DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
2D DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
67 BROAD STREET
NEW YORK 4, NEW YORK

IN REPLY
REFER TO: 24-273

16 October 1951

SUBJECT: Newspaper Release Concerning Unconventional Flying Object
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO : Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Reference is made to letter, this district, subject and file as above, dated 5 October 1951.

2. On 12 October 1951, the Stewart Air Force Base Detachment, this district, was telephonically advised by Major ELI, First Army, Governors Island, New York, that during the month of October, there will be two (2) to three (3) balloons released during daylight hours Monday through Friday, and at night between 1800 and 2300 hours. In addition, twenty (20) captive balloons will be released between 0900 and 1900 hours during October. The source of these balloons is the meteorological branch, Evans Signal Laboratory, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. CAA, FBI, and EADF have been notified. EADF has notified ADC and the 26th and 32nd Air Divisions.

3. Inclosed is photograph which appeared in the New York Herald Tribune on 13 October 1951.

4. The foregoing is furnished for your information and any action deemed necessary.

5. This investigation comes within the purview of paragraph 4c, AFR 205-8, 20 January 1950. Information furnished herewith has been derived from sources other than the Department of the Air Force and, in accordance with paragraph 8b, AFR 205-1, dissemination must not be made outside USAF channels.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF ...
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historian
4 DEC 1973

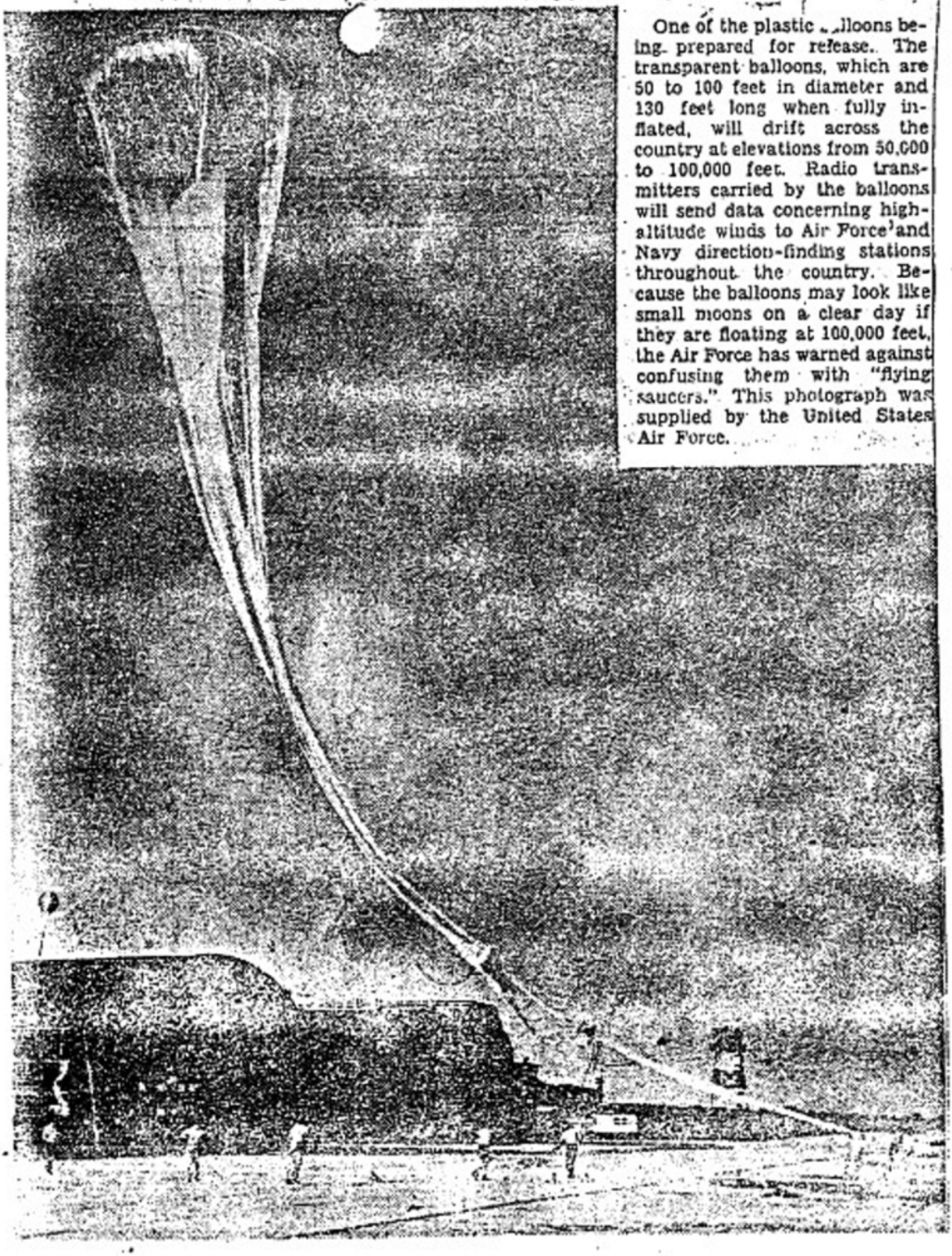
1 Incl:
As indicated above.

FRANK P. DUNNINGTON
Colonel, USAF
District Commander

[redacted]

RF D-1265

Air Force Sending Huge Balloons Aloft for Wind Studies



One of the plastic balloons being prepared for release. The transparent balloons, which are 50 to 100 feet in diameter and 130 feet long when fully inflated, will drift across the country at elevations from 50,000 to 100,000 feet. Radio transmitters carried by the balloons will send data concerning high-altitude winds to Air Force and Navy direction-finding stations throughout the country. Because the balloons may look like small moons on a clear day if they are floating at 100,000 feet, the Air Force has warned against confusing them with "flying saucers." This photograph was supplied by the United States Air Force.