

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 2 Aug 1956		2. LOCATION Amarillo, Texas		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☒ Other <u>Hoax</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 0400 GMT 02/1000Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☒ Yes ☐ No		6. SOURCE civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 2 hrs 15 mins		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE n/a	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Lights appearing as a cloud formation observed and photographed.				11. COMMENTS Extenuating circumstances. No reference point in photo. Suspected hoax.	

16 May 1960

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

This is to acknowledge your letter of 17 March and the questions concerning unidentified flying objects.

It must be assumed that the much publicized Washington radar sighting of 19 July 1952, is the one in questions. This case was determined to be targets caused by a temperature inversion.

There is no record in the Air Force files of a sighting at Kinross AFB on 23 November 1953. The Kinross case, as outlined in several books and other publications on UFO's, states that an aircraft was carried away by an unidentified flying object. There is no case in the files which even closely parallels these circumstances.

The objects on the film taken at Tremonton, Utah on 2 July 1952, were determined to be birds, probably sea gulls.

The Air Force file carries no conclusion on the photograph taken by Mr. [REDACTED] near Amarillo, Texas on 2 August 1956. Not knowing what radiation vapor is, it is the Air Force opinion that some spokesman at the time speculated that the object was an irradiated vapor trail and was probably mis-quoted.

The Air Force is not aware of any release date for the photograph taken by Mr. [REDACTED]. The original was in the hands of the owner and he was free to do with it as he pleased.

Air Force experience has been that there is no increase in radiation due to unidentified flying objects. It should be understood that the normal background for any area may fluctuate a few hundredths of a milliroentgen, this is considered normal and constitutes no danger whatsoever.

The Air Force is not aware of any statement, official or otherwise, by a government agency to the effect that UFO's are space ships.

The Air Force has no specific knowledge of infrared tracking of unidentified flying objects.

The Air Force file contains no record of a report at Barber's Point, Pearl Harbor on 6 August 1953, in fact, no report from Hawaii for the entire month of August 1953.

For the most part, information concerning UFO reports is available to the public, but due to required classification, some are not. It is the Air Force opinion that the best answer is contained in the question itself. These sightings are intelligence reports, and as such, in certain instances contain other information apart from the UFO portion which may require classification.

The Air Force is open minded on the subject of space travel, and aware that space visitors are a possibility. The present Air Force position is not to deny this possibility, but rather to state that to date no evidence has been discovered to substantiate that UFO's are interplanetary or interstellar space ships.

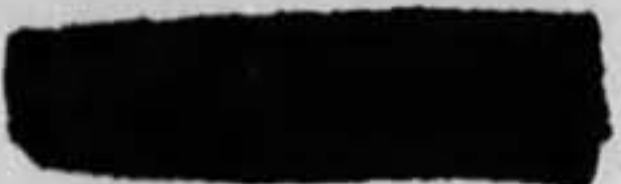
No lunar exploration, telescopic or space probe, has revealed any additional information concerning UFO's.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE J. TACKER
Major, USAF
Public Information Division
Office of Information


Teaneck, New Jersey

oi-3d comeback
oi-1 reader


Dist Office No 23, OSI, 23D 24-0-229, Subj: Unidentified Flying
Object (UFOB)

DO

1st Ind

2596th Air Reserve Flying Center, USAF, Hensley Field, Grand Prairie,
Texas **31 AUG 1956**

TO: Commander, Air Defense Command, Ent Air Force Base, Colorado

Forwarded in accordance with paragraph 7a(2)(a), Air Force Regu-
lation 200-2, 14 August 1954.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl
n/c

Decker G. McAllister, Jr.
DECKER G. MCALLISTER, JR
1st Lt, USAF
Adjutant

25B 4 13 36 22

4602D AISS Classified

Document Log # 56 0 3 70

37229

Incl #6


T-56 56-232
20383

[REDACTED]
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

District Office No. 23 - Carswell Air Force Base,
Fort Worth, Texas

JWF/VFS/mk

23 AUG 1956

23D 24-0-229

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object (UFOB)

TO: Commander
2596th Air Reserve Flying Center
Hensley Field
Grand Prairie, Texas

1. At 1330 hours, 5 August 1956, Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Dallas, Texas, Telephone, [REDACTED], reported
the following information to the OSI Detachment Office, Hensley
Field, Grand Prairie, Texas, concerning the sighting of unconven-
tional type aircraft:

[REDACTED] advised that on 1 August 1956 as he was returning
to Dallas, Texas from Colorado Springs, Colorado, via Amarillo,
Texas, he had departed Amarillo at approximately 0400 hours on
Route US 287. He averred that approximately ten (10) miles outside
of Amarillo, he noted a bright green trajectory in the sky at about
10 o'clock, from an object which appeared to have landed just east of
Amarillo, Texas and north of Highway 287. Shortly thereafter, he
observed another trajectory, similar to the first, which emanated
from a bright light in the sky, observed approximately 30 minutes
earlier. [REDACTED] advised that this light appeared in a cloud formation,
the height of which he estimated to be approximately 10,000 to 20,000
feet. Further, that this cloud formation was approximately 50 miles
in length from north to south and a lesser distance in width running
east to west. Never did the phenomenon appear to descend below the
level of the cloud base and moved intermittently within the cloud for-
mation and on various occasions would move outside the extreme ends
of the cloud running north to south. No sound was audible at any time
during either the trajectory or the movement of the object itself.

*How did
he determine
this?*

4602D AISS Classified
Document Log #

56 0 8 7 0

[REDACTED] AF-56-232

7

[REDACTED]

Hq 23d Dist OSI, Carswell AFB, Texas, file 24-0-229, Subject:
Unidentifiable Flying Objects (UFOB)

The phenomenon appeared to be the size of a grapefruit and appeared in brilliance equal to the ignition of phosphorus, giving a brilliant beam of light both above and below the phenomenon itself, but never both beams simultaneously. At various times, a faint trace of red, varying its position on the phenomenon, was observed. The object appeared to be extremely navigable, inasmuch as it appeared in various places in the cloud formation. The object was observed intermittently by [REDACTED] and his wife between Amarillo and Memphis, Texas. [REDACTED] related that they departed Amarillo at 0400 hours and arrived in Memphis at 0615 hours. [REDACTED] further related the second trajectory appeared 10 to 20 feet from the first trajectory. According to [REDACTED], the cloud formation was moving rapidly and upon his arrival at Memphis, Texas, the formation had begun to disintegrate. As daylight approached, the phenomenon appeared to be ascending into the heavens, where it was the approximate size of a star and no longer visible through the clouds, but visible outside the cloud formation. During the two (2) hours and fifteen (15) minutes that the phenomenon was observed, [REDACTED] advised that as it moved to the open spaces within the cloud formation, its brilliance would illuminate these portions within the cloud structure. As it proceeded through the clouds to the opposite outer extremities, no illumination was visible within the cloud structure. [REDACTED] a World War II Bomber Pilot, who flew B-17 type aircraft, with the Eighth Air Force, advised that in his experience with aircraft, weather conditions, etc, he had never observed anything comparable with this phenomenon.

A photograph of instant phenomenon taken by [REDACTED] with a Kodak 620 Camera is attached as an inclosure. [REDACTED] advised that he would retain the negative of the photograph taken. Further, that he would cooperate with the USAF authorities in any way possible.

2. The above information was furnished the Dallas Field Office, FBI, by [REDACTED] on 2 August 1956.

3. This information is forwarded for your appropriate action in accordance with paragraph 7, AFR 200-2, dated 12 August 1954.

[REDACTED]

Hq 23d Dist OSI, Carswell AFB, Texas, file 24-0-229, Subject:
Unidentifiable Flying Object (UFOB)

4. On 20 August 1956, the files of the FBI, Dallas, Texas, were reviewed with the assistance of EDWIN KUYKENDALL, Special Agent, FBI, and failed to reflect any record of [REDACTED]

5. This letter is classified CONFIDENTIAL pursuant to the authority contained in paragraph 30c(2)(a), AFR 205-1.


JOHN W. FARRELL
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl
Photograph
cc: Dir OSI
FBI, Dallas
Detco, Hensley

T-56-30383-7

UFO next from OSI, dtd 23 Aug 56

ATIC

25 FEB 57 10 57

1 } 4#4
2 }
3 4x20
(C)

WPH 29

WPH 165 THUYA 317 WFA 199 XYA 052

RR RJEDWP

DE RUWFLY 052

R 211935Z

FM CG USAARTYANDGMCEN FTSILL OKLA

TO COMDR ATIC WPAFB OHIO

DA GRNC

BT

020659 FROM AKPSIGT

REFERENCE AFOIN-4E4-2-233-E. NO ARTILLERY FIRING WAS CONDUCTED DURING PERIOD 2400 HOURS 31 JULY 1956 TO 0600 HOURS 1 AUGUST 1956. ARTILLERY FIRING OF 105MM ILLUMINATING ROUNDS WAS CONDUCTED FROM 1800 HOURS 31 JULY 1956 TO 2400 HOURS 31 JULY 1956. MALFUNCTION OF ILLUMINATING ROUND COULD PRODUCE A BRILLIANT FALLING LIGHT FROM ALTITUDES AS HIGH AS 6000 FEET; HOWEVER, NO HIGH ALTITUDE TRAILS OR JET EXHAUSTS WOULD BE PRODUCED.

BT

CFN 020659 AFOIN-4E4-2-233-E 2400 31 1956 0600 1 1956 105MM 1800 31 1956 2400 31 1956 6000

21/2005Z

ATIC
INFORM. INFOR.
INFOR. INFOR.

Reply from: Army Guided Missile Center

Comment: Must consider the fact that Observer may have been erroneous as to exact time and date - otherwise

[REDACTED]

AFOIN-4E4, Subj: Review and Analysis - UFO Photo

TO: AFOIN-4E4

FROM: AFOIN-4D2

DATE: 21 Mar 57 COMMENT NR 3
AFOIN-4D2a/Major Willner/pam
52173/B263/Rm B6 S

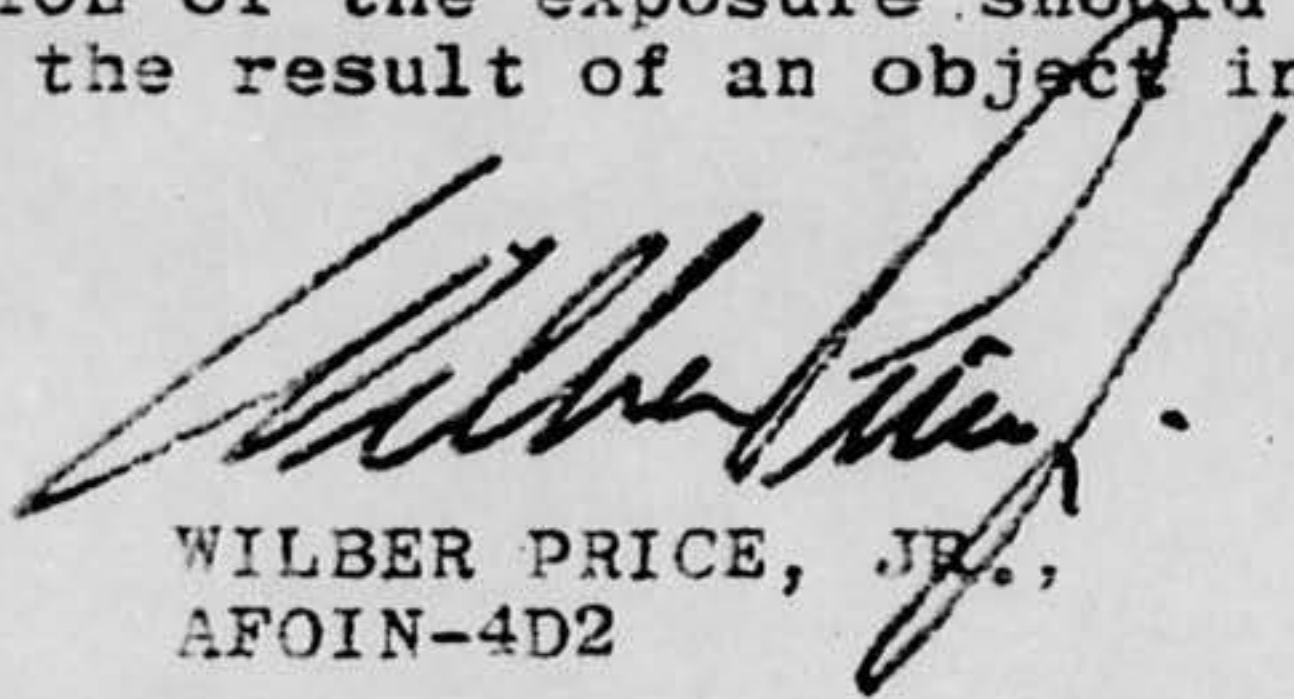
1. In reply to request, the following answers are given to questions stated in par 7.b. basic DF:

a. Question 1. Object cannot be identified from photograph. Cause of the apparent "trail" is unknown. (UNCL)

b. Question 2. No calculations of length of "trail" were made because of lack of reference points. Description of size of phenomenon, distances involved and relationship of trajectories should be further clarified, i.e., size of a grapefruit at arms length, at 10 feet, a definite distance. (UNCL)

c. Question 3. The original negative should be obtained for physical inspection and controlled density printing. Additional prints may reveal details not shown on the single print. (UNCL)

d. Camera information (focal length, shutter setting, negative size) should be obtained. Duration of the exposure should be known in order to determine if "trail" is the result of an object in motion or a definite trail. (UNCL)


WILBER PRICE, JR.,
AFOIN-4D2

2 Incls
n/c

[REDACTED]

T57-4120

[REDACTED]

SUBJ: Review and Analysis - UFO Photo

THRU: AFOIN-4D2a
Major Willner
TO: AFOIN-4E4

FROM: AFOIN-4F3

DATE: 15 Mar 57 COMMENT NR 2
AFOIN-4F3c/Wm Mleczo/js
54186/Bldg 263/Rm A12

1. In reply to your request AFOIN-4F3 submits the following in answer to questions 1, 2 and 3, respectively:

a. Question No. 1

- (1) At first appearance the indication on the photograph does resemble the characteristic "zig-zag" vapor trail that is usually created by a ballistic missile during its ascent. However, vapor trails of this type appear rather suddenly and appear only in a specific strata which depends on the weather condition of the atmosphere at that time. This strata may lie between 20,000 - 45,000 feet. This trail is dispersed into its characteristic form in a matter of seconds; within minutes it is diffused into an unrecognizable form.
- (2) Ballistic missiles, and on some occasions surface-to-air missiles, are expected to create vapor trails such as described above. The time of powered flight of these missiles is measured in seconds and any hovering or rapid dynamic gyrations are not to be expected.
- (3) Cruise missiles which might be seen at the altitudes reported would, during the period of observation, cover a range between 600 - 1200 nautical miles and could not be tracked by an observer for the entire period.
- (4) The opinion of this office is that the object as described is not a missile or any rocket propelled type device. The object or phenomena cannot be identified by AFOIN-4F3c.

b. Question No. 2

- (1) There are no missile launching sites in the area where the object was observed.

c. Question No. 3

There is no knowledge of any missile firings which have departed from the test range area at the time described by source.

2. The contents of this comment are classified CONFIDENTIAL.

2 Incls
n/c

James C. Manatt
JAMES C. MANATT
Lt Colonel, USAF
AFOIN-4F3

T57-4120

[REDACTED]

This CASE Includes

Two (2) $4\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " photos

and one (1) newspaper

clipping.

Hq 23d Dist OSI, Carswell AFB, Texas, file 24-0-229, Subject:
Unidentifiable Flying Objects (UFOB)

The phenomenon appeared to be the size of a grapefruit and appeared in brilliance equal to the ignition of phosphorus, giving a brilliant beam of light both above and below the phenomenon itself, but never both beams simultaneously. At various times, a faint trace of red, varying its position on the phenomenon, was observed. The object appeared to be extremely navigable, inasmuch as it appeared in various places in the cloud formation. The object was observed intermittently by [redacted] and his wife between Amarillo and Memphis, Texas. [redacted] related that they departed Amarillo at 0400 hours and arrived in Memphis at 0615 hours. [redacted] further related the second trajectory appeared 10 to 20 feet from the first trajectory. According to [redacted], the cloud formation was moving rapidly and upon his arrival at Memphis, Texas, the formation had begun to disintegrate. As daylight approached, the phenomenon appeared to be ascending into the heavens, where it was the approximate size of a star and no longer visible through the clouds, but visible outside the cloud formation. During the two (2) hours and fifteen (15) minutes that the phenomenon was observed, [redacted] advised that as it moved to the open spaces within the cloud formation, its brilliance would illuminate these portions within the cloud structure. As it proceeded through the clouds to the opposite outer extremities, no illumination was visible within the cloud structure. [redacted], a World War II Bomber Pilot, who flew B-17 type aircraft, with the Eighth Air Force, advised that in his experience with aircraft, weather conditions, etc. he had never observed anything comparable with this phenomenon.

A photograph of instant phenomenon taken by [redacted] with a Kodak 620 Camera is attached as an inclosure. [redacted] advised that he would retain the negative of the photograph taken. Further, that he would cooperate with the USAF authorities in any way possible.

2. The above information was furnished the Dallas Field Office, FBI, by [redacted] on 2 August 1954.

3. This information is forwarded for your appropriate action in accordance with paragraph 7, AFR 200-2, dated 12 August 1954.

Hq 23d Dist OSI, Carswell AFB, Texas, file 24-0-229, Subject:
Unidentifiable Flying Object (UFOB)

4. On 20 August 1956, the files of the FBI, Dallas, Texas, were reviewed with the assistance of EDWIN KUYKENDALL, Special Agent, FBI, and failed to reflect any record of [REDACTED]

5. This letter is classified CONFIDENTIAL pursuant to the authority contained in paragraph 3(c)(2)(a), AFR 205-1.

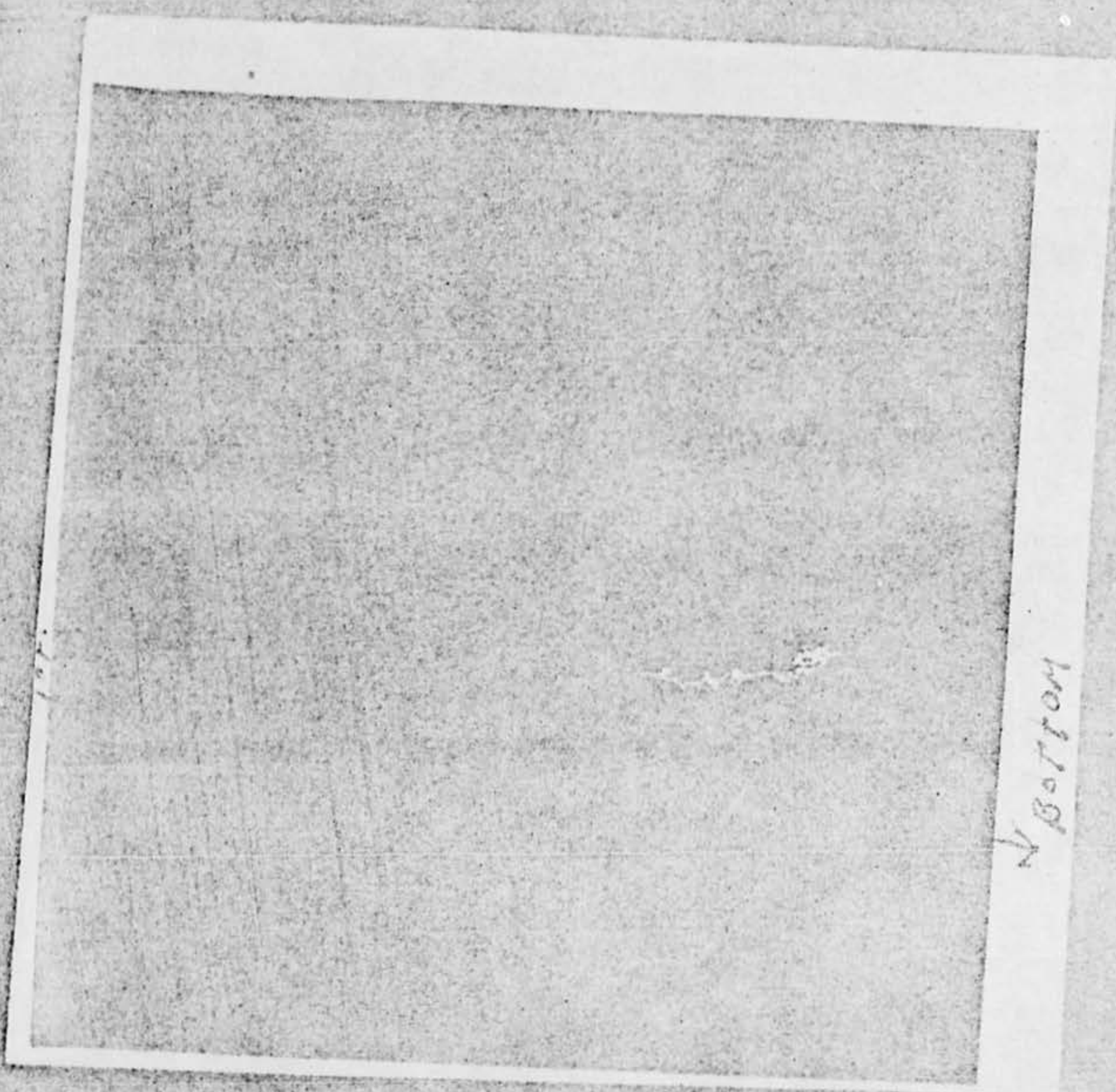
JOHN W. FARRELL
Lt Colonel, USAF
District Commander

1 Incl
Photograph
cc: Dir OSI
FBI, Dallas
Detco, Hensley

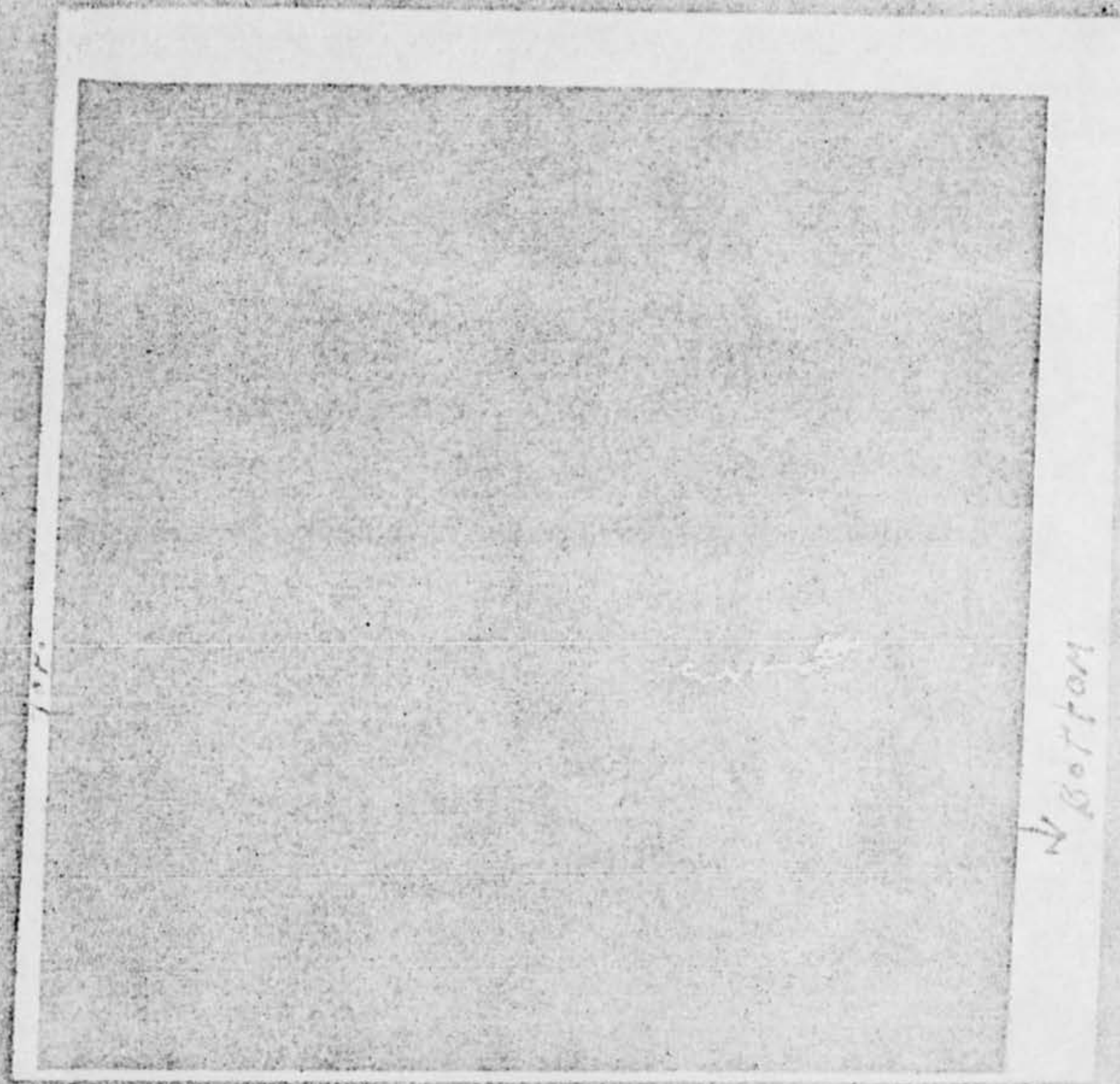
Incl 1. Photograph

155-20383-7

4602D AIRS Classified
Document Log # 66 0 8 7 0



Bottom



Bottom



Associated Press

J. G. Kirby of Dallas made this photo of a diamond shaped object flying through the sky while he and his family were driving near Amarillo, Tex., in August, 1956. The photo was turned over to the FBI and has just been released after intensive study. The Air Force described the glow as "radiation vapor."

DISPOSITION FORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

*Photo is
- brown
- emulsion
- checked*

FILE NO.

SUBJECT Review and Analysis - UFO Photo

TO AFOIN-4F3 (In Turn)
AFOIN-4D2a
ATTN: Major Willner

FROM AFOIN-4E4

DATE 15 Feb 57
4E4/Capt G.T. Gregory/wm
69216
COMMENT NO. 1

1. Request your review and analysis of attached photograph and copy of original report.
2. A microscopic examination discloses that the photo is not "doctored", and apparently not an emulsion flaw.
3. The absence of any horizon, objects or perspective for contrast or comparison purposes makes analysis somewhat difficult. In the opinion of this office, and based upon numerous still and motion pictures of guided missile launchings, the trails shown here appear to be similar to those left in the wake of missiles.
4. The zig-zag, overlapping lines are those generally formed by the variable winds encountered by missiles in their trajectory at various altitudes. The pattern of these lines is not characteristic of lightning flashes, ruling out that phenomenon.
5. Information available to this office indicates that the closest missile launching site to observer's location is White Sands, New Mexico, a distance of approximately 300 miles from Amarillo.
6. Attached report indicates that the observer was facing in an almost directly opposite direction from White Sands; and that the sharpness of the trail pattern leads one to believe that it was much closer to observer.
7. Therefore, on the basis of the above, the following are submitted for specific consideration:
 - a. 4F-3
 - (1) Whether the missile assumption is valid.
 - (2) Whether there are (or were) any missile sites or operations in the general direction or vicinity reported.
 - (3) Any knowledge of missile firings, which a missile firing is known to have departed from its designated course, within the particular time period given, which might explain the phenomenon.
 - b. 4D-2a
 - (1) Specific comments as to the cause or identify of object in photograph.
 - (2) Estimated distance of the trail (assuming missile hypothesis using characteristics of camera equipment used).

T57-4121

DD

FORM
1 FEB 50

96

REPLACES NME FORM 96, 1 OCT 48, WHICH MAY BE USED

16-54801-3

* U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952

[REDACTED]

DF, Cmt #1, to AFOIN-4F3, AFOIN-4D2a (In Turn), 15 Feb 57, Subject: Review and Analysis - UFO Photo

- (3) Possibility of object being fuzz, lint or some similar object cleverly photographed against a dark background, i.e., a hoax.
- (4) Other pertinent remarks or calculations for entry into UFO File.

2 Incls

- 1. Cy ltr, undtd,
UFO Rpt (T56-30383-1)
- 2. 1 env containing
photos

Henry A. Miley
HENRY A. MILEY
AFOIN-4E4

[REDACTED]

T57-4120

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

TELEPHONE

ADDRESS REPLY TO:

2947

13 December 1957

Department of the Air Force
Director of Intelligence
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a clipping from our local newspaper regarding the appearance of radiation vapor recently seen in Amarillo, Texas.

A faculty member has taken issue with this photograph. He feels that in view of the many perfect cubes and further since the photographer is a lapidarist, he is of the opinion that it is a trick photograph made with stones or with a lavalier. The information is volunteered as an effort to assist the Air Force in this investigation and further to prevent lost time in pursuing false leads.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph J. Keeley
University Research
Security Officer

JJK:ej
Enclosure

On November 5th, the Dallas Morning News printed a photograph, taken August 2nd, 1956, of a zig-zag trail left by an object seen near Amarillo, Texas by Dallas rock and gem collector J. G. Kirby and his family.

Former Bomber Pilot Took Photo Of Strange Sky Object

DALLAS, Nov. 5, ¹⁹⁵⁷AP—

The Dallas Morning News carried a picture today of a strange light a former bomber pilot said he took over west Texas a year ago.

J. G. Kirby, a Dallas rare rocks and gem expert, said he took the picture near Amarillo at 4 a.m. Aug. 2, 1956. He said the picture and story were held up by the FBI and Air Force authorities until a few days ago.

Kirby, a B17 pilot in World War II, told the News he and his wife and two children

spotted the light while on rock hunting expedition.

He said he snapped the picture with a small camera and called the FBI on his return to Dallas.

He said he had a visit from an agent who studied the picture and conferred with authorities at nearby Hensley Field.

He said authorities told him only recently he no longer had to keep the photo and story quiet. Kirby said the Air Force theorized the glow was radiation vapor.

57

Teaneck, N.J.
March 17, 1960

2 Aug 56
TEX

Dear Sirs:

There are several questions concerning unidentified flying objects that I would like to have answered.

- X What is the official explanation of the 1952 Washington D.C. sightings?
- A Did an F-89 Air Force plane merge with an unidentified blip near Kimross Air Force Base on November 23, 1953?
- X What is the explanation or conclusion reached concerning the U.F.O. film taken at Tremonten, Utah?
- 7 Did the Air Force theorize that the glow in the photograph taken by [redacted] near Amarillo, Texas on August 2, 1956 was caused by radiation vapor?
- 6 Why was this photograph released over one year after it was taken?
- 6 Has there been an increase in radiation levels when unknown aerial objects are reported?
- 7 Is Edward Ruppelt's statement that a report was released concluding that U.F.O.'s are space ships accurate?
- 6 Has there been infrared tracking of unidentified flying objects?
- A What is the Air Force conclusion concerning the U.F.O. report at Barber's Point, Pearl Harbor on August 6, 1953?
- 6 Why are Air Force Intelligence reports of U.F.O.s unobtainable by the public?
- 11 Does the Air Force rule out the possibility that U.F.O.s are interplanetary or interstellar space ships?
- 12 Was any information about U.F.O.s obtained during the Air Force lunar exploration program?

I will appreciate a prompt reply to these inquiries.

1362 Van Dusen Place
Teaneck, N.J.

Sincerely,

SUBJECT: Request for UFO Information (Mr Richard Levine)

to: SAFOI-3d (Maj Tacker)

a. It must be assumed that the much publicized Washington radar sighting of 19 July 1952, is the one in question. This case was determined to be targets caused by a temperature inversion.

b. There is no record in the Air Force files of a sighting at Kinross AFB on 23 November 1953. The Kinross case, as outlined in several books and other publications on UFO's, states that an aircraft was carried away by an unidentified flying object. There is no case in the files which even closely parallels these circumstances.

c. The objects on the film taken at Tremonton, Utah on 2 July 1952, were determined to be birds, probably sea gulls.

d. The Air Force file carries no conclusion on the photograph taken by Mr. [REDACTED] near Amarillo, Texas on 2 August 1956. Not knowing what radiation vapor is, it is the Air Force opinion that some spokesman at the time speculated that the object was an irradiated vapor trail and was ~~honestly or deliberately~~ mis-quoted.

e. The Air Force is not aware of any release date for the photograph taken by Mr [REDACTED]. The original was in the hands of the owner and he was free to do with it as he pleased.

f. Air Force experience has been that there is no increase in radiation due to unidentified flying objects. It should be understood that the normal background for any area may fluctuate a few hundredths of a milliroentgen, this is considered normal and constitutes no danger whatsoever.

g. The Air Force is not aware of any statement, official or otherwise, by a government agency to the effect that UFO's are space ships.

h. The Air Force has no specific knowledge of infrared tracking of unidentified flying objects.

i. The Air Force file contains no record of a report at Barber's Point, Pearl Harbor on 6 August 1953, in fact, no report from Hawaii

for the entire month of August 1953.

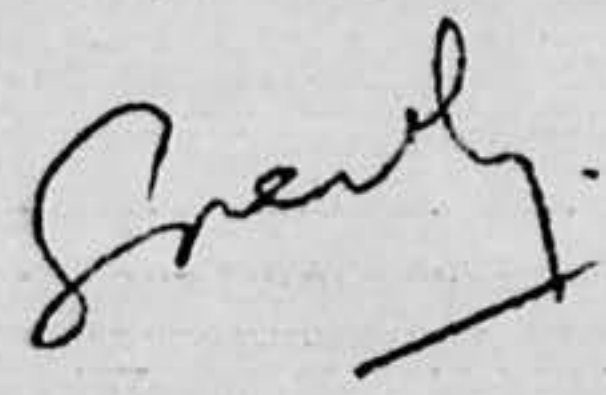
j. For the most part, information concerning UFO reports is available to the public, but due to required classification, some are not. It is the Air Force opinion that the best answer is contained in the question itself. These sightings are intelligence reports, and as such, in certain instances contain other information apart from the UFO portion which may require classification.

k. The Air Force is open minded on the subject of space travel, and aware that space visitors are a possibility. The present Air Force position is not to deny this possibility, but rather to state that to date no evidence has been discovered to substantiate that UFO's are interplanetary or interstellar space ships.

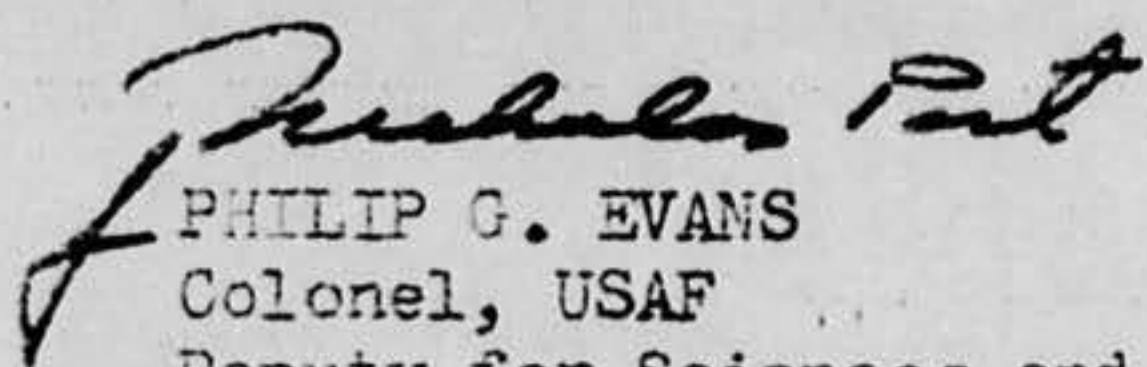
l. No lunar exploration, telescopic or space probe, has revealed any additional information concerning UFO's.

2. Mr. Levine's address is as follows:

Mr Richard Levine
1362 Van Durn Place
Teaneck, N. J.



FOR THE COMMANDER:


PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Sciences and Components

1 Atch:
Cy ltr 17 Mar 60 fr Richard Levine