

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 24 April 1964		LOCATION Socorro, New Mexico		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other <u>UNIDENTIFIED</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ XUnknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1745 GMT 25/0045Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes Physical Spec ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Less than 10 minutes		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE Stationary, SW or West	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Sighting of landing by Lonnie Zamora. SEE CASE FILE.				11. COMMENTS Initially believed to be observation of Lunar module type configuration. Effort to date cannot place vehicle at site. Case carried as UNIDENTIFIED pending additional data.	

Tab A

TWX and Messages

1. TWX regarding Capt Quintanilla's visit to Socorro dtd 30 Jun
2. TWX from SAFOI dtd 13 May
3. Summary
4. Letter to SAFOI dtd 28 May
5. Memo from Capt Quintanilla to Col de Jonckheere, dtd 27 Apr
6. Initial report received at FTD

Tab B

Investigative Data

1. 14 May letter to Cloud Gap
2. Opal Grinder
3. Maj Mitchell
4. Ltr to FAA, 27 May
5. Miscellaneous Data

Tab C

Lunar Module Information

1. Basic List
2. Douglas A/C, dtd 20 May 64
3. Hughes A/C, dtd 20 May & 26 May 64
4. Cleveland Pneumatics, dtd 20 May 64
5. Goodyear, DTD 19 May 64
6. Menasco, dtd 20 May 64
7. Unanswered letters (seven)

Tab D

Miscellaneous Notes

JOINT MESSAGE FORM

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

ZNR

30 JUN 64 15 33z 2u
TOT-30/16403 17

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)	ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION ROUTINE	BOOK			
INFO ROUTINE	MULTI			
	SINGLE	AF		

FROM:

FTD, WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO

TO:

~~AFMDC, HOLLOMAN AFB, NEW MEXICO~~~~INFO AFMDC, HOLLOMAN AFB, NEW MEXICO~~

RUWGBA

UNCLAS/TDEW(UFO)

FOR MDG, INFO MDPC. REFERENCE TELECONS MR SEYEN, CAPT WEIDMER AND CAPT QUINTANILLA, 24 JUN 64. CAPTAIN HECTOR QUINTANILLA, AO 2231554, WILL ARRIVE ON OR ABOUT 6 JUL 64 FOR MEETING WITH MDC COMMANDER. CAPT QUINTANILLA IS CLEARED UP TO AND INCLUDING TOP SECRET.

COORDINATION:

Kathy E. Kuntz

TDXS 30 June 64 DATE

30 1526z

DATE	TIME
30	1526
MONTH	YEAR
JUN	64

SYMBOL

TDEW/UFO

WRITER
 HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr Capt/mhs

PHONE 69216/66378

PAGE 1

NR. OF PAGES 1

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

SIGNATURE

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE

ERIC T de JONCKHEERE

COLONEL, USAF

DEPUTY FOR TECHNOLOGY AND SUBSYSTEMS

RECEIVED

FTD

WPA044CZCSQD996ZCJYB301

RR RUCDSQ

DE RUEAHQ 393 13/2138Z

ZNR

R 132130Z

FM CSAF

TO RUCDSQ/AFSC FTD WPAFB OHIO

RUWGKD/AFSWC KIRTLAND AFB NMEX

INFO RUEAGL/AFSC

BT

UNCLAS FM SAF-OIPB 78007.

ROUTINE

action 1-3E ud

NUMEROUS INQUIRES CONCERNING AIR FORCE INVESTIGATION AND EVALUATION OF THE RECENT UFO SIGHTING AT SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO, 24 APRIL, CONTINUE TO BE RECEIVED FROM NEWS MEDIA, FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. THIS HQ IS UNABLE TO RESPOND PROPERLY PENDING RECEIPT OF YOUR CONCLUSIONS. REQUEST APPROPRIATE ACTION BE TAKEN TO INSURE THAT REPORTS OF PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO INVESTIGATE AND EVALUATE THE SIGHTING BE COMPLETED AND FORWARDED IMMEDIATELY.

BT

TDEW

UFO Sighting, Socorro, New Mexico, 24 Apr 64

13 May 64

Hq USAF SAFOI PB (Mrs Gaiser)
Wash 25 D C

1. The following is a resume on the unidentified flying object sighted by Mr Lonnie Zamora, of Socorro, New Mexico.

a. At approximately 1745, 24 Apr 64, while giving chase to a car in Socorro, Mr Lonnie Zamora heard what he believed to be a roar and saw a flame in the sky to the southwest, approximately one half mile away. Mr Zamora, ~~who is~~ a policeman for the Socorro Police Department, believed that a dynamite shack in the area had blown up and decided to go to the shack and not pursue the speeding automobile.

b. Mr Zamora claims that the flame was bluish and sort of orange in color. However, he could not tell the size of the flame which was slowly descending. The flame was of a narrow type and streamed down into sort of a funnel shape. At this time he was still driving his car and did not pay too much attention.

c. Mr Zamora traveled slowly on the gravel road westward toward the object. He noted nothing for a while and he went slowly looking for the shack; he could not recall exactly where the shack was located. He suddenly noted to the south of his position a shiny object which was off the road. At first glance it appeared as a car upside down. He thought some kids might have turned it over. At this point he saw two people in white coveralls, quite close to the object. One of these persons seemed to stop and look straight at him and seemed startled. At this point Mr Zamora was traveling with the idea of helping them. The object was like aluminum-white, smooth, but not like chrome. Object was oval shape and at first glance appeared to look like an overturned white automobile. The only time that Mr Zamora saw the two people in white coveralls was when he stopped, probably two seconds or so. The two persons appeared to be normal in shape. At this point Mr Zamora proceeded towards the object and radioed the sheriff's office at Socorro of a possible accident. He informed the Socorro office that he would be busy and out of his car, checking the object.

d. Mr Zamora stopped his car while he was still talking on the radio and started to get out. He finished his conversation with the sheriff's office and proceeded towards where the object was. He then heard a roar, a very loud roar but not like a jet, which was of low frequency and then rose in frequency and very very loud. At the same time that the roar was heard he saw a flame. The flame was under the object. Object started to go straight up, slowly. Object rose slowly and flame was coming from the bottom. The color was light blue and sort of orange, but he saw no smoke. However, there was dust in the immediate area. As soon as Mr. Zamora saw the flame and heard the roar he turned and ran away from the object. He bumped his leg on the back fender of his auto, lost his glasses, fell to the ground, got up and proceeded away from the object for at least another 50 feet. He fell to the ground and covered himself like an ostrich, expecting the object to blow up. The roar lasted for a few seconds.

e. When there was complete silence, he lifted his head and saw the object going away from him. The object appeared to go straight up to an altitude of 15 feet and proceed slowly towards the dynamite shack where it cleared the shack by what appeared to be three feet. Object traveled six miles in three minutes.

f. Mr Zamora went back to his car and asked the radio operator at the station to look out the window and see if he could spot the object. The radio operator failed to spot the object because he was facing North and could not see the object from this angle.

g. Mr Zamora claims that the object had no flame whatsoever as it was flying over the ground and he could see no smoke.

h. After the object had left the area, Sgt Chaves, of the New Mexico State Patrol, arrived at the scene. Sgt Chaves claims that Mr Zamora was perspiring and very white, very pale. Sgt Chaves and Mr Zamora saw a burning brush and proceeded to the spot where the object had first been seen.

i. Mr Zamora claims that the object had two legs slanted outwards, towards the ground and he also claims that he distinctly heard two or three loud thumps, like someone possibly shutting or opening a door.

2. It is my belief that Mr Zamora is telling the truth and that he did in fact see a man made object which probably belongs to one of the services. There is no indication that this vehicle which Mr Zamora saw came from outer space, now or ever.

3. Attached is a listing of sightings reported to the Air Force and might be attributed to the Socorro, New Mexico sighting.

FOR THE COMMANDER

ERIC T de JONCKHEERE
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Technology
and Subsystems

1. Atch
Listing

There was no evidence of markings of any sort in the area other than the shallow depressions at the location where Mr Zamora reported sighting the object.

Laboratory analysis of soil samples disclosed no foreign material or radiation above normal for the surrounding area.

Laboratory analysis of the burned brush showed no chemicals which would indicate a type of propellant.

There was no evidence presented that the object was extraterrestrial in origin or represented a threat to the security of the United States.

The Air Force is continuing its investigation and the case is still open.

For several days following this report, other sightings were reported in the New Mexico area. In each case the sighting was determined to be a known object or natural phenomena. Two of the reports were determined to be hoaxes.

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT REPORT
SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO, 24 APRIL 1964

On April 24, 1964, a Socorro, New Mexico policeman, Mr Lonnie Zamora, reported sighting an object about a mile south of the town at approximately 5:45 pm, in an unpopulated area full of hills and gullies and covered with sagebrush. Following is a summary of his report to Air Force investigators:

Mr Zamora reported that while chasing a speeding car north on US 85, he heard a roar and saw flames in an area where a dynamite shack was known to be located. He abandoned chase of the auto and proceeded to where he believed an explosion had occurred. After traveling a little-used road and experiencing considerable difficulty in trying to drive his car up a gravel-covered hill, he said he then observed what he thought was an overturned car standing on end. At this point he was about 800 ft distant from the object and his car was at the crest of a hill with the object ahead of him in a gully. He reported that during this first glance he saw one or two figures in coveralls whom he assumed to be occupants of the object. This is the only time he saw these figures; he did not see them again. After radioing to Police Headquarters at Socorro that he was proceeding to investigate what he believed to be an auto accident, he drove to a point about 150 ft from the gully where the object rested and stopped the car to proceed on foot. He said the object was white, egg or oval-shaped and apparently supported on girderlike legs. He said he heard a roar and saw smoke and flame coming from the bottom of the object. At this point, Mr Zamora believed that the object was about to explode and he became frightened, turned, and ran to shield himself behind the police car, bumping his leg and losing his glasses on the way. He said that he crouched down, shielding his eyes with his arm while the noise stopped and he glanced up. He reported that the object had risen to a point about 15-20 ft above the ground and the flame and smoke had ceased. At this point, he reported, he noted a design on the object which he described as markings in red about 1 to 1½ ft in height, shaped like a crescent with a vertical arrow and horizontal line underneath. He stated that the object remained stationary for several seconds and then flew off in a southerly direction following the contour of the gully.

Within moments afterward, Sgt Chavez of the New Mexico State Police arrived on the scene in response to Mr Zamora's earlier radio call. He observed no object, but he reported that there were some slight depressions in the ground and apparently burned brush in the area where Mr Zamora had reported seeing the object. The brush was cold to the touch. Sgt Chavez reported the incident to local military authorities who conducted the initial investigation.

The Air Force sent investigators from their project office at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. The investigation disclosed the following facts:

No other witnesses to the object reported by Mr Zamora could be located.

There were no unidentified helicopters or aircraft in the area.

Observers at radar installations had observed no unusual or unidentified blips.

There was no unusual meteorological activity; no thunderstorms. The weather was windy but clear.

TDEW

UFO Sighting, Socorro, New Mexico, 24 Apr 64

28 May 64

Hq USAF SAFOI PB (Mrs Gaiser)
Wash D C 20330

1. The following is a resume on the unidentified flying object sighted by Mr Lonnie Zamora, of Socorro, New Mexico on 24 Apr 64, results of the investigation so far, conclusions reached by FTD and courses of action in continuing the investigation.

a. Background Information:

(1) At approximately 1745, 24 Apr 64 an unidentified flying object was observed by Mr Lonnie Zamora in Socorro, New Mexico. The sighting was reported to Sgt Chavez of the New Mexico State Police. The object sighted by Mr Zamora had left markings in the ground as well as several burned spots in the area. The area was secured by Sgt Chavez and the commanding officer, Capt Holder, of the Stallion Site at White Sands notified. Capt Holder conducted an initial investigation of the sighting and obtained samples of the charred areas and dirt surrounding the markings left by the UFO.

(2) News media and persons connected with various UFO organizations such as APRO and NICAP received word of the sighting and sent investigators to the scene. Newspaper accounts of the sighting had become much distorted with reports of little men running around and a rocket ship blasting off into space. The account of the sighting carried in the El Defensor & Chieftain, dated Tuesday, 28 April 1964 and the account by UPI representative Charles Richard, carried in the Albuquerque Journal, 27 April 1964, are essentially correct. As a result of wide news coverage and public interest in the sighting, Captain Hector Quintanilla, Project Officer, directed TSgt David Moody to assist in the investigation for the Air Force. Sgt Moody contacted Major Conner, the Officer at Kirtland AFB responsible for unidentified flying object investigations, and accompanied him to Socorro. Information obtained during this investigation revealed that the sighting was legitimate and there was no indication that a hoax was being perpetrated. The results of Capt Holder's investigation were received, interviews with Sgt Chavez and Lonnie Zamora were conducted. A geiger counter was used to determine if radiation was present in the area of the

UFO sighting. The data was collected and no positive conclusion reached. On Tuesday, 28 April 1964, Capt Quintanilla directed Doctor J Allen Hynek to Socorro to obtain additional data. Composite results of the investigation by Capt Holder, Sgt Moody, Dr Hynek and Major Conner indicated that the attached narrative depicts the true circumstances of the sighting.

b. Specific Findings from Efforts to Date:

(1) On the evening of 24 April 1964 Sgt Chavez of the New Mexico State Police accompanied by Agent Burns of the FBI and Capt Richard Holder conducted a search of the area surrounding the sighting. There were no automobile tire markings or markings of any sort in the area other than those located at the site of the alleged landing and so noted in Capt Holder's report.

(2) Radioactivity: Major Conner and Sgt Moody checked the area for radiation. There was no radioactivity in the area of the sighting.

(3) Helicopter Activity: A check was made to determine if any helicopter activity was in the area at the approximate time of the sighting. This check was conducted at White Sands by Capt Holder who talked with the pilots and operational personnel. All helicopters at White Sands were in the hangars at the time of the sighting. Sgt Moody checked all ARS helicopters at Kirtland AFB and the landing gear did not coincide with the marks on the ground. Helo activity was checked within a radius of 300 miles including Biggs AFB at El Paso with negative results. All military helos including those associated with Project Cloud Gap have been eliminated as a possible cause of the sighting. However, civilian helicopter activity was not completely determined.

(4) Radar Surveillance of the Area: Capt Holder contacted radar sites at White Sands and Almagordo. He was informed that there was no unidentified activity in the area during the time of the sighting.

(5) Soil Samples: The soil samples obtained at the sighting were given to Dr J Allen Hynek by Capt Holder. They were turned over to Captain Quintanilla who in turn submitted them to ASD for analysis. Laboratory analysis of the soil was completed on 19 May 64. It included spectrographic analysis which revealed that there was no foreign material in the soil samples. Also, no chemicals were detected in the charred or burned soil which would indicate a type of propellant. There was no significant difference in elemental composition between the different samples.

(6) VTOL and Lunar Modules:

(a) Personnel working on the development of VTOL type aircraft and lunar modules were consulted. VTOL type a/c were not eliminated as a possible cause due to the absence of a blast effect in the area. There are several types of ducted blast devices which would divert the force of the blast outward. However, they were not aware of an operational craft of this nature.

(b) Lunar Module configurations conform not only to the description of the object but also have girder like legs or pods which would produce markings such as those found at Socorro. One known experimental model, constructed by Bell Aircraft Corporation, is located at Edwards AFB.

(7) Additional Witness: The El Defensor and Chieftan of Tuesday 28 Apr 64 carried an article indicating that an unidentified tourist traveling North on U S 85 saw the UFO just before it landed. He also observed the police car heading up the hill toward the spot where the UFO landed. If this is true, the UFO not only disappeared in the direction of White Sand's but also came from that same direction. A telephone call to Mr Opal Grindler of Whiting Brothers Service Station indicated that he was the source for reporting that an unidentified tourist had observed the unidentified flying object. He verified that the information in the news article was correct.

c. General Conclusions to Date:

(1) Evaluation of the data contained in the various investigative reports confirms that a sighting definitely did occur. The description of the object and flight characteristics are coincident with that expected of a helicopter, VTOL or Lunar Module configuration. Current investigative efforts are being made to establish or identify the specific vehicle which caused the sighting. The following statement by Captain Hector Quintanilla represents a statement which may be released to the press:

"Conclusion: The investigators at Wright-Patterson have not been able to identify or determine what type of vehicle or object Mr Lonnie Zamora observed on 24 April at Socorro, New Mexico. The object or vehicle displayed flight characteristics well within the State-of-the-Art and the sighting cannot be attributed to atmospheric or astronomical phenomena. In this respect, I can categorically state that the vehicle or object observed by Mr Lonnie Zamora was not an inter-planetary space vehicle visiting the planet Earth. This case is still open and the investigation is still in progress."

d. Continuing Investigative Efforts at Present Include:

(1) The FTD Liaison Officer, Major Mitchell at White Sands, has been requested to determine if a vehicle from a classified project at White Sands could have contributed to the sighting.

(2) A letter has been sent to the FAA requesting any information relative to identification of a firm using the marking observed by Lonnie Zamora.

(3) NASA has been queried regarding the status of the Lunar Module Programs. As of this date no reply has been received.

(4) Letters concerning status of the Lunar Module programs have been written to 15 industrial organizations.

(5) Contact with research and development personnel associated with VTOL and Lunar Module Programs is being maintained.

(6) Efforts to locate the unidentified tourist have not been successful, however, this is still a possibility.

FOR THE COMMANDER

ERIC T de JOCKREEKE
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Technology
and Subsystems

1 Atch
Narrative of Sighting

NARRATIVE OF SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO SIGHTING, 24 APRIL 1964

Shortly after 5:30 pm on Friday, 24 April 1964 Sgt Lonnie Zamora of the Socorro Police Department was chasing a speeding auto North on U S 85 in the line of duty. While in pursuit he heard a roar and saw flames in an area where a dynamite shack was known to be located. He abandoned chase of the auto and proceeded to where he thought an explosion had occurred. In order to reach this spot he had to travel a little-used road over several hills and gullies. After two or three efforts to drive his car up a gravel-covered incline he reached a crest where the object was visible. At this point, 800 ft from the object, he observed what he thought to be a car overturned and standing on its end. There were one or two objects described as coveralls which he assumed to be occupants of the vehicle. He radioed in to police headquarters that he was proceeding to investigate a 10-74 (auto accident). Proceeding up the road to a point about 150 ft from the gully where the object was, he stopped the car, got out, and headed toward the object. The object was on girderlike legs, white (not chrome) and egg shaped or oval. As he approached the object there were some noises and flame and smoke began to come from the bottom of the vehicle. The noise increased from low pitch to high pitch, was different from that of a jet or halo and not like anything Sgt Zamora had ever heard. The flame was blue like a welders torch, turning to orange or yellow at the ends. Thinking that the object was going to explode he became frightened. The time was approximately 1745 (1 1/2 hours before sunset), the sun was to his back, slightly to the right. He turned, ran back to get behind the police car, bumping his leg and losing his glasses on the way. He crouched down, shielding his eyes with his arm while the noise continued for another 10 seconds. At this time the noise stopped and he looked up. The object had risen to a point about 15-20 ft above the ground and the flame and smoke had ceased to come from the object. The object had a red marking about 1 ft or maybe 18 inches in height, shaped like a crescent with a vertical arrow and horizontal line underneath. The object hovered in this spot for several seconds and then flew off in a SW direction following the contour of the gully. It cleared the dynamite shack by not more than 3 ft. He watched the object disappear in the distance over a point on Highway 85 about 6 miles from where he was standing. The object took about 3 minutes to travel that far. Disappearance was by fading in the distance and at no time did he observe the object to rise more than 20 ft off the ground.

While proceeding to the location when the object was assumed to be an auto Sgt Zamora was in radio contact with police headquarters. The State Police use the same network and his call was monitored by Sgt Chavez of the New Mexico State Police. Sgt Zamora attempted

to direct Sgt Chavez to the location while he was driving toward the object. Sgt Chavez took the wrong road, and was, in fact heading in the opposite direction for part of the time and would not have been in a position to see the object. He arrived at the point where Sgt Zamora was parked about three minutes after the object had disappeared. Sgt Zamora was pale and upset at what he had witnessed. Sgt Chavez was skeptical of the situation and proceeded to where Zamora had observed the object. Here he found the marks and burns. Smoke appeared to be coming from a bush which was burned but no flame or coals were visible. Sgt Chavez broke a limb from the bush and it was cold to the touch. The marks were fresh and no other marks were in the area. Diagonals of the four impressions intersect in a perpendicular and the major distance seems to be approximately 13 ft. Sgt Chavez secured the area and contacted local military authorities. This resulted in the investigation of the sighting.

Memo, from Capt Quintanilla, 27 April 1964

TO: Colonel de Jonckheere

At 0715, 26 April, when I reported for duty as OD, I was informed by Major Sameshima, 25 April OD, that he had received a UFO report via telephone at 2130 EST, 25 April, from the 1005th Special Investigation Group, Washington, D C. The UFO report had been received by the 1005th from Lt Col King, CID, of Albuquerque, New Mexico. Lt Col King had read about the sighting in the local newspaper and had also been provided data by the FBI. The FBI was informed of the sighting by the New Mexico State Police. The New Mexico State Police arrived at the scene at approximately 1728 MST and three minutes after the object took off with a roar and disappeared to the West. The witness claims that he saw a ball shaped object approximately 15 feet long and two white objects which resembled white coveralls. When the Army at White Sands heard of the incident, they roped off the area and the FBI in Albuquerque proceeded to the area. They confirmed that "something" had been there and the army took soil samples of 4" x 5" impressions which were found where the alleged vehicle had landed. The impressions appeared to be burned and the surround area was clean.

At 0330, 26 April, Col Cole from the Air Force Command Post called to see if any follow up action had been taken. At 0430 26 April, Col Harris from the Emergency Action Group, JCS communications Center called and wanted additional details, especially names. At 0530 26 April, Col Perkins from the Air Force Command Post called and suggested we get in touch with Capt Holden from White Sands, at 0728 26 April, I placed a call to the OD at Kirkland and asked him to locate Sgt Moody for me. Sgt Moody is presently on TDY at Kirkland on Project Cloud Gap. At 0945 Sgt Moody called and I asked him to get together with the UFO reporting officer at Kirkland and investigate the sighting. At 1125 Major Connor, Kirkland UFO reporting officer, and Sgt Moody called and I suggested the manner in which they should conduct the investigation and the people whom they should contact. Major Connor and Sgt Moody left for White Sands after my phone call equipped with a Geiger Counter.

At 2135 I received a telephone call from Sgt Moody who was now back at Kirkland. Major Connor and Sgt Moody had talked with the witness Lonnie Zamora. Mr Zamora is the Socorro, New Mexico Deputy Marshall. He uses the same radio frequency as the New Mexico State Police and that is the reason the New Mexico State Police arrived at the scene as fast as they did. Mr Zamora called the New Mexico State Police over his radio when he was scared by the vehicle. At his closest observation, he was 103 feet from the object. Major Connor and Sgt Moody measured the area of alleged landing for radiation - no radiation was present. Photos of the area were taken and will be on the way 27 April.

Sgt Sam Charez of the New Mexico State Police was interviewed by Major Connor and Sgt Moody. He could add little to the investigation except that he arrived at the scene about three minutes after the incident happened and that Mr Zamora was scared.

Major Connor's formal report will be on the way on 27 April. He will include copies of Lt Col Kings report, the FBI report, and possibly the soil analysis report if he receives it in time, otherwise it will come later.

At the present time we don't know what it was, but Major Conner and Sgt Moody are still checking. They'll check out the Helicopter activity today.

When Sgt Moody called, he was getting ready to accompany Lt Col King on another alleged sighting. Everybody wants to get into the Act!

HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr
Captain, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch

Summary of UFO Report received by phone on 25 April 1964:

Caller: Captain Theodore W. Cuny, 1005th Special Investigation Group, Wash.

Called at 2130 EST, 25 April

Call received by OD (Maj K S Sameshima)

UFO data was received by Capt Cuny from a Lt Col King, Counter Intelligence Division, Albuquerque, New Mexico, who in turn read about it in the local newspaper and also was provided data by the FBI.

The alleged UFO sighting took place at about 1800 MST on 24 April.
The object allegedly was witnessed in a rural area on the Stallion Range Center, Cocorro, New Mexico.

The alleged witness was a reputable local police officer by the name of Lonnie Damora. Damora was chasing a speeding motorist when he saw the object from the road at a distance of about 200 feet. He claims to have seen two men in white overalls get into the silver colored foot-ball shaped object about 15 feet long. The vehicle allegedly took off with a roar, rose to an altitude of 20 feet and disappeared rapidly to the west.

Upon being informed of this, the Army (a Captain R T Holder of White Sands) roped off the area. Also the FBI at Albuquerque proceeded to the area, and allegedly confirmed that "something" had been there. They reportedly found 4"x5" impressions in the ground somewhat like stand legs; the impressions appeared burned--none of the other area appeared to be burned. The newspaper stated that the Army took soil samples.

The above is all Capt Cuny could report.

It is suggested that Lt Col King, Albuquerque 268-2107 be contacted for proper questioning of Lonnie Damora.

26 April

0330

Col Cole, AF Com. Post called - wanted to know if there is any follow-up action being taken on call last nite to Lt. Castled.

0330

Col Harris, Emerg. Action Gp, JCS Com Ctr called -- wanted additional details, esp. names.

0330

Col Perkins, AF Com Post called - suggested we touch base with Capt Holden

835-1385

thru SCAN White Sands

Damora interviewed
by Sgt Chavez, New Mexico
State Police

Kss

TDEW/UFO

UFO Sighting Socorro, New Mexico

14 May 1964

Test Support Officer (Col. K. Young)
Test Hqs, Project Cloud Gap
NAS, Los Alamitos, California

1. The Pictorial Branch of the Secretary of the Air Force Informative Office has been overwhelmed by queries regarding an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) which was sighted on 24 April 1964 in the Socorro, New Mexico area. People have been asking the President, their Congressman, and the Secretary of the Air Force for an explanation of this sighting.
2. The object which was observed in Socorro, New Mexico exhibited the characteristics of a helicopter or a vehicle which has the characteristics of a VTO. In this respect, you or one of your people might be able to help us find the answer to this riddle. Any information which you might be able to supply will be appreciated. Colonel Moss from AFX-PD-PA has informed us that Project Cloud Gap might have had some activity in the Socorro Area on 24 April 1964. The activity could have been planned, authorized, unauthorized or it could have been a vehicle which strayed from its flight plan. Our interest lies in finding an explanation for the sighting and not what the vehicle was doing in the Socorro area.
3. It is most urgent that we receive a reply as soon as possible. Feel free to call the Aerial Phenomena Branch, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ext 69216/66378 as soon as you have any positive or negative information.

FOR THE COMMANDER

HECTOR QUINTANILLA JR
Captain, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena
Branch

1 Atch
Resume of Socorro Sighting

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

M/R: On 18 May 1964 TSgt Moody called Mr Opal Grinder at 835-9916 in Socorro New Mexico regarding the article appearing in the Socorro ElDefensor & Chieftan concerning an additional witness to the Zamora sighting. Mr Grinder manages the Whiting Brothers Service Station. He could give no information other than that appearing in the newspaper article. He did not remember the type of car or license. He assumed that the occupant was going or returning from vacation, due to luggage and clothing in the car. The car ~~was~~ had a single occupant. He stated that the witness said the object came from the East over the highway and had remarked about the low altitude and odd appearance of the craft.

He will be on the look out in case the witness returns to Socorro.

M/R: Capt Quintanilla contacted the FTD liaison office at Holloman AFB regarding the Socorro sighting and requested that he, Maj Mitchell make discreet inquiry as to a possible vehicle which may have caused the sighting.

During the latter part of May Lt Col Conkey visited W-P AFB, and at this time informed Capt Quintanilla that he had no knowledge of a vehicle at White Sands capable of causing the sighting as described by Lonnie Zamora.

TDEW/Capt H Quintanilla/69216

Request for Identification of Markings

27 May 64

FAA Control Systems Division
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Dear Sir,

The attached marking has been observed and reported to the USAF in connection with an unidentified flying object sighting at Socorro, New Mexico. The Air Force is investigating the case and identification of this marking would assist in determining the cause of the sighting. The marks were estimated to be about one foot to eighteen inches in height, colored red. Any assistance which you may offer will be greatly appreciated. The attached TWX indicates the high level of interest in this sighting.

FOR THE COMMANDER

ERIC T de JONCKHEERE
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Technology
and Subsystems

2 Atchs
1. Marking
2. TWX

Excerpt from letter J Douglas Stewart

"With reference to the marking of U.S. A/C, the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 14, Pars 1-19, has some very specific things to say about how our A/C must be marked, experimental and otherwise. Also, a civilian firm must apply for an Experimental Certificate on Form ACA-305 (Para. 1.74-1) and 3-D drawings of the A/C. As I'm sure you know FAA's Control Systems Division in Oklahoma City. "

FS-970

FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY

5300 South Portland

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73119

Official Business

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FEDERAL AVIATION AGENCY

5300 South Portland Avenue
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73119

JUN 2 1964

IN REPLY
REFER TO: FS-970

AIR MAIL

Eric T. de Jonckheere
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Technology and Subsystems
Air Force Systems Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

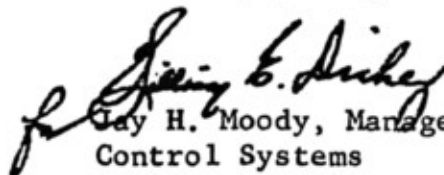
Dear Sir:

In reply to your inquiry of May 27, 1964, we are unable to furnish any information as to the type markings you submitted for our examination.

United States registration markings for civil aircraft are preceded by the alpha "N" followed by one-to-five digits, one-to-four digits followed by one letter, or one-to-three digits followed by two letters, displayed in twelve-inch characters. We have no knowledge of any particular country using symbols as reference to their registration.

If we may be of further assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely yours,


Jay H. Moody, Manager
Control Systems
Data Establishment

PROJECT CLOUD GAP
TEST HEADQUARTERS
U.S. NAVAL AIR STATION
Los Alamitos, California

IN REPLY REFER TO:

CG-12/pjk
20 May 1964

Captain Hector Quintanilla Jr.
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Branch
Headquarters Foreign Technology Division
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

Dear Captain Quintanilla,

Reference is made to my phone call this morning. I have talked to Major Casper who was the Cloud Gap Field Operations Officer at Albuquerque, based at Kirtland AFB, during the time this incident took place. Cloud Gap operations were conducted in an area about a hundred miles north of Socorro, New Mexico. Cloud Gap personnel did not have any equipment nor special clothing which could possibly be related to the description provided by police officer Lonnie Zamora.

Since certain aerial surveillance flights were being conducted by Navy aircraft, RA 5C's, in the area in question, a check on such flights revealed none were flown on 24 April 1964 in connection with Cloud Gap.

We have no information on this sighting other than that provided by your SGT MOODY who was a participant on our project and that picked up from the newspapers.

I have enclosed an article found in the Los Angeles Time of 20 May which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Young
KENNETH A. YOUNG
Colonel, USAF