

21 Jul 52

SAN MARCOS AFB

TEX

TYPE OF OBSERVATION

21/22:00 CST

2001 Radar

2001 Radar

22/23:00 CST

2001 Radar

2001 Radar

2001

6 military personnel

2001

2001

2001

60

1

3

2001

Blue circle with trail of blue light observed over San Marcos AFB by an officer and five E/P. Speed was from Mover to Sonic.

1. Statements of observers conflict.

AND 2001

STATEMENT

At approximately 2240 hours, on 21 July 1952, I was returning from checking the Base Nursery. I was driving south at a speed of approximately 10 miles per hour. Suddenly a solid white circle of light appeared in front of me, similar in shape and color of a full moon but far more brilliant like looking at a white hot iron through a small hole. The object was not too high above the horizon, maybe 1000 feet. It rose at an extremely high rate of speed at an angle of 60-75 degrees at maybe 15,000, 20,000 feet it leveled off smoothly like an aircraft under good control would level off after a very rapid climb. The light went off suddenly like it was shut off or went in a cloud bank, though no clouds were visible. The contour was smooth (extremely or perfectly so). No jagged edges or tails, smoke, or other colors were noticeable. I was Base O. D. at the time.

Wayne D. Scott
WAYNE D. SCOTT
1st Lt, USAF

Doc 4/2

STATEMENT

On 21 July 1952, at approximately 2240 hours, the wife and I were returning from Lockhart to San Marcos and at Maxwell, Texas, we noticed an object. It looked like something had exploded and it gave off a red flame and started to descend with a following blue flame which was very bright and appeared like a flare. It descended to about a estimate of 5000 feet. It stopped and appeared white in color and I could identify the object as being round. The color seemed to change to very light yellow and the object moved off to the south. It was quite fast.

Samuel R. Locke
LOCKE, SAMUEL R.
S/Sgt USAF

STATEMENT

At approximately 2240 hours, 21 July 1952, I was leaving the gunroom in my squadron area when I looked up into the sky and saw a bluish-green object make an arch in the sky. The light from the trail was a bluish-green for a second or two and then the light disappeared.

Theodore R. Townsend
THEODORE R. TOWNSEND
S/Sgt USAF

5-11-53

STATEMENT

At approximately 2240 hours while going to Air Police Headquarters, I observed a bluish green light in the sky. It ascended and descended very rapidly and then disappeared. There was no noise whatsoever.

DAVID MCKENZIE
A/1C USAF

David McKenzie

Encl 442

STATEMENT

While walking from Air Police Squadron about 2240 hours, I noticed a blue green light falling at a great speed. It looked somewhat like a falling star. It was moving too fast to tell the size. It was in the air only 7 to 10 seconds.

Frank R. Norred
FRANK R. NORRED
A/2C USAF

Serial 1152

STATEMENT

At approximately 2245 hours, 21 July 1952, as I was making my rounds as the fence guard I noticed a reddish-yellow object in the sky. It seemed to be traveling very slow. Far away you could hear a low roaring noise but as this object passed over the base you could hear absolutely nothing. The object at first didn't bother me too much because I just thought it was an airplane. When it kept coming over the base (approximately four times) then it gained my attention. Off hand I would say that this object was traveling at the rate of 75 miles per hour. In other words it was going slow enough so that if it were used for some sort of operation, it could reveal some strategic points on the base. Afterwards it just simply disappeared in the sky. A couple fellows and I talked about what we had both seen and a couple other guys that were standing around laughing as if it were a joke. Things of that type are no joke.

Paul M. Nelson, Jr.
PAUL M. NELSON, JR.
A/3C USAF

Incl 462

(CLASSIFICATION)
UNCLASSIFIED

37

COUNTRY United States	REPORT NO. IR-11-52	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT FLYOBPT		
AREA REPORTED ON Texas	FROM (Agency) Intell Off, San Marcos AFB, Texas	
DATE OF REPORT 29 Jul 52	DATE OF INFORMATION 21 Jul 52	EVALUATION F-6
PREPARED BY (Officer) Chester B. Beattie, 2d Lt., USAF		SOURCE See below

REFERENCES (Control number, direction, previous report, etc., as applicable)

Ltr AFOIN-C/CC-2, 19 Dec 51, Hq USAF, AFL 200-5, 29 Apr 52, Mar dated 22 Jul 52

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112—Part II.)

A single object in the shape of a perfect circle, giving off a brilliant blue-white light with a following trail of blue light has been sighted in this vicinity. No sound was audible, and no analysis can be made of the propulsion system. The speed was reported as varying from a hover to speeds approaching sonic. The object changed directions of flight rapidly and disappeared as though the flame or light were extinguished. Object was sighted at 2240 hours CST, 21 July 1952 and was observed for approximately sixty seconds.

Chester B. Beattie
CHESTER B. BEATTIE
2nd Lt., USAF
Intelligence Officer

(Ref "SOURCE" above)

1st Lt Wayne D. Scott, AO2042851
S/Sgt Samuel R. Locke, AF37606090
S/Sgt Thedford R. Townsend, AF35604157
A/1C David McKenzie, AF19306627
A/2C Frank R. Norred, AF14394366
A/1C Paul M. Nelson Jr, AF13432318

**DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 18 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10**

None INCL.

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

Commanding General
Flying Training Air Force
Waco, Texas
(3 copies)

UNCLASSIFIED

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NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C.—31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
Intell Off, San Marcos AFB, Tex	IR-44-52	2	3	

1. In accordance with paragraph 7d, AFL 200-5, 29 April 1952, the following report is submitted.

a. A single object in the shape of a perfect circle, giving off a brilliant blue-white light with a following trail of blue light has been sighted in this vicinity. No sound was audible, and no analysis can be made of the propulsion system. The speed was reported as varying from a hover to speeds approaching sonic. The object changed directions of flight rapidly and disappeared as though the flame or light were extinguished.

b. Object was sighted at 2240 hours CST, 21 July 1952 and was observed for approximately sixty seconds.

c. Object was observed visually without the aid of optical or electronic instruments.

d. Object was observed overhead by persons located at 29° 52' North and 97° 43' West. Object passed from observation on a southerly heading.

e. Observers were not rated nor qualified observers and conflicting statements make analysis difficult. *AMEN!*

f. Weather observation 2230 CST, 21 July 1952: 2500' scattered, visibility 10 miles, temperature 78° - dewpoint 74°.

Surface Winds	-----	150° @ 10 MPH
Winds Aloft		
5000 Feet	-----	160° @ 21 MPH
10000 Feet	-----	170° @ 14 MPH
16000 Feet	-----	160° @ 9 MPH
20000 Feet	-----	80° @ 12 MPH

g. There was no activity or condition, meteorological or other, that would account for the sighting.

h. There have been no reports of any physical evidence.

i. There was no interception or identification action taken.

j. There was no known air traffic in the general area at the time of the sighting.

2. Statements of observers are as follows:

1st Lt Wayne D. Scott, A02042851, Personnel Services Officer, Hq Air Base Group, stated that at approximately 2240 hours CST, 21 July 1952 he was returning from the Base Nursery. He was driving south at a speed of approximately 10 miles per hour, and suddenly a solid white circle of light appeared in front of him, similar in shape and color of a full moon but far more brilliant, like looking at a white hot iron through a small hole. The object was not too high above the horizon, maybe 1000 feet. It rose at an extremely high rate of speed at an angle of 60-70 degrees, at maybe 15,000 or 20,000 feet it leveled off smoothly like an aircraft under good control would level off after a very rapid climb. The light went off suddenly like it was shut off or went in a cloud bank, though no clouds were visible. The contour was smooth (extremely or perfectly so). No jagged edges or trails, smoke, or other colors were noticeable. He was the Officer of the Day at the time.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES
Intell Off, San Marcos AFB, Tex	IR-14-52	3	3	

S/Sgt Samuel R. Locke, AF37606090, Asst Tech Inspector, Wing Inspectors Office, Hq Sq Sec, Wing, stated that he observed the object at approximately 2240 hours CST, 21 July 1952. He and his wife were returning from Lockhart to San Marcos, at Maxwell, Texas, he and his wife noticed an object. It looked like something had exploded and it gave off a red flame and started to descend with a following blue flame which was very bright and appeared like a flare. It descended to about a estimated 5000 feet. It stopped and appeared white in color and he could identify the object as being round. The color seemed to change to a very light yellow and the object moved off to the south. It was traveling quite fast.

S/Sgt Thedford R. Townsend, AF35604157, Air Policeman, Air Police Squadron, stated that at approximately 2240 hours CST, 21 July 1952, he was leaving the gun-room in his squadron area when he looked up into the sky and saw a bluish-green object make an ark in the sky. The light from the trail was a bluish-green for a second or two and then the light disappeared.

A/1C David McKensie, AF19306627, Air Policeman, Air Police Squadron, stated that at approximately 2240 hours CST, 21 July 1952, he was going to Air Police Headquarters and observed a bluish-green light in the sky. It ascended and descended very rapidly and then disappeared. There was no noise whatsoever.

A/2C Frank R. Norred, AF14394366, Air Policeman, Air Police Squadron, stated that at approximately 2240 hours CST, 21 July 1952, he noticed a blue-green light falling at a great speed. It looked somewhat like a falling star. It was moving too fast to tell the size. It was in the air only 7 to 10 seconds.

A/3C Paul M. Nelson Jr, AF13432318, Air Policeman, Air Police Squadron, stated that at approximately 2245 hours CST, 21 July 1952, he was making his rounds as the fence guard and noticed a reddish-yellow object in the sky. It seemed to be traveling very slow. Far away you could hear a low roaring noise but as this object passed overhead he could hear nothing. The object at first did not bother him too much because he just thought it was an airplane. When it kept coming over the base (approximately four times) it gained his attention. Off hand he would say that this object was traveling at the rate of 75 miles per hour. In other words it was going slow enough so that if it were used for some sort of operation, it could reveal some strategic points on the base. Afterwards it just simply disappeared in the sky. A couple fellows and he talked about what they had seen and a couple other guys that were standing around laughed as if it were a joke. Things of that type are no joke.

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RESTRICTED
SECURITY INFORMATION

PROJECT 10073 WORKSHEET

I. GENERAL

1. DATE <i>21 July '52</i>	2. LOCATION <i>San Marcos AFB, Texas</i>	3. TIME Local: <i>2240</i> Zebra: <i>0440</i>
4. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED FROM THE GROUND? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
☒ Naked Eye ☐ Binoculars ☐ Telescope ☐ Theodolite		
5. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED BY GROUND RADAR? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ By One Set ☐ By Two Sets ☐ By Three Sets		
6. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED FROM THE AIR? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ A/C Observed Object ☐ Interception Attempted ☐ No Intercept Attempted		
7. WERE AIRCRAFT SCRAMBLED TO INTERCEPT? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ A/C Scrambled ☐ Visual Contact Made ☐ A/I Contact Made ☐ No Contact Made		
8. DID OBJECT CHANGE DIRECTION AT ANY TIME? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
☐ Normal ☒ Violent		
9. IF OBJECT WAS A "LIGHT", WAS IT: ☐ Blinking ☒ Steady <i>constant</i>		
10. LENGTH OF TIME IN SIGHT: ☐ 1-15 Seconds ☒ 1-5 Minutes <i>60 sec.</i> ☐ Over 10 Minutes		
11. REPORTING AGENCY (Unit Number and Mailing Address) <i>Intell. Office, San Marcos AFB, Texas</i>		

II. ASTRONOMICAL DATA

12. WHAT ASTRONOMICAL ACTIVITY WAS NOTED? <i>No</i>		
13. DID OBJECT APPEAR TO ARCH DOWNWARD?	☒ Yes	☐ No
14. DID OBJECT HAVE A TAIL?	☐ Yes	☒ No
15. DID OBJECT APPEAR TO DISINTEGRATE?	☐ Yes	☒ No
16. TIME OF SIGHTING RELATIVE TO SUNRISE OR SUNSET (Data From Air Almanac)		
☒ Night		
☐ Day		
☐ Sunrise		
☐ Sunset		

III. AIRCRAFT DATA

17. WERE AIRCRAFT NOTED IN AREA?	☐ Yes	☒ No
☐ One Aircraft		
☐ More Than One Aircraft		
18. WAS ANY SOUND HEARD?	☐ Yes	☒ No
19. WERE THERE INDICATIONS OF HIGH BACKGROUND NOISE?	☐ Yes	☒ No
20. WAS THE OBJECT VIEWED ABOVE 45° ELEVATION?	☒ Yes	☐ No

IV. BALLOON DATA

21. WERE BALLOONS RELEASED IN AREA? ☒ Yes ☐ No						
22. TIME SINCE SCHEDULED BALLOON RELEASE: <u>1 hr. 40</u> Minutes						
23. POSSIBLE BALLOON LAUNCH SITES DOWNWIND OF SIGHTING:						
	Location	Type	Launching Agency	Lighted?		Describe Lighting
				Yes	No	
a.	<u>San Antonio, Tex.</u>	<u>newer radar</u>	<u>USDA Weather</u>	☒	☐	<u>white</u>
b.						
c.						
d.						

(attach overlay)

V. EVALUATION

21. EVALUATION OF SOURCE: ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Unreliable ☐ Extremely Doubtful ☐ Hoax	22. DETAILS OF REPORT: ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Insufficient to Evaluate
23. FINAL EVALUATION: ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other: _____ ☐ Insufficient Data For Evaluation ☒ Unknown	
24. COMMENTS:	

PROJECT 10073 WEATHER DATA SHEET

1. DATE OF OBSERVATION <u>21 Oct '52</u>		2. TIME OF OBSERVATION <u>22:30 EST</u>		3. STATION OBSERVING <u>San Marcos</u>	
4. WINDS ALOFT:					
ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)	ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)
0	10 mph	150°	25,000		
1,000			30,000		
2,000			35,000		
3,000			40,000		
4,000			45,000		
5,000	21 "	160°	50,000		
6,000			55,000		
7,000			60,000		
8,000			65,000		
9,000			70,000		
10,000	14 "	170°	75,000		
12,000			80,000		
14,000			85,000		
16,000	9 "	160°	90,000		
18,000			95,000		
20,000	12 "	80°	100,000		
5. WAS AN INVERSION LAYER NOTED? (If yes, at what altitude? _____)			☐ Yes ☒ No		
6. WERE ANY THUNDERSTORMS NOTED IN AREA? (If yes, at what quadrant? _____)			☐ Yes ☒ No		
7. CLOUD COVER: <u>3</u> tenths at <u>2500</u> feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet.				8. VISIBILITY WAS <u>10</u> MILES.	
9. COMMENTS:					

Information Copy - Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: ATIAA-2c, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

HEADQUARTERS
SAN MARCOS AIR FORCE BASE
San Marcos, Texas

CG 333

29 JUL 1952

SUBJECT: FIXORPT

THRU: Commanding General
Flying Training Air Force
Waco, Texas

TO: Director of Intelligence
Headquarters, USAF
Washington 25, D. C.

1. In accordance with paragraph 7d, AFL 200-5, 29 April 1952, the following report is submitted.

a. A single object in the shape of a perfect circle, giving off a brilliant blue-white light with a following trail of blue light has been sighted in this vicinity. No sound was audible, and no analysis can be made of the propulsion system. The speed was reported as varying from a hover to speeds approaching sonic. The object changed directions of flight rapidly and disappeared as though the flame or light were extinguished.

b. Object was sighted at 2240 hours CST, 21 July 1952 and was observed for approximately sixty seconds.

c. Object was observed visually without the aid of optical or electronic instruments.

d. Object was observed overhead by persons located at 29° 52' North and 97° 43' West. Object passed from observation on a southerly heading.

e. Observers were not rated nor qualified observers and conflicting statements (attached) make analysis difficult.

f. Weather observation 2230 CST, 21 July 1952: 2500' scattered, Visibility 10 miles, Temperature 73° - Dewpoint 74°.

Surface Winds - - - - -	150° @ 10 MPH
Winds Aloft	
5000 Feet - - - - -	160° @ 21 MPH
10000 Feet - - - - -	170° @ 14 MPH
16000 Feet - - - - -	160° @ 9 MPH
20000 Feet - - - - -	80° @ 12 MPH

Hq San Marcos AFB GC333 Subj: FLYCORPT 29 JUL 1952

g. There was no activity or condition, meteorological or other, that would account for the sighting.

h. There have been no reports of any physical evidence.

i. There was no interception or identification action taken.

j. There was no known air traffic in the general area at the time of the sighting.

2. Statements of eyewitnesses to this incident are attached.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

6 Incls

Statements

1. 1st Lt Wayne D. Scott
2. S/Sgt Samuel R. Locke
3. S/Sgt Thadford R. Townsend
4. A/1C David McKenzie
5. A/2C Frank R. Norred
6. A/3C Paul M. Nelson

WALTER V. WOODS
1st LT. USAF
ASSISTANT ADJUTANT

Cy furn:

Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center
ATTN: ATIAA-2c
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio