SUMMARY OF INFORMATION [redacted] CLASSIFIED

DATE: 9 March 1949

PREPARING OFFICE: Fourth Army Intelligence Liaison Officer, Sandia Base, Albuquerque, New Mexico

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Light Phenomena

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE		OF INFORMATION	
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	A	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	1
USUALLY RELIABLE	B	PROBABLY TRUE	2
FAIRLY RELIABLE	C	POSSIBLY TRUE	3
NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	D	DOUBTFULLY TRUE	4
UNRELIABLE	E	IMPROBABLE	5
RELIABILITY UNKNOWN	F	TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED	6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

1. An unidentified flying light was observed in New Mexico on 8 March, 1949 at 1835 hours. Observations are reported from:

Kirtland AFB control tower
Los Alamos, AEC Project.

2. (a) Kirtland AFB reports luminous object, blue white in color in northwest horizon. Descent vertical, exploding before reaching earth. No sound indicated.

(b) Los Alamos guard station #106 reports luminous object, greenish white in color, west of southwest. Direction of flight southeast on horizontal plane. Altitude at or below partial cloud cover. Duration of sighting 2 to 4 seconds. Speed slower than meteor or falling star. No noise heard.

(c) Los Alamos guard station #103 reports luminous object, greenish white with billowy white flaming tail. Seen west of southwest by observer, gliding in a 60° downward angle. Was at altitude of cloud layer. Speed undetermined but described as floating or lazy manner. Observed for 2 to 4 seconds. No noise heard.

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE: 15 March 1949

PREPARING OFFICE: Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft
452.1 AKADB

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE		OF INFORMATION	
COMPLETELY RELIABLE	A	CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES	1
USUALLY RELIABLE	B	PROBABLY TRUE	2
FAIRLY RELIABLE	C	POSSIBLY TRUE	3
NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	D	DOUBTFULLY TRUE	4
UNRELIABLE	E	IMPROBABLE	5
RELIABILITY UNKNOWN	F	TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED	6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

The following information was submitted to this headquarters on 9 March 1949.

"An unidentified flying light was observed in New Mexico on 8 March, 1949 at 1835 hours. Observations are reported from:

Kirtland AFB control tower
Los Alamos, AEC Project.

"Kirtland AFB reports luminous object, blue white in color in northwest horizon. Descent vertical, exploding before reaching earth. No sound indicated.

"Los Alamos guard station #106 reports luminous object, greenish white in color, west of southwest. Direction of flight southeast on horizontal plane. Altitude at or below partial cloud cover. Duration of sighting 2 to 4 seconds. Speed slower than meteor or falling star. No noise heard.

"Los Alamos guard station #103 reports luminous object, greenish white with billowy white flaming tail. Seen west of southwest by observer, gliding in a 60 degree downward angle. Was at altitude of cloud layer. Speed undetermined but described as floating or lazy manner. Observed for 2 to 4 seconds. No noise heard."

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DI, GS/USA; CG, AMC, Wright Patterson AFB; File

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—63310-1

[redacted]

[redacted]

GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

UNC
Incident

1. Date of Observation: 8 Mar 1949 Date of Interview: 8 Mar 1949

2. Exact time of observation (local): 1835 hours

3. Place of Observation: 35 deg 53 min 09 sec N
(Map Coordinates) 106 deg 14 min 54 sec W

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location of - give details):
Outside; at security guard post, Los Alamos, New Mexico

5. What attracted attention to object: Light

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or grouping:
One

7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length):
N/S

8. Color of object: Intense white light

9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object):
Eliptical, pointed at ends; similar to fuselage of ME 109

10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead): Appeared to be below clouds (approx 11,000 feet above sealevel, 4,000 feet above terrain)

11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north):
First position - 259 deg; last position - 268 deg.

12. Distance from observer (Distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Aparently one-half mile.

13. Direction of flight of object (s): South to North, descending at 45 degree angle.

14. Time in sight: Very short

15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance):
Slower than twin engine plane - angular speed not available

16. Sound and odor: None

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[redacted]

Guide to Investigation Incident No. _____

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistance, etc.)
None

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescent, other - degree of brilliance):
Self-luminous; appeared to be flaming.

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, canopies, etc.):
Doubtful, but possible as in sketch;

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives; etc. - sketch of flight path):
Descent at even 45 degree angle.

21. Manner of disappearance: Disappeared behind trees

22. Effect on clouds: N/S

23. Additional information concerning object:
Central part seemed to be solid silver colored fuselage, with a flame or glow surrounding it.

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:
Overcast at 6,000 feet; object seen in open space in clouds.

Name and address of observer: Inspector W. E. Patterson, AESS, Los Alamos, New Mexico

Occupation and hobbies:
Atomic Energy Security Inspector (Guard)

Comments of Interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (Check neighbors, police dept., FBI records, employer, etc.):

Complete background investigation conducted on all AESS personnel. Intelligence and stability major requirements for employment.

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting, or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?

N/S

[redacted]

[redacted]

TO: Lt. E. D. Hightower, Protective Force Headquarters

FROM: Inspector, W. E. Patterson, Section III

TIME: 1835

DATE: 8 March 1949

DIRECTION: Appeared to be over installation traveling North and approaching the earth at about a 45 degree angle.

SPEED: Seemed to be drifting toward the earth at less than flying speed of a modern twin engine plane.

COLOR: Intense white light.

ALTITUDE: Lower than the clouds obscuring the peaks to the West of the installation.

POINT OF OBSERVATION: From Station 103 in Bayo Canyon (106° 14' 54" W - 35° 53' 09" N)

SOUND: None heard

OBSERVER: W. E. Patterson

STATEMENT BY OBSERVER: This Inspector was extremely startled by this object as the first impression was that it was a plane on fire and about to crash nearby. As the eyes became adjusted to the distance this Inspector had the distinct impression of seeing a silver or aluminum colored body inside the flame or glow that resembled that part of the fuselage of a war-time German type plane from just behind the wing to just in front of the tail assembly. This Inspector further had the impression that the object was actually flaming and that the flames were quite visible. The overall shape of the object including the flame or light was much like the accompanying sketch. The object appeared less than ½ mile from the observer and the outlines were very distinct.

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(A)

SKETCH - by Inspector Patterson.

S T A T E M E N T

This Inspector was extremely startled by this object as the first impression was that it was a plane on fire and about to crash nearby. As the eyes became adjusted to the distance this Inspector had the distinct impression of seeing a silver or aluminum covered body inside the flame or glow that resembled that part of the fuselage of a war-time German type plane from just behind the wing to just in front of the tail assembly. This Inspector further had the impression that the object was actually flaming and that the flames were quite visible. The over-all shape of the object including the flame or light was much like the accompanying sketch. The object appeared less than ½ miles from the observer and the outlines were very distinct.

W. E. Patterson

W.E. PATTERSON,
Security Inspector,
806 Quartz Street,
Los Alamos, New Mexico

INCIDENT NO. 276

1. Date of Observation 6 March 49 Date of Interview 8 March 49
2. Exact Time (local) 1630
3. Place of Observation Los Alamos, Anderson, New Mexico, 35° 53' 09" North 106° 17' 54" West
4. Position of observer Ground in observation tower
5. How attracted attention to object. Sight
6. Number of objects One
7. Apparent size 1/4 size of Sun
8. Color of object Orange with bright glow around it
9. Shape Eliptical, pointed at ends, similar to fuselage of ME 109 (German).
10. Altitude 12,000 - 15,000'
11. Direction from observer First Position 275° Last Position 289°.
12. Distance from observer Apparently one-half mile.
13. Direction of flight of object(s) South to North descending at 45° angle.
14. Time in sight 1 to 2 Seconds.
15. Speed Approx that of twin engine plane - drifting toward earth.
16. Sound and odor None
17. Trail Object appeared to be flaming.
18. Luminosity Self-luminous, Appeared to be flaming.
19. Projections Level flight and descent at even 45°.
20. Maneuvers Disappeared into clouds.
21. Number of Observers
22. Effect on Observer
23. Additional Information or Comments Central part seemed to be solid colored fuselage, with a flame or glow surrounding it. Overcast at 6,000' Object seen in open space in clouds.
24. Weather Conditions

(over)

276

W. E. Patterson
AESS, Los Alamos, New Mexico.
Inspector Atomic Energy Security Service.

Complete investigation relative to Intelligence and stability made as a requisite for employment.

This inspector was extremely startled by this object as the first impression was that it was a plane on fire and about to crash nearby. As the eyes became adjusted to the distance this Inspector had the distinct impression of seeing a silver or aluminum covered body inside the flame or glow that resembled that part of a fuselage of a war-time German type plane from behind the wing to just in front of the tail assembly. This inspector further had the impression that the object was actually flaming and that the flames were quite visible. The overall shape of the object including the flame or light was much like the accompling sketch. The object appeared less than 1/mile from the observer and the outlines were very distinct.

NOTE: Sketch referenced above not received.

[redacted]

GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION

UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident #

1. Date of observation 8 Mar 1949 Date of interview 8 Mar 49

2. Exact time of observation (local) 1836 hours

3. Place of Observation: 35 deg 52 min 33 sec N
(Map Coordinates) 106 deg 16 min 40 sec W

4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location of - give details):
Station 106, Los Alamos, New Mexico; inside.

5. What attracted attention to object: Light.

6. Number of objects and sketch of formation or progression:
One

7. Apparent size (compare to known object, i.e., sun, moon, thumb or fist at arms length):
N/S

8. Color of object: Bright white with slight greenish tinge.

9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object):
N/S

10. Altitude (angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead):
Just above horizon; about level with tops of peaks.

11. Direction from observer (angle clockwise from north):
Start at 275 deg; end at 289 deg.

12. Distance from observer (distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be):
N/S

13. Direction of flight of object (s):
South to North

14. Time in sight: 1 to 2 seconds

15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance):
Estimated at 800 MPH

16. Sound and odor: None

[redacted]

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Guide to Investigation | Incident No.: _____

17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.)

N/S

18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescent, other - degree of brilliance):

Self-luminous

19. Projections (fins, wings, rods, antennae, cenopies, etc.):

N/S

20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc. - sketch of flight path):

N/S

21. Manner of disappearance:

Either went out or disappeared behind cloud cover.

22. Effect on clouds:

N/S

23. Additional information concerning object:

Appeared to parallel the mountain range.

24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting:

Overcast at 6,000 feet.

Name and address of observer: Inspector Leonard Lang, AESS, Los Alamos, New Mexico

Occupation and hobbies:

Atomic Energy Security Service Inspector (Guard)

Comments of Interpreter relative to intelligence and character of observer (Check neighbors, police dept., FBI records, employer, etc.):

CBI requisite for employment; intelligence and stability required.

Did observer wear glasses, especially polaroid glasses at time of sighting, or was object viewed through canopy, window, or other transparent material?

Saw at first through glass window; went out and saw with no obstruction just at disappearance.

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TO: Lt. E. D. Hightower, Protective Force Headquarters

FROM: Inspector Leonard Lang

TIME: 1836

DATE: March 8, 1949

DIRECTION: South to North (I 275° - True - L 289° (true)

SPEED: 800 Miles per hour

COLOR: Bright white with a slight greenish tint

ALTITUDE: 12000 to 15000 ft.

POINT OF OBSERVATION: Station 106 (106° 16' 40" W - 35° 52' 33" N)

SOUND: None

OBSERVER: Inspector Leonard Lang

DURATION OF OBSERVATION: 1 to 2 seconds

STATEMENT OF OBSERVER: I was sitting in the tower at my station, and glanced out the northwest window just as a bright white object went by on the western horizon. I jumped up and ran outside just in time to see the object either go out or disappear into the cloud cover. I checked the time which was 1836 hrs. The object was traveling from south to north, roughly parallel to the range of mountains and at approximately the same height as the top of the peaks.

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HEADQUARTERS FOURTH ARMY
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS

452.1 AADB-

UNCLAS 15 March 1949

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: A.C.I.

1. Reference letter, Intelligence Division, [illegible], 452.1, 25 March 1949, Subj, "Unconventional Aircraft," and to Control No. A-1917.

2. Inclosed Summary of Information, this office, subject and file as above, 15 March 1949, re unidentified flying object observed in New Mexico on 8 March 1949 at 1535 hours, is forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary.

FOR THE [illegible]:

Curtis L. Poland

1 Incl
As stated

CURTIS L. POLAND
Colonel, AGC
AC of S, G-2

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[redacted]

MAR 25 1949

A. Hamilton Lt. Col. USAF

[illegible]

Eustis L. Poland
EUSTIS L. POLAND
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

2 incls
1-S/L, subj, "Unidentified Flying Light Phenomena," dtd Mar 49
2-Guide to Investigation re observation dtd Mar 49, Los Angeles, ..., w/3 incls

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1 - 31 MARCH SIGHTINGS *1949*

DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVER	EVALUATION
March-May	Fort Worth, Texas	Multiple	INSUFFICIENT DATA
March	Dumont, New Jersey	Flannery	INSUFFICIENT DATA
2	Los Alamos, New Mexico	Sewald	Astro (METEOR)
3	Los Alamos, New Mexico	Richard	Astro (METEOR)
4	Red Bank, New Jersey	Goodbee, Kovacs	AIRCRAFT
6	Killeen Base, Camp Hood, Texas	Multiple	Astro (METEOR)
7	Window Rock, Arizona	Wilson	Astro (METEOR)
7	Killeen Base, Camp Hood, Texas	Multiple	Astro (METEOR)
7	Vermillion, Ohio	Hillyard	INSUFFICIENT DATA
8	Killeen Base, Camp Hood, Texas	Sims, Payne	Astro (METEOR)
8	Los Alamos, New Mexico	Patterson, Lang	Astro (METEOR)
9	Eau Claire, Wisconsin	Gosovich	Other (CONTRAIL)
10	Kirtland AFB, New Mexico	Hutchinson	AIRCRAFT
12	Chariton Iowa, Minneapolis, Minnesota	Croft, Carlson, Armstrong	Astro (METEOR)
13	Sandia Base, New Mexico	Espina, Manny	Astro (METEOR)
14	Honolulu, Hawaii	Page	Astro (METEOR)
15	Morgantown, West Virginia	Wright	Astro (METEOR)
17	Rethimnon, Crete	Civilians	INSUFFICIENT DATA
17-18	Killeen Base, Camp Hood, Texas	Multiple	UNIDENTIFIED
18	Quebec, Canada	Multiple	AIRCRAFT
24	Bend, Oregon	Leverett, Innis	Other (KITES)
27	Tucumcari, New Mexico	Multiple	BALLOON
28	Morgantown, West Virginia	Wright	Astro (METEOR)
29	Shemya, Alaska	Multiple	1. AIRCRAFT 2. Astro (METEOR)
30-31	Ambridge, Pennsylvania	Hilderbrand, Boles	Others (BIRDS)
31	Killeen Base, Camp Hood, Texas	Davis	Astro (METEOR)
31	Rodeo, New Mexico	Slover, Curley (PHYSICAL SPECIMEN)	Other: (PRACTISE TYPE BOMB)

ADDITIONAL REPORTED SIGHTINGS (NOT CASES)

DATE	LOCATION	SOURCES	OBSERVER