

27 April 1949

S T A T E M E N T

On 24 April 1949, three miles north of Arrey, New Mexico, four Navy enlisted men from White Sands Proving Ground (Chief Akers, Davidson, Fitzsimmons and Moorman) and I saw a rapidly moving object while making a pibal wind run. We released a 350 gram balloon at about 1020 MST and were following it with a standard ML-47 David White Theodolite. After the 1030 reading, Davidson took over the theodolite and Akers and I looked up to find the balloon with naked eye. We thought we had the balloon when we picked up a whitish spherical object right along the direction the theodolite was pointing ( $45^{\circ}$  elevation and  $210^{\circ}$  azimuth). The object was drifting east rapidly ( $5^{\circ}$  second as estimated by stopwatch and width of fingers), but we had thought to encounter similar winds on the balloon. When the distance between the theodolite and supposed balloon became apparent, I took over the theodolite and found the true balloon still there, whereupon I abandoned it and picked up the object after it came out of the sun (this gives another good bearing if you wish to work out a sun shot at 1033 MST at Arrey). The object was moving too fast to crank the theodolite around; therefore, one of the men pointed the theodolite and I looked. The object was an ellipsoid about 2:1 slantness, ratio length about  $.02^{\circ}$  subtended angle. White in color except for a light yellow of one side as though it were in shadow. I could not get a hard focus on the object due to the speed at which the angles changed. Therefore, I saw no good detail at all.

The azimuth angle continued to decrease as the object continued on a north heading, growing smaller in size. At around  $20^{\circ}$ - $25^{\circ}$  azimuth the azimuth held constant and the elevation angle began increasing from the  $25^{\circ}$  minimum to about  $29^{\circ}$ . The object then apparently disappeared due to distance after a

~~REDACTED~~

  
total time of observation of about 60 seconds.

The object was not a balloon and was some distance away. Assuming escape velocity, a track is enclosed which figures elevation above the station of about 300,000 feet over the observed period. If this is true, the flight would have probably gone over the White Sands Proving Ground, Holloman Air Force Base, and Los Alamos.



## PROJECT 10073 RECORD

|                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1. DATE - TIME GROUP</b><br>24 April 49 24/1720Z                                                   | <b>2. LOCATION</b><br>Arrey, New Mexico                                                                                            |
| <b>3. SOURCE</b><br>Military                                                                          | <b>10. CONCLUSION</b><br>UNIDENTIFIED                                                                                              |
| <b>4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS</b><br>ONE                                                                    |                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION</b><br>60 seconds                                                         | <b>11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS</b><br>Observers sighted a white ellipsoid with a yellow light.<br>It was drifting East rapidly. |
| <b>6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION</b><br>Ground-Visual                                                        |                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>7. COURSE</b><br>East                                                                              |                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>8. PHOTOS</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No            |                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |                                                                                                                                    |

FORM

27 April 1949

S T A T E M E N T

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UNCLASSIFIED

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C. B. MOORE  
General Mills Research  
Minneapolis

|                                                                                                                              |  |                                              |                     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE<br>THE INSPECTOR GENERAL<br>OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS<br>REPORT OF INVESTIGATION |  | FILE NO.<br>24-9                             | DATE<br>17 May 1949 |
| TITLE<br><br>UNKNOWN AERIAL PHENOMENA                                                                                        |  | REPORT MADE BY<br>R. R. LUMSDEN              |                     |
|                                                                                                                              |  | REPORT MADE AT<br>DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas   |                     |
|                                                                                                                              |  | PERIOD<br>24 April 1949 - 5 May 1949         |                     |
|                                                                                                                              |  | OFFICE OF ORIGIN<br>DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas |                     |
|                                                                                                                              |  | STATUS<br>PENDING                            |                     |

CHARACTER  
SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE  
Report, 5 January 1949, S/A JAMES J. TEACHNOR, DO #10, Kelly AFB, Texas

SYNOPSIS

On 6 May 1949, District Office No. 10 received from G-2, Fourth Army, report concerning unknown aerial phenomena in the vicinity of Arrey, New Mexico. Copy of statement by [REDACTED], 27 April 1949, and Guide to Investigation by [REDACTED] attached. (Inclosures No. 1 and 2.)

On 16 May 1949, report received from Commanding General, Anti-aircraft Artillery and Guided Missile Center, Fort Bliss, Texas, through G-2, Fourth Army, relative sighting of unidentified aerial object 5 May 1949. (Inclosure No. 3). The sketches accompanying this report retained in file, D. O. No. 10.

PENDING

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY [REDACTED]  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF [REDACTED]

BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF  
Historian

5 DEC 1975

|                         |   |                                                                        |                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| DISTRIBUTION            |   | ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO                                               | FILE STAMP                                                                                                 |
| ✓ Hq. OSI<br>(3 Incls.) | 2 | Hq. OSI                                                                | 24-1785-103<br>UNCLASSIFIED<br>MAY 29 2 18 PM '49<br>OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION<br>134532 AUG 12 1949 |
| File<br>(3 Incls.)      | 2 | APPROVED<br><i>R. R. Lumsden</i><br>R. R. LUMSDEN<br>Lt. Colonel, USAF |                                                                                                            |

STATEMENT

On 24 April 1949, three miles north of Arrey, New Mexico, four Navy enlisted men from White Sands Proving Ground [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and I saw a rapidly moving object while making a pilot wind run. We released a 350 gram balloon at about 1020 MST and were following it with a standard ML-47 David White Theodolite. After the 1030 reading, [REDACTED] took over the theodolite and [REDACTED] and I looked up to find the balloon with naked eye. We thought we had the balloon when we picked up a whitish spherical object right along the direction the theodolite was pointing ( $45^{\circ}$  elevation and  $210^{\circ}$  azimuth). The object was drifting east rapidly ( $5^{\circ}$  second as estimated by stopwatch and width of fingers), but we had thought to encounter similar winds on the balloon. When the difference in direction between the theodolite and supposed balloon became apparent, I took over the theodolite and found the true balloon still there, whereupon I abandoned it and picked up the object after it came out of the sun (this gives another good bearing if you wish to work out a sun shot at 1033 MST at Arrey). The object was moving too fast to crank the theodolite around; therefore, one of the men pointed the theodolite and I looked. The object was an ellipsoid about  $2\frac{1}{2}:1$  slenderness ratio, and the length was about  $.02^{\circ}$  subtended angle. It was white in color except for a light yellow of one side as though it were in shadow. I could not get a hard focus on the object due to the speed at which the angles changed. Therefore, I saw no good detail at all.

The azimuth angle continued to decrease as the object continued on a north heading, growing smaller in size. At around  $20^{\circ}$ - $25^{\circ}$  azimuth the azimuth held constant and the elevation angle began increasing from the  $25^{\circ}$  minimum to

Incl #1

[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~

about 29°. The object then apparently disappeared due to distance after a total time of observation of about 60 seconds.

The object was not a balloon and was some distance away. Assuming escape velocity, a track is enclosed which figures elevation above the station of about 300,000 feet over the observed period. If this is true, the flight would have probably gone over the White Sands Proving Ground, Holloman Air Force Base, and Los Alamos.

Another balloon released from that site 15 minutes later went to 93,000 feet and ended up only 13 miles south of us when it burst at that altitude after an 88 minute flight. Therefore, the object was not a free balloon under 90,000 feet.

/s/ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Avenue  
Minneapolis 13, Minnesota  
Tel: Geneva 0371 - Ext 385



OVERLAY FROM AERU MAR 4 60  
ESTACADO PLAIN

HEADED DIRECTION  
OF SANTA FE

SACRAMENTO MTS

Highway

AROUND  
300,000  
FEET HIGH

ALMOLONGO  
35 ELEVATION

5 MIN SEC

XX  
AROUND  
XX

70 MILES

DISTANT IF MOVING  
AT ESCAPE VELOCITY

ANDRES MTS

CAN

ANDRES

ESTIMATED  
TRACK

OUTPOST

HITCH

NEW MEXICO

RIO GRANDE RIVER

HOT SPRINGS

CABALLAS  
CANYON

PARISH

450 ELEV

2

DEPT

LETTER

GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION  
~~SECRET~~  
UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL OBJECTS

Incident No. \_\_\_\_\_

1. Date of observation 21 April Date of Interview \_\_\_\_\_
2. Exact time of observation Between 1030 - 1035 MST
3. Place of observation: 32° 53' N 107° 20' W  
(Map Coordinates)
4. Position of observer (air, car, bldg, location or - give details:)

Ground, operating a theodolite tracking balloon.

5. What attracted attention to object: turned to look at balloon with naked eye.
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 .02 (size of balloon 350 gm size at 15,000 feet distance.)
8. Color of object: White
9. Shape (give graphic description - compare with known object): Elliptical, around 2:1 slenderness ratio.
10. Altitude (Angle of elevation above horizon - 0° at horizon, 90° overhead):  
Came in from 210° at 45° elevation. Passed through the sun, was about 35° when due east then disappeared at 25° elevation at about 25° east of north.
11. Direction from observer (Angle clockwise from north): \_\_\_\_\_
12. Distance from observer (distance to town, bldg, etc., over which object appeared to be): Unknown
13. Direction of flight of object (s): See back
14. Time in sight: Around 60 seconds
15. Speed (time to cover given angular distance): Measured to be 5° azimuth/sec.
16. Sound and odor: None. Quiet--no trucks or planes near at time.
17. Trail (color, length, width, persistence, etc.): None
18. Luminosity (visible by reflection, incandescence, other - degree of brilliance): Reflected reflection
19. Projections (fins, wings, rads, antennae, canopies, etc.): None visible  
focus not good.
20. Maneuvers (turns, climbs, dives, etc - sketch of flight path)  
See back

End #2

## GUIDE TO INVESTIGATION (Cont'd)

Incident No. \_\_\_\_\_

21. Manner of disappearance: Grew smaller rapidly then disappeared.
22. Effect on clouds: No clouds. No effect.
23. Additional information concerning object: See report
24. Weather conditions and light at time of sighting: Clear except for 1/10 cumulus to west, no dust, bright desert day.
25. Name and address of observer: [REDACTED], [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED], Minneapolis, Minn.  
Occupation and hobbies: Chemical engineer, Meteorological Training (equipment, balloons) Member Balloon Crew, [REDACTED] Hobby: Astronomy.  
Comments of interrogator relative to intelligence and character of observer (check neighbors, police dept, FBI records, employer, etc.)

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

UNCLASSIFIED

4-10-47

OAK RIDGE, TENN.

JULY '47

4-10-47

4-10-47

With 174 incidents thus eliminated, there remain thirty-four which contain some evidence but have no apparent ready explanation. This statement is true only under the assumption that the evidence is accepted as reliable and accurate. When psychological and physiological factors are taken into consideration, all of these incidents can be explained rationally, as pointed out by Rand Corporation and the Wings of Air Materiel Command Aero-Medical Laboratory (see pages 47 and "G").

Air Materiel Command Aero-Medical Laboratory, Fort Belvoir, St. Louis, Mo.  
112 Incidents considered)

There are sufficient psychological explanations for the reported unidentified flying objects to provide plausible explanations for reports not otherwise explainable. These errors in identifying real stimuli result chiefly from inability to estimate speed, distance, and size.

All of the remaining 34 incidents are treated in detail in this report. These incidents form no pattern in regard to area of sighting; type of object, or manner of performance. There are indications, however, that some sightings were influenced by earlier reports, and probably would not have been considered unusual or reported but for no publicity.

#### APPENDIX I

#### Project Grudge

#### Summary of AWC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

#### VII. Summary of AWC Evaluation of Remaining Reports

The remaining unexplained incidents (see Appendix "I") exhibit few common characteristics. Two of them, by statements of the reporters, did not have been made had the witnesses not read of the 1st. Similar incident (Incident No. 17). Most were distributed without pattern throughout the United States. A few were outside the U. S. No two descriptions of appearance or performance were exactly alike. The reported sightings occurred at various times of day and year.

#### APPENDIX II

In the following section of this report, each remaining unexplained incident is considered separately. It is not the intent to generally discuss the character of observers, but each case has undesirable elements, and must not be disregarded. The numerical designation is merely the chronological order of the incident in the project files.

17, 19, 21, 29, 35, 37, 40, 51, 58, 62, 64, 63, 71, 73, 76, 77, 79, 84,

121, 122, 134, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 163, 176, 183, 185, 193, 207, 215, 216,

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

a. High probability:

#26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94,  
95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140,  
147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216,  
219, 238.

b. Fair or low probability:

#19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100,  
112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192,  
199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:

#3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115,  
126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163,  
169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 198, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198,  
200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:

#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107,  
108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):

#39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:

#38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118,  
125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213,  
229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:

#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71,  
76, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162,  
168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226,  
227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.

Incident #13 -- Mt. Jefferson, Oregon -- 4 July 1947

There is no astronomical explanation for this incident.

See report on incident #5.