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HEADQUARTERS
315TH AF BARRACKS UNIT (RES TNG)
GODMAN FIELD, FORT KNOK, KENTUCKY

/s/ hgm

9 January 1948

The undersigned was on duty at Godman Field 7 Jan 48 as Operations Officer.

At approximately 14:00 hours and 7 minutes, 7 Jan 48 I received a call from Lt. Orner, WACS Detachment Commander, that the Tower had spotted an unidentified object and requested that I take a look. Lt. Orner pointed out the object to the southwest, which was easily discernible with the naked eye. The object appeared round and white (whiter than the clouds that passed in front of it) and could be seen through cirrus clouds. After looking through field glasses for approximately 3 or 4 minutes I called Co. Hix's office, advising that office of the object's presence. Lt. Col. Wood and Capt. Duesler came to the tower immediately. Col Hix followed them.

About this time a flight of four P-51 aircraft were noticed approaching from the south. I asked Tec. Sgt. Blackwell, Tower Operator to contact the planes and see if they would take a look at the object for us. The planes were contacted and stated they had sufficient gas to take a look. One of the planes proceeded on to Standiford, the other planes were given a heading of 230°. One of the planes said he spotted the object at 1200 o'clock and was climbing toward it. One of the planes then said, "This is 15,000 ft., let's level out". One of the planes, at this point (apparently the plane who saw the subject) estimated its speed (the object's) at 1800 P.H. A few seconds later he stated the object was going up and forward as fast as he was. He stated that he was going to 20,000 feet, and if no closer was going to abandon the chase. This was the last radio contact I heard. It was impossible to identify which plane was doing the talking in the above report. Later we heard that one plane had landed at Standiford to get fuel and oxygen to resume the search.

The undersigned reported to Flight Service a description, position of the object while the planes searched for it.

"CERTIFIED A TRUE COPY"

JAMES F. DUESLER, JR.
CAPTAIN, USAF

/s/ Gary W. Carter
GARY W. CARTER
Captain, USAF

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CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

Incident # 33D

1. Date **7 Jan 48**
2. Time **After 1407**
3. Location **Godman Fld**
4. Name of observer **Capt Cary W. Carter**
5. Occupation of observer **Operations Officer**
6. Address of observer **Godman Fld., Ky**
7. Place of observation **Control Tower**
8. Number of objects **1**
9. Distance of object from observer **N/S**
10. Time in sight **3 to 4 minutes**
11. Altitude **Very high**
12. Speed **Approx 360 MPH - f/Flight Leader's reports**
13. Direction of flight **210° f/Godman Fld**
14. Tactics **None**
15. Sound **N/S**
16. Size **Could not be determined**
17. Color **white**
18. Shape **Round - at times cone shaped**
19. Odor detected **N/S**
20. Apparent construction **N/S**
21. Exhaust trails ~~XX~~ **N/S**
22. Weather conditions **High scattered - ~~visibility maintained~~**
23. Effect on clouds **Could be seen thru cirrus**
24. Sketches or photographs **None**
25. Manner of disappearance **N/S**
26. Remarks: **(over)**

At approx 1407, 7 Jan 48, Capt Carter was called by Lt Orner, AACS Detachment Commander, to come to Tower to witness an unidentified aerial object.

Object appeared round and white (whiter than the clouds that passed in front of it) and could be seen thru cirrus clouds.

After observing it thru field glasses for some 3 - 4 minutes, he called Col Hix's office. Col Hix, Lt Col Wood & Capt Duesler came to the tower shortly thereafter.

Capt Carter then suggested that a group of P-51 aircraft in the vicinity be contacted to pursue the object. T/Sgt Blackwell, Tower Operator, contacted the flight leader to take a look. Three planes proceeded on a heading of approx 230°. One of the planes (Mantell's) spotted it at 1200 o'clock position. Another plane relayed "This is 15,000 ft, let's level out" First speed as relayed by Mantell (180 MPH) Later, "object going up and forward as fast as I am" - or 360 MPH. Mantell then stated he was going to 20,000 ft and if no closer would abandon chase. Last radio contact heard by Capt Carter.

NOTE: Apparently, Mantell blacked out at 20,000 ft or proceeded on since the object apparently appeared closer (if such were the case) and then crashed thru lack of oxygen.

Does not seem to tally with report that the phenomena was "Venus or a comet"