

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 10 June 53 11/0410Z	2. LOCATION Detroit, Michigan
3. SOURCE AFROTC CABINET	10. CONCLUSION AIRCRAFT
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Contract astronomer believed object to be landing light on a/c.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 60 Seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS One large bright object white or light yellow round larger than a star traveled from a high westerly position in a falling arc then leveled off and proceeded due north. Object sighted in MI. 5X as large as star, and just as bright. Steady, no flickering, speed under 1,000 mph. Initial impression was that object was a meteor. DC-6 enroute from Chicago to Willow Run (East)
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE East then North	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

UNCLASSIFIED

Sec 11

10 June 1953

Detroit, Michigan

Description

At 2310 EST on 10 June 1953 an AFROTC cadet at Wayne University observed one large bright object that was white or light yellow in color, round in shape and larger than a star. This object moved from a high westerly position in a falling arc toward the north and then leveled off and proceeded at a high rate of speed to the north in a straight line. This object made these maneuvers in a period of 60 seconds and disappeared over the northern horizon. The object, though bright, cast no beam nor left any trail or exhaust. No sound was noticed.

Discussion

Movements of this object and length of observation eliminate the possibility that it was of astronomical origin. Checks with airports in the vicinity revealed that there was one aircraft in the area. This was a DC-4 enroute to Chicago on a heading of 270 deg and was probably not in the area. A check was made with the weather bureau to determine whether or not they had a balloon in the area. A balloon was released at 0300Z, but it could not have caused the sighting since it burst before 0410Z (time of sighting).

Conclusion

Unsolved

*view from ... To ...
Heading of the ... 075*

UNCLASSIFIED

10 JUNE

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HOWARD L. BEVIS, *President*
COLUMBUS 10

EMERSON McMILLIN OBSERVATORY

8 July 1953

Lt. Robert Olsson
ATIC - Wright-Patterson AFB

Dear Lt. Olsson,

Now that Jennie has her preliminary clearance, she can help me handle the reports and can type the letters to you and to your successor. This will improve the quality of the typing (!) I am sure. I cannot guarantee spelling. (Neither can I.)

With respect to the two wires you sent us on June 23, there is only one thing to say: The 21 June Pepperrell AFB case must be tossed out because of grossly insufficient data. Do you think there is a glimmer of anything interesting there which would justify sending a Form A? It seems to me that reports of this kind just clutter up the wires without accomplishing anything.

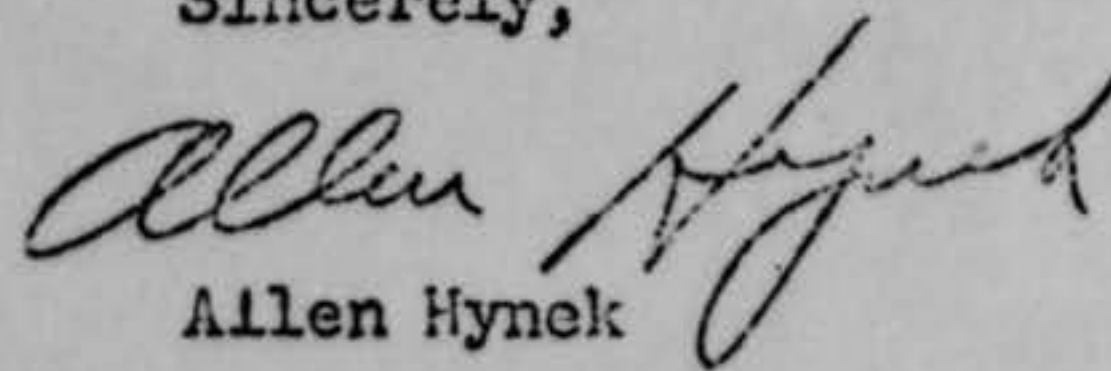
The San Antonio 16 June is clearly a meteorological phenomenon and one that would warm the heart of Menzel. This was undoubtedly as suggested, namely the light of the setting sun on a high cloud.

Referring to the follow-up statement on the 10 June Detroit case, both Jennie and I still think this was a landing light and agree it could not have been a meteor.

Business is a little slow. Jen is going ahead with requesting cooperation from the air control tower operators. Her usefulness has increased in view of her temporary clearance and I hope that her full clearance will not be too long in coming.

I hope we can see you soon and wish you a bon voyage into Law School.

Sincerely,


Allen Hynek

jah/jg

GTW131 WUC465 DEB713 DE.LLT4661

DETROIT MICH 11 542P

AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER, ATTN: AIIA-2C

WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

ACTION

AE Ago
Cont
1
2
3

FLYDRAFT. ONE ROUND BRILLIANT STAR-LIKE OBJECT WITH NO DISCERNABLE
FEATURES AND NO AUDIBLE SOUND REPORTED SEEN TRAVELING IN A DOWNWARD
ARC FROM A WESTERLY POSITION THEN LEVELING OFF AND DISAPPEARING
NORTHWARD OVER HORIZON. AFROTC CADET ROBERT SALVY, DET 395, WAYNE
UNIVERSITY DETROIT MICHIGAN REPORTED 11 JUNE THAT HE SAW THIS
OBJECT AT APPROXIMATELY 2314 EASTERN 12 JUNE FROM A POSITION
ON THE GROUND. OBJECT VISIBLE FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE MINUTE. APPROXIMATE
COORDINATES OF SIGHTING POSITION 83 DEGREES 17 MINUTES WEST
AND 42 DEGREES 26 MINUTES NORTH, SPECIFICALLY THE INTERSECTION
OF LANSER ROAD AND GRAND RIVER BLVD. DETROIT MICH. WEATHER CLEAR
VISIBILITY 12 PLUS, WINDS ALOFT APPROXIMATELY 330 DEGREES
AT 4KTS. REPORTED TRAFFIC ONE COMMERCIAL DC-6 FROM CHICAGO
TO WILLOW RUN AIRPORT

1. After
2. After
3. After
C. files

ATTN: DET 395AFROTC DETROIT MICHIGAN

AFROTC 395 11 2314 10 83 17 42 26 12 330 4KTS DC-6 395(33).

(751 PM JUN 11 53)

3° NW
ATIC
SE

ATIC COMMENT: Ross. Meteor R
NO
20

12:26

21 JUN 53

10:31
1

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

FROM: (Originator)

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

COMDR ATIC

TO: COMDR OLMSTED AF BASE MIDDLETOWN PENN

JEDLS

DATE-TIME GROUP

021830 Z JULY 53

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

PRECEDENCE

ACTION

INFORMATION

FOR

ROUTINE

☐ BOOK MESSAGE☒ ORIGINAL MESSAGE☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION

☐ YES☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

INFO:

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAE-7-3-E FOR Olmsted Flt Sv Cen (NATS)

ATIC has received a report of an unidentified aerial object from the Detroit, Michigan area taking place at 2310 EST 10 June 1953. Object was a white light seen on a 360° course. Checks have been made for local balloon flights and commercial airline flights as a cause of sighting with negative results. Request you inform Project Blue Book of any military flights at the time and in the area of the sighting.

In reply cite Project Blue Book..

COORDINATION:

ATIAE-5 R.M. Olsson DATE 2 July 1953
Lt OlssonATIAE B.H. Hafferty DATE 2 July 53
Lt Col JohnstonATIA William F. Key DATE 3 July 53
Col McDuffeeATIG Maj Brown DATE _____

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

Lt R. M. Olsson/jos

Barbara P. Hanausalt, 1st Lt
OFFICIAL TITLE ROBERT C. BROWN, Major, USAF
Adjutant

SYMBOL ATIAE-5

TELEPHONE 65365

DD FORM 173

1 OCT 49

REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 49,
WHICH MAY BE USED.

16-59223-3 ★ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

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(CLASSIFICATION)

AF FORM 112—PART I

APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

COUNTRY United States	REPORT NO. AU-IR-17-53	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT FLYOB RPT		
AREA REPORTED ON Detroit, Michigan	FROM (Agency) AFROTC Det 395, Wayne University Detroit, Michigan	
DATE OF REPORT 15 June 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 11 June 1953	EVALUATION
PREPARED BY (Officer) Colonel Robert L. Matthews, 3423A	SOURCE AFROTC Cadet Robert Balvey	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AFL 200-5		
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.) SUMMARY: The following TTX is quoted for your information "WUX Detroit, Mich 11 June 1953. CV Air University Maxwell AFB Alabama. FLYOB RPT one round brilliant Star-like object with no discernable features and no AUDIBLE sound reported seen traveling in a downward arc from a westerly position then leveling off and disappearing northward over Horizon. AFROTC Cadet Robert Balvey, Det 395, Wayne University, Detroit Michigan reported 11 June that he saw this object at approximately 2310 Eastern 10 June from a position on the ground. Object visible for approximately one minute. Approximate coordinates of sighting position 83 degrees 17 minutes west and 42 degrees 26 minutes north. Specifically the intersection of Lahser Road and Grand River Blvd Detroit, Mich. Weather clear visibility 10 plus. Winds aloft approximately 300 degrees at 40 KTS reported. Traffic one commercial DC-6 from Chicago to Willow Run Airport. Matthews Det 395 AFROTC Detroit, Michigan".		
INCL.		
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR CC: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: ATIAA-28 Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio Commandant, Headquarters Air Force ROTC, 435 Ball Street Montgomery, Alabama		

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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(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Det. 322, Hqs. AFROTC Wayne Univ., Detroit, Mich.	REPORT NO. 1	PAGE 1	OF 1	PAGES
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Information Copy 12 June 1953

SUBJECT: FLYOBAPT

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

THROUGH CHANNELS:

1. In compliance with the provisions of AFL 200-5 dated 29 April 1952 the following report is submitted as a result of information reported to this headquarters by AFROTC Cadet Robert E. Alvey of this unit.

a. Cadet Alvey reported seeing one large bright object, white or light yellow, round in shape and larger than a star, move from a high westerly position in a falling arc toward the north, then level off and proceed at high speed in a straight line north, disappearing over the horizon. The object, though bright, cast no beam nor left any trail or exhaust. No sound was heard to indicate method of propulsion. The cadet was unable to reliably estimate speed or distance of the object since he did not know the size thereof. He indicated that the object appeared to fall free for a short time then level off and increase speed in level flight. *Not a meteor apparently*

b. The time of sighting was approximately 2310 Eastern Standard Time on 10 June 1953 and the estimated time in view was one minute. *6 seconds.*

c. This was a visual observation with no optical or electronic equipment available.

d. The location of the observer was approximately 83 degrees 17 minutes west and 42 degrees 25 minutes north. Specifically, the cadet was on the northwest corner of the intersection of Redford Avenue and Grand River Blvd. in Detroit, Michigan. The object was sighted at a position to the west of the observer and disappeared northward. Distance and altitude could not be estimated. *2310 EST +5 = 2310 2400 0410 Z (too late for a follow)*

e. Cadet Robert E. Alvey is an AFROTC Cadet in his third year of training. He is physically qualified for and has planned for several years to enter pilot training. His interest in flying makes him observant of all visible flying aircraft. It is believed that this is a report of something he could not relate to his past observations, experience or his knowledge.

f. The weather at the time of sighting was clear, visibility was generally 10 miles or better and winds aloft were from approximately 300 degrees varying with altitude between 10 and 62 knots.

g. The only known traffic during the time of the sighting was one commercial DC-6 enroute from Chicago to Willow Run Airport in Detroit.

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(CLASSIFICATION)

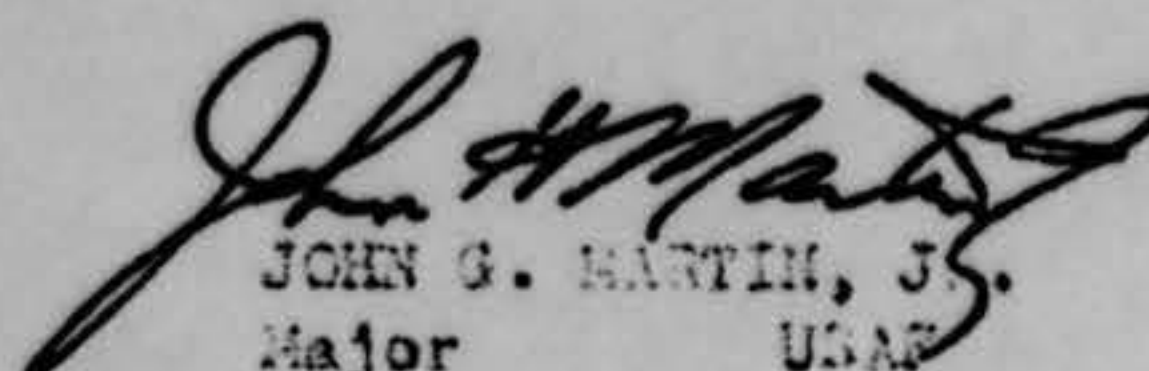
16-55570-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT

COUNTRY U.S.A.	REPORT NO. 1	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT FLYCBRPT		
AREA REPORTED ON Detroit, Michigan	FROM (Agency) Det. 395, Hqs AFROTC, Wayne Univ. Detroit Mich.	
DATE OF REPORT 12 June 1953	DATE OF INFORMATION 11 June 1953	EVALUATION
PREPARED BY (Officer) Maj. John G. Martin, Jr.	SOURCE Rpt. from AFROTC Cadet Robert E. Alvey	
REFERENCES (Control number, directives, previous report, etc., as applicable)		

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.)

2. On 11 June 1953 Cadet Robert E. Alvey reported to the undersigned that he had observed, on 10 June 1953 at 2310 EST, a bright object which he could not identify moving at a fairly high rate of speed. The object first appeared to be falling then it leveled off and disappeared over the horizon. No sound was heard though the night was clear and there was little noise from his immediate area.

3. The undersigned is not qualified to judge the significance of this report.


 JOHN G. MARTIN, JR.
 Major USAF
 Asst. PAST.

1 INCL.

Statement of Cadet Alvey (quad)

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

3 cys forwarded through channels to Dir. of Intell., Hqs USAF
info cy to Chief, ATIC, Wright-Patterson AFB

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STATEMENT

McMillan Obs.

Reference was sent to you with Wednesday 10 June 1953 of 15 June '53 on this sighting. Here is a statement of the observer. After comment: doesn't seem to be a meteor (level flight) or balloon (0410Z)

I had just left the Redford Theater and was cutting across a parking lot at the northwest corner of Grand River and Redford Avenue. I was admiring how clear the sky was and how well the stars shone when I spotted this object. At first I thought it was a meteor, but it didn't take me long to realize that it wasn't, meteors just don't act like this object did. When I first sighted the object, it was northwest of me. It appeared to be about five times the size of a large star and just as bright. The light was white or light yellow and of constant intensity. It did not flicker like stars do. The time was within a few minutes of 2310 hours.

The object also fell too slow to be a meteor. I would judge the speed to be somewhere under 1000 m.p.h. The object was clear and distinct and round or elliptical in shape. It seemed to fall free at first, but then it changed course, leveled out and headed due north. I would judge that I watched for almost a minute before it disappeared over the horizon. The sky was perfectly clear and the air cool, sound would have travelled good, but there was none except the few cars on Grand River a block away.

ROBERT E. ALVEY
Cadet AFROTC

Robert E. Alvey

01 001 824021

STATEMENT

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

HOWARD L. BEVIS, President

COLUMBUS 10

EMERSON MACMILLIN OBSERVATORY

25 June 1953

1st Lt. Robert Olsson
ATIC — Wright-Patterson AFB

Dear Lt. Olsson;

Of the last batch of 4 items sent on June 15, the only one about which there is any question is the 12 June Covington, Georgia. It is essential to know here the duration of sighting. A lot depends on this. Can you get this for us?

Regarding the Detroit 11 June case is there anything in this that a good landing light would not explain? Likewise Goodse AFB 11 June it would appear that since second radar did not pick up the signal, the most probable explanation is faulty radar. I assume that the GCI had radar available.

And we still have Venus with us. The 9 June Oregon case is clearly and unequivocally Venus.

Jennie has called to my attention the fact that I asked some follow-up questions which by now you may have obtained the answers.

Anything new on:

5 March	Shaw AFB
3 March	Luke AFB — Film?
17 Feb.	Port Austin
25 March	San Antonio
12 April	Stead AFB

I am anxiously awaiting Jennie's clearance so we can get organized in a more business-like manner. I know you can't do anything about this but ^{just} mentioning it anyway. I hope it comes through before your successor is appointed. *Jim*

Cordially,
Allen Hynek