 43,000, firing a photographic mapping station near Richmond, Indiana, observed and photographed what appeared to be a large, high-intensity light moving below his aircraft. The light traveled a distance of six miles over the ground at a speed twice that of the aircraft.

Intensive studies of the photographs were made. The studies indicated that the light was not a material object.

Extensive investigations, exploring all possible cause and means of approach to the probable nature of the object were made. The ground water table the path taken by the aircraft and the object were examined with a fine beam sound. Photographs were made of the area for a study of ground characteristics or other cause. Aircraft flights, radar work and other operations were immediately checked carefully, with negative results.

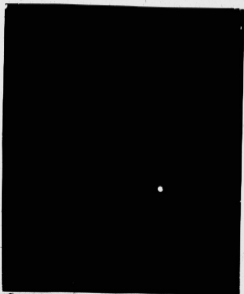
The data was submitted to a panel of scientists and specialists, which included meteorologists, astrophysicists, and a physicist. It was concluded that the sighting was a very rare aerial phenomenon caused by the reflection of the sun's rays upon an ice-crystal platelet formation.

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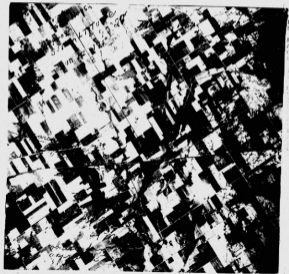
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PROJECT W073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 24 May 74 04/1200Z	2. LOCATION Richmond, Indiana
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION Reflection of sun rays being carried by ice crystal formations.
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 000	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Brilliant white light sighted by air crew and photographed by aerial camera.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 45 seconds	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION SCT VISUAL	
7. COURSE Stationary	
8. PHOTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

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RICHMOND, INDIANA
INCIDENT

24 May 1964

At 0215 (EST) on 24 May 1964, an Air Force Major, flying a photographic mapping mission near Richmond Indiana, observed and photographed what appeared to be a large, high-intensity light moving below his aircraft. The light traveled a distance of six miles over the ground at a speed twice that of the aircraft.

Intensive studies of the photographs were made. The studies indicated that the light apparently was ~~not~~ a reflection -- not a material object.

Extensive investigations, exploring all possible clues and avenues of approach to the probable nature of the object were made. The ground under both the path taken by the aircraft and the object were examined with a fine tooth comb. Photographs were made of the area for a study of ground characteristics or other clues. Aircraft lights, radar units and other operations were immediately checked carefully, with negative results.

The data was submitted to a panel of scientists and specialists, which included astronomers, meteorologists, and a physicist. It was concluded that the sighting was a very rare aerial phenomenon caused by the reflection of the sun's rays upon an ice-crystal plate-like formation.

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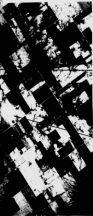
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Location: Richmond, Ind (West)
Dt of Observation: 1202Z 857.
25 May 1956
Observer: Lee Brinkner. No. 1.
USAF

Air Speed: 270 Knts
G/L Speed: Est. 340 Knts
Length of Observation: 45 Sec.
Sun Alt.: 90.00°
Sun Az.: 170

Alt: Also 18,500 Ft.
Type of Camera: G¹, F11
Kodak camera



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RICHMOND, INDIANA

AS 1225 (LUT) on 24 May 1954, an Air Force Major, flying a photographic mapping mission near Richmond, Indiana, observed and photographed a large high intensity light moving below his aircraft.

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Wright Field Major, Observer

Photo Mapping Mission

Richmond, Ind. 24 May 1954 1205 APT

High intensity ~~search~~ light

Called Pilot and Crew

45 Sec. observation

Acrft speed 200 MPH

Light double speed of soft

Lost over, built up area of city

soft ruled out

Photo studied

Ground studied

Final

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The light traveled a distance of six (6) miles over the ground at a speed twice that of the aircraft and in a different loading.

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A panel consisting of astronomers, meteorologists, a physicist, the observer and
the project monitor, concluded that the sighting was a very rare ~~meteor~~ *meteorological-optical* phenomenon.

~~caused~~ caused by the reflection of the sun rays being carried by ice crystal *platelets*
formations.