

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 1 December 1957	2. LOCATION Englewood, Ohio		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local <u>1725</u> GMT <u>01/2225Z</u>	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Civilian		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5 minutes	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE East	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Reddish, rolling object with vapor trail. Had a reddish glow. Was about the size of a shirt button. Faded out, brightened then faded, dark object between glows.		11. COMMENTS Probably a/c.	

LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES
PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION
OFFICE, SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
6085 Sunset Boulevard
Hollywood 28, California
MADison 5-7411 Ext 301

3 January 1958

Colonel Mitchell
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Post Office Box 378
Pasadena, California

Dear Colonel Mitchell:

On 30 November this office received a call from Mr. ██████████ of ██████████, Los Angeles 22, California, reporting he had sighted several unidentified flying objects on the previous day over his neighborhood and further that he had photographed the objects with his personal 8MM motion picture camera. He was most anxious to cooperate with the Air Force and stated he would turn his exposed roll of film over to this office for processing as soon as he finished exposing the roll that same afternoon.

We established a time for pickup, assigned A3/c Fred Stall from this office to drive to Mr. ██████████ residence and brought the 8MM roll of Eastman Kodachrome film to the office for processing. Since there are no local Air Force facilities for handling 8MM color, we decided to have the film processed through regular commercial facilities available through Stern's Drug Store at Sunset and Gower. I turned the film in in my name and after approximately two weeks for normal processing I picked up the film. The film had no extra processing or handling and we know of no reason for Mr. ██████████ to mislead or fake the filming of the objects.

For your information, inclosed are drawings made by his three children who observed the same objects. Mr. ██████████ has called my home several times and discussed

the film with me and he was quite surprised and happy when I told him he did have several good shots of the unknown objects. We are presently awaiting return of the original film from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, which will then be returned to Mr. Benn.

Mr. [redacted] is to be commended for his handling of this situation and for his sincere wish to be of service to the Air Force and his country by reporting and filming unknown flying objects. We in this office are grateful for his efforts. The quality of the film as to exposure and color balance seemed to be of excellent quality and the photography was well done on a most difficult subject.

If we can be of any further assistance in this matter, please call on us.

Sincerely,

Incls
a/s

RICHARD G. SCHALLER
Captain, USAF
Chief, Pictorial Branch

DISPATCHED

82 MAY 13 05 28

CITA

January 30, 1958

Captain Schaller
Pictorial Branch, USAF
6085 Sunset Blvd.
Hollywood, California

Any report from that area and time - Radar units, air operations, 90% etc. Check carefully. Some use night vision. Negative!

Dear Captain Schaller:

Here is the report you requested in our last telephone conversation. I believe it to be accurate and complete....

On Sunday, Dec. 1, 1957 at approximately 3 P.M. my wife and I were in our home in Montebello, when our eight year old boy [redacted], and [redacted], one of the twin girls (age 13) living across the street came in the house screaming "flying saucers, flying saucers"! I ran outside but the objects were nowhere in sight. I assumed by their actions that they had indeed seen something unusual, so I ran back in the house, grabbed my 8mm movie camera, in the hope that whatever they saw would return. At this point, the other twin [redacted] hearing the commotion, joined us on the sidewalk. [redacted], the twins older sister, and several adult neighbors also witnessed the following:

We were intently searching the eastern portion of the sky where the objects were last seen, and suddenly I saw six U.F.O.'s in obvious formation, moving rather slowly in a westerly direction just slightly north of our position, maintaining a constant speed and direction until they disappeared in the west. Fortunately, it was a beautiful day, the sky a lovely blue. While I was taking the films, some branches of a tree (no leaves this time of year) appeared in the viewer. This incident was later termed "very fortunate" by Capt. Schaller, Chief, Pictorial Branch, USAF.

6? only 2 panels objects - film

The objects appeared oval shaped, and the color a soft white. I suppose it could be described as a soft white light. It did not appear to me to be the type of light reflected from shiny metal. This is the best verbal description I can give.

not in film - definitely round

As soon as the objects disappeared, I phoned the E.L.A. Sheriff's Dept. They advised me to phone several others numbers which proved to be a waste of time....no answer on Sunday.

At this point the kids came running in the house again, very excited, yelling "they're back"! I ran outside, but was too late. The kids said that the formation had changed pattern again, and that this time they went over "very fast". Altogether, the kids saw three passes: west to east, east to west, and back again to disappear in a general southeasterly direction.

After the excitement had died down, I separated the kids and had each of them draw a diagram of the formations, numbering the passes 1, 2, and 3. I saw only the second pass, ~~but I would describe~~

why? Note - reversal of directions,

FEB 7 1958

and am forced to rely on the children's description of the first and third formation patterns. I'm sure the following is correct:

1. A rather tight three-quarter circle.
2. Grouped in two's and arranged in a slightly elongated triangle.
3. A straight wing formation.

Having no success at my first attempt on the phone, I decided to phone the operator. Taking the risk of her thinking me a lunatic, I explained the whole story, and asked to be put in touch with someone in the Air Force. She came up with the number of a Capt. Shapiro. He referred me to Captain Schaller. He was very courteous and seemed interested. Hoping to eliminate any possible charge of fraud, I told him that I would rather let the Air Force develop the film. A couple days later an enlisted man stopped by the house, picking up the sketches and the undeveloped film.

About three weeks later I again talked to Captain Schaller, and he seemed well pleased and even a little excited, and he said the films were of "excellent quality", and the best UFO's he had seen. He added that a rather well-known officer by the name of Colonel Dean Hess was excited about the films, and that he would call me.

Colonel Hess called the next morning and complimented me on the manner in which I had handled the situation, and said in his opinion the films were the best UFO's that he had seen, including the films used in the movie U.F.O. Col. Hess told me the original film was my property and would be returned to me. He added, "I have taken the liberty of sending the films back to Wright-Patterson AFB where they have the facilities to analyse and make copies of the film". He also stated that ~~he had phoned the Pentagon and the Air Chiefs of Staff were doubly interested in viewing the film, especially when they discovered that the person that had taken the pictures had not yet seen the results.~~ (I still haven't as of this date). In a subsequent conversation with Col. Hess, he said I would also receive a 16mm copy.

I have told my story to various friends. When some of them doubted my story, I phoned Capt. Schaller, asking for a letter of acknowledgement to prove my story. Three days later I received in the mail a copy of the report Capt. Schaller had sent to a Colonel Mitchell, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Box 378, Pasadena, Calif

One shocking note was pointed out to me by a civilian investigator who alleges an Air Force "policy of secrecy". He referred me to the official orders titled JANAP 146. Also AFR 200-2 and official instructions to personnel of the CAA based of JANAP 146. This latter order applies to civilian airline pilots who report UFO's officially, on a communications system known as CIRVIS---Communications Instructions for Reporting Vital Intelligence Sightings! Why all the secrecy if UFO's are explainable phenomenon?

"Here they are
"old trouble"
against
the Air
Force
Stats."

Suggest he report
to Wash D.C. for
briefing on "Policy"

What? How does
he
know
they
have
UFO's

With
instructions
and
analyses

It is my understanding that it is AF policy to vigorously investigate all "good" UFO reports. Almost two months have past and the only person ~~me~~ that has bothered to investigate me was a flying saucer enthusiast.

It is also my understanding that it is AF policy to send a detailed questionnaire to all people making a "good" report. Where's mine? If they wait much longer, the report will probably be classified as of "doubtful value" or similar double-talk.

In conclusion, I would like to point out that many civilian and military pilots, radar men, control tower personnel, scientists, astronomers, and ordinary citizens like myself have made these reports. The official AF policy to date has been to ridicule these observations, explaining them away as weather balloons, meteors, mirages, mock suns, planets, reflections, weird cloud formations, etc. *This stock answer is both imprudent and inaccurate. It is certainly *insufficient to explain the agility of the UFO's we saw and photographed. Who ever heard of weather balloons flying in formation? The objects we saw traversed the sky THREE TIMES, from horizon to horizon, maintaining a different formation pattern with each pass. This sighting is dramatic evidence supporting the argument held by many competent observers that there is intellegent control.

Hoping this report to be of value....

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Los Angeles, 22

* It is obvious that this man submitted his (alleged) UFO film with premeditated slings on his shoulder and, obviously, itching for a fight with the Air Force. His mind was clearly made up before he made his report: objects couldn't have been anything but made !!! . Same old story - they go way out of their way for publicity or an argument. Wish he could let his spend a day with Comanche Air Research to see what it's all about.

4 February 1958

REPORT OF INTERVIEW WITH MR. ██████████

On 31 January 1958 Mr. and Mrs. ██████████ called at my home to pick up the 8mm film which they had loaned this office. We had finished duplication of the film at a local color film lab and the original 8mm film was returned to Mr. Benn.

I examined his camera, an 8mm Keystone Capri K28 1½" F3.5 telephoto lens Tiffen Photar 85 series 21.5mm.

The film used was Kodachrome Indoor Type A shot outdoors with a type-A filter. The distance setting was on infinity and shot at 16 frames per second.

I asked Mr. ██████████ the following questions:

Q. What is your estimate of the altitude of the objects which you photographed?

A. About the same height as the light airplanes which I frequently ^{see} fly over the house, between 3000 and 4000 feet.

Q. Were they at any time as high as jet aircraft which make vapor trails?

A. No, definitely not.

Q. Did you see any smoke trail or any kind of trail from the objects?

A. No there was no visible trail of any sort.

Q. What was the direction of flight?

A. The first pass sighted by the children came from the West and went in an easterly direction.

Q. Were they in any sort of formation?

A. Yes, a very close or tight formation in a 3/4 circular formation.

Q. At what speed, compared to a light plane passing over?

A. About the same speed, maybe a little slower.

Q. What direction was the second pass?

A. They came from the East heading West in an enlarged formation, split into pairs, with the point of the V formation to the right side of the formation.

Q. What was the speed of this pass?

A. About the same as the first pass, slightly slower than a light airplane.

Q. What about the third pass?

A. This pass was not photographed, but the boy said they went over in a straight-line formation, opposite the viewers position at a very fast speed, at about the same altitude.

Q. What were the size of the objects?

A. That's hard to say.

Q. Would you say they were as big in circumference as a circle inclosing the wing tips and tail to nose section of a light airplane?

A. Yes, about that size.

Q. Were they all the same size?

A. Yes.

Q. What shape?

A. They were circular, and relatively flat.

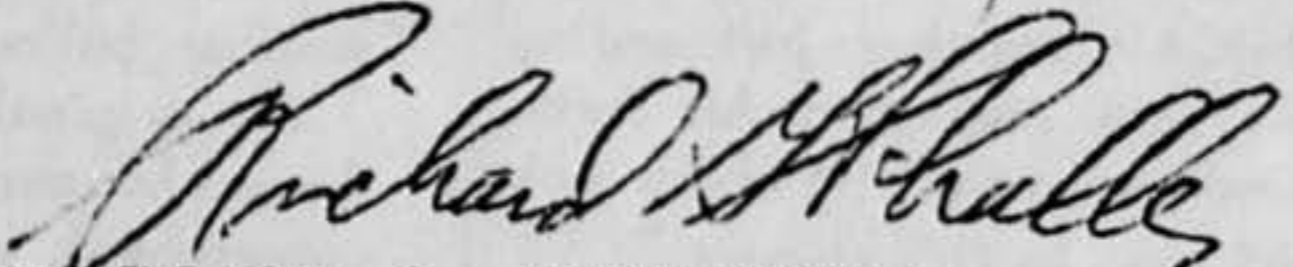
Q. What color?

A. Sort of white-blue-green glowing objects.

Q. What do you think they were?

A. I don't know, but they were certainly not balloons or airplanes like any I had seen before.

(This concluded the main portion of the interview. Mr. [REDACTED] is in the process of moving to a new business in northern California. Any future contact can be addressed to him at [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Redding, California.)


RICHARD G. SCHALLER
Captain, USAF
Chief, Pictorial Branch

*Benn Case
AF accused
of stealing film*

April 29, 1958; St. Paul, Minnesota:

A UFO similar to the one reported in the east on April 21 was sighted by control tower operators at Wold-Chamberlain Airport and by other observers. The CAA men said the UFO did not resemble a meteor or any other known object but that it moved west to east at high speed on an even path without climbing or descending. It was described as emitting sparks from its glowing nose before its abrupt disappearance. The UFO also was seen by NICAP member H. T. Sherman, insurance underwriter and astronomer, who reported it to an Air Force Captain Nueman at Wold-Chamberlain. The captain first suggested Venus, which Sherman as an astronomer quickly ruled out. The captain then suggested a meteor.

"Too slow," stated Mr. Sherman. "A parallel path and the UFO's appearance rule that out."

Finally Captain Nueman suggested a new anti-collision light on a plane, but Sherman pointed out these items:

● When the light went out no plane was visible in the sky which at 9 p.m. was still fairly light.

● He would have heard any aircraft.

● No pilot in his right mind would approach a field with such heavy traffic at such high speed and suddenly at low altitude turn out all lights.

The Air Force captain had no other suggestions and the sighting was officially recorded.

From a NICAP member in the USAF we have received the following unclassified items from a 1957 UFO report:

In late December at a Joint Operations Control Center outside the United States observers of the USAF and a friendly foreign power witnessed by telescope and naked eye a bright white object moving slowly on a southwest heading at 30,000 feet. Shortly afterward a mass of white material (evidently so-called sunset hair) dropped from 10,000 feet for 39 minutes.

Another NICAP member just ending active AF duty has requested Air Force permission to release a sighting which took place at an AF base in this country.

Previously, he states, he was refused permission to release an Air Force filter report on a UFO formation. Air Force approval or denial of his request will be made public, with all possible details.

For the information of members, NICAP Confidential Bulletins are not intended to be released to nonmembers. In particular these bulletins should not be distributed to the press or radio. Items contained therein are to keep members informed of NICAP's progress and of projects being undertaken. When indicated, complete stories will appear in the UFO INVESTIGATOR for general release after full evaluation.

NICAP ASKS AIR FORCE FOR MISSING UFO MOVIE FRAMES

As authorized by Air Force Regulation 200-2, NICAP has asked for the release of the missing frames from color movies of four UFOs taken last December which an Air Force spokesman now claims were "positively identified" as balloons.

This Air Force claim is a surprising reversal. Earlier two Air Force spokesmen in California had endorsed the film as the best UFO pictures they had seen and had commended the owner of the film for submitting it to the Air Force.

The facts are as follows:

On December 1, 1957 at about 3 p.m. Ralph Benn of Los Angeles, using a 3x telephoto lens, took about six and a half feet of Kodachrome film showing four of six objects—resembling those in the Tremonton, Utah film—which made repeated passes over the area.

Benn described the objects as dull white and oval shaped and said they moved slowly west at constant speed. Other passes—one described as "very fast"—were observed by Benn's children.

After contacting a Captain Schaller, Chief of the local AF pictorial branch, Benn agreed to let the Air Force develop the film. Col. Dean Hess, AF Chief of Public Information for the West Coast, later contacted Benn, complimented him for his handling of the case, and said the film "was the best he had seen."

Benn also requested and received written acknowledgement of his film from Captain Schaller. This acknowledgement—a copy of Captain Schaller's letter to ATIC on January 3, 1958—again endorsed the job Benn had done.

In May Major Lawrence J. Tacker, Executive Officer of the Air Force Public Information Division, officially explained the UFO:

"ATIS evaluated the film and the objects were found to be cluster type weather balloons."

The original film, returned to Benn, showed horizontal scratch marks, had been overexposed, and a few frames had been removed.

NICAP Comment: Judging by past Air Force handling of UFO films (for example, the Ralph Mayher films reported in past issues of the UFO INVESTIGATOR) those frames obviously were the clearest ones.

Now that the objects allegedly have been positively identified, there is no reason for withholding the missing frames. AFR 200-2 states: "...it is permissible to inform news media representatives on UFOs when the object is positively identified as a familiar object."

NICAP has written a letter requesting an examination of the missing pictures.

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA SCIENTIST INVESTIGATES UFO REPORTS

As a result of the recent Tucson sightings, Dr. James E. McDonald, Director of the University of Arizona's Institute of Atmospheric Physics, has begun a scientific investigation of UFOs.

More than 50 witnesses privately described sightings of mysterious objects to Dr. McDonald after he urged observers to give him detailed reports.

"There is no doubt about their veracity," Dr. McDonald told the Arizona REPUBLIC. He said the observers talked freely with him, though they declined to be quoted in newspapers for fear of ridicule.

NICAP note to members: Probably thousands of UFO witnesses keep silent, fearing ridicule. If you know of any hidden reports, please urge observers to send us details with permission to use their names. Although limited magazine space prevents immediate publication of most reports sent in, they form an important part of a NICAP project—a detailed report of UFO evidence for members of Congress, the press, and broadcasters.

NO NICAP AGENTS

Complaints reaching NICAP indicate that some groups or individuals are claiming to be NICAP agents and some apparently are reselling their own copies of NICAP publications. If members know of any abuses of this sort, please inform us.

No individual or group has been authorized to accept NICAP memberships or to sell subscriptions to UFO INVESTIGATOR. This of course does not apply to the legitimate promotion of NICAP by its members. Anyone desiring information about NICAP membership or the UFO INVESTIGATOR can be given the pertinent facts or be referred directly to us for free NICAP material.

THANKS to the many members sending us newspaper clippings of UFO sightings and related developments. In forwarding clips, please note the date and the name of the newspaper, if this is not a part of the clipping.

MEMBER IDEAS ON PROMOTION

NICAP welcomes suggestions for promotion of new memberships and publicity regarding NICAP's work. Some very helpful member projects have been sending names and addresses of interested people, advertising in local papers, and writing letters to Congressmen asking for public hearings on the UFO problem. All ideas of this sort will receive prompt attention.

people go to your publicity and interest

What is the best time to do these

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1	NAME OR TITLE Col. Gilbert (Info)	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
	ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION AFCIN-4E	DATE	COORDINATION
2	Mr. Arcier (Info)		FILE 3
	AFCIN-4X1		INFORMATION
3	Maj. Buckmaster (Info)		NECESSARY ACTION
	AFCIN-4A2F		FOR AND RETURN
4	Maj. Tacker (Action)		SIGNATURE
	SAFIS-3		
<p>REMARKS</p> <p>1. Mr. ██████ is a West Coast publisher. Allegation that ATIC (i.e. 4E) stole portion of film is a deliberate falsehood.</p> <p>2. Briefly, Secy of AF member, a Mr. ██████ gave strip of 8MM motion picture film to Mr. ██████ to hand-carry to ATIC. Was examined under magnification by Maj. Buckmaster (Photo Branch) and Capt. Gregory a few days before Christmas, 1957. All agreed: balloon cluster. No other data with strip. Returned intact to Mr. ██████.</p> <p>3. Attached is a thermifax copy of a balloon cluster being launched by a Western Institute under AF contract. Mr. ██████ should compare these with the film strip.</p> <p>2 Incls.</p> <p>1. Thermifax Cys - Bln. Clstr 2 cys</p> <p>2. Ltr SAFIS 7/1/58</p>			
FROM NAME OR TITLE Capt. Gregory		DATE 17 July 58	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION AFCIN-4E4G		TELEPHONE 6-9216	

DD FORM 95
1 FEB 50

Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

GPO: 1958-O-403481

01/2225Z
LT McKay - Muttly SDO

A/C

7

U. S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give the U. S. Air Force as much information as possible concerning the unidentified aerial phenomenon that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes, and will be regarded as confidential material. Your name will not be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. We request this personal information so that, if it is deemed necessary, we may contact you for further details.

1. When did you see the object?
1 Dec 57
Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 5:25 5:30
Hour Minutes
(Circle One): A.M. or P.M.

3. Time zone:
(Circle One): a. Eastern
b. Central
c. Mountain
d. Pacific
e. Other _____

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving
b. Standard

4. Where were you when you saw the object?
[Redacted] ENGLEWOOD 0110
Nearest Postal Address City or Town State or Country
Additional remarks: [Redacted]

5. Estimate how long you saw the object. _____ 4-5 _____
Hours Minutes Seconds

5.1 Circle one of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 5.
a. Certain c. Not very sure
b. Fairly certain d. Just a guess

6. What was the condition of the sky?
(Circle One): a. Bright daylight
b. Dull daylight
c. Bright twilight
d. Just a trace of daylight
e. No trace of daylight
f. Don't remember

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?
(Circle One): a. In front of you Down
b. In back of you
c. To your right
d. To your left
e. Overhead
f. Don't remember

BENN

COVER SHEET

SUSPENSE

ORIGIN OF BASIC

DATE

ASSIGNED BY

UFO file
file

DATE

TYPE

NO.

SUBJECT Pertinent Points in Rebuttal to Charges "Benn Film"
Clipped by Air Force

ROUTING

Initial "IN" column to denote review prior to action. Initial "OUT" column to denote review of completed action. (X for action; ✓ for coordination.)

IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT
	OIN-1			OIN-2			OIN-3			OIN-4			AFOIN	
	OIN-1X			OIN-2X			OIN-3X			OIN-4X			AFOIN-X	
										29 JUL 1958			AFOIN-X	
										COMDR ATIC			AFOIN-X1	
										AFCIN-4			AFOIN-X2	
										AFCIN-4X			AFOIN-X3	
										AFCIN-4X1			AFOIN-X4	
										AFCIN-4X2			AFOIN-X5	
													AFOIN-Z	
													CABLES	
													FILE	
													DISPATCH	

TO: Secretary of the Air Force, Office of Information Services
Attn: Major Tacker - SAFIS-3

DATE

23 July 1958

FROM: AFCIN-4E4

COMMENT NO.

1

COMMENTS (Use reverse, if necessary)

AFCIN-4E4/Capt. Gregory/ac
Ext. 6-9216/Bldg. 828

1. Reference is made to letter addressed to your office from the National Investigations Committee on Aerial Phenomena, Washington, D. C., dated 1 July 1958, copy to this Center for comment. This is our reply.

2. In rebuttal to the above subject the following points are outlined:

a. Colonel Hess, Chief of the OIS, Hollywood, California, made an exact copy of the Benn Film when it was submitted for his review.

b. The film submitted to ATIC, through SAFIS, was Kodak 8MM film of standard 25 feet length.

c. The copy made by Col. Hess during all interviews with Benn and now in our custody is exactly 25 feet in length.

d. Examination reveals no cuts, splices or alterations.

e. The images of alleged UFOs are on a part of the film approximately 4½ feet in length and are all here on file; technically, the first 55 frames, or 9 inches, indicate nothing. The next 4½ feet contain the alleged UFOs. The balance of approximately 20 feet contains various and sundry scenes, persons, etc.

3. Therefore, legally:

a. If we have exact copy of the film as given to Colonel Hess, reproduced there in his California photo lab, and "our" copy shows no splices, cuts, etc. - - ~~██████~~ himself or others must have made the cuts - - after it was received back from the Air Force.

b. Mr. ~~██████~~ should be asked to show the alleged "clipped strips" to the Air Force, or

c. A copy of our copy could be made for ~~██████~~'s retention to show him that the "UFO strip" is still intact to do whatever he wishes, advertise it, sell it, show to the public, or,

d. Have Colonel Hess invite him down and ask him to lay out his film alongside the Air Force copy - - and compare them, with Colonel Hess requesting a statement in writing that the "UFO strip" is still intact.

4. The 8MM reel was examined under magnification by both Major Buckmaster, Chief, Photographic Branch, ATIC and Captain Gregory on 23 December 1957, the date of receipt. There was no UFO report or data with film other than that it was taken near Montebello, California on 1 December 1957. All concurred that the objects, which were rather faint and at some distance, were balloons, and probably a balloon cluster.

5. Attached are thermofax copies of a balloon cluster being launched by a western university having an Air Force contract. Mr. ~~██████~~ and Mr. ~~██████~~ should compare these with the alleged UFOs on the film strip.

6. In the opinion of this Center this is another of the many charges made by those who apparently do not know (and actually only a few know, or are told) that the Air Force (now) makes a duplicate of all photos and movies.

1 Incl:
Thermofax cys of
Bln Photo - 2 cys


CHESTER H. LONG Lt. Colonel, USAF
Executive, Air Technical Intelligence Center

24 Dec 57

Memo for File:

Original film rec'd in Center day before Christmas 1957 with report for a "Flash Analysis" and return of film to HQS USNA (Case of Major Tachen SASS-3). Film carried to ATIC by Mr. [redacted].

This was done.

However, problem was complicated in that no report giving locations, azimuths, altitudes, circumstances, etc, etc that normally would be given with any UFO report. Only the two film receivers.

Film sent to Washington as no copies of

of more film could be made here.

The case was badly handled, and in fact, botched. Col. Mitchell is apparently unaware that ATIC and the AISS (over)

detachment which was nearby) are responsible for UFO cases - not
the OIS and PRO people. In fact, USAF Intelligence has
been trying to get the OIS people out of intelligence (particularly
UFO matters) for the last 12 years, Ref. Briefing to Asst
Secretary of Defense, Study to Gen. Lewis, Briefing to
Mr. Wagner, SAFIS, etc.

Officers should also be made aware that 95%
of the UFO hoaxes are from Southern California; that they
are a Federal offense; that praising people who bring
him UFO stories and films is contrary to USAF intelligence
policies; that OIS people cannot conduct ^{UFO} interviews or
investigations - as was done in this case.
In brief, the matter was handled badly.

Signed:

George T. Gray
Capt USAF
9 Feb 1958

COMMENTS: ~~SECRET~~ ALLEGED UFO
Montebello, Calif
1 December 1957

1. Looks like two pairs of balloons.
2. Move in unison - keep same distance.
3. Film too short and slightly out-of-focus and over-exposed.
4. Because of three (3) above, with very limited data (no exact azimuths, bearings, directions, elevations, etc.) very difficult to make a sound.
5. Review of letter, with the "chips on his shoulder" attitude, plus the obvious attempt to make a "big project" out of 5 seconds of film - strongly suggest that he knew what the objects were. Can't prove it though.
6. Enlarged to motion-picture screen size: Reviewed by Lt. Col Whitcher, Sgt. Bolieu, and Capt Gregory in UFO Project Room.

George T. Gregory
GEORGE T. GREGORY
CAPT., USAF

Rec'd from Western Jc 21 Jul 58 (Luce)

GREGORY

WILL U PLS CONTACT BR XXX UFO SECTION EXT 691 XXX 69216 CPT GREGORY
AND ASK HIM ABOUT FILM WE SENT TO HIM AND WHEN IT WILL BE
RETURNED AL PLO IN HOLLYWOOD WANTS IT BACK ASAP
A GAPLS

SORRY BUT CAPT. GREGORY IS OUT TO LUNCH NOW MAY WE CALL YOU ON
HIS RETURN TO THE OFFICE AND GIVE YOU TEXX THE ANSWER. GA PLS
ALSO WHAT IS YOU TWX NR AND FIRM. GA PLS THIS IS JRG
AT WO ATIC I THOUGHT U WOULD KNOW THAT IM SRY GAPLS

THAT YOUR WHAT. GA
00000

I C WHAT YOU MEAN. JOHN. WILL HV TO CALL YOU BACK AND LET U KNOW
WHAT CAPT G SAYS. OKAY. GA

RGR D O U HVE ANDY TRF FOR US GAPLS

NOPE CLR HERE CUL OR GA

Called Mr. Wagner. Said he would call

*Col. Mitchell and explain status and disposition
(also his son from air mail to Mitchell.) of film.*

*S.T.D. 1470 hrs
21 Jul 58*

New story on cluster balloon tests conducted by the Air Force

ts

identified the noise as a sonic boom but added: "All other information about it is classified."

He said he saw no connection between the boom and the unmarked balloons. He ordered an Air National Guard

unit to take charge of plastic objects and try to identify them.

The balloons were not identified immediately. The weather bureau said they weren't theirs: Weather balloons are filled with helium or hydrogen, a spokesman said, neither of which has an odor.

As for the boom, the Strategic Air Command headquarters at Omaha said it had no

Other missile centers in Southern California and New Mexico—as well as the Defense Department in Washington—said there was no missile firing yesterday.

The balloons, of clear plastic, were about four feet long and 18 inches in diameter. They were bound together, Engh said, with firecracker string

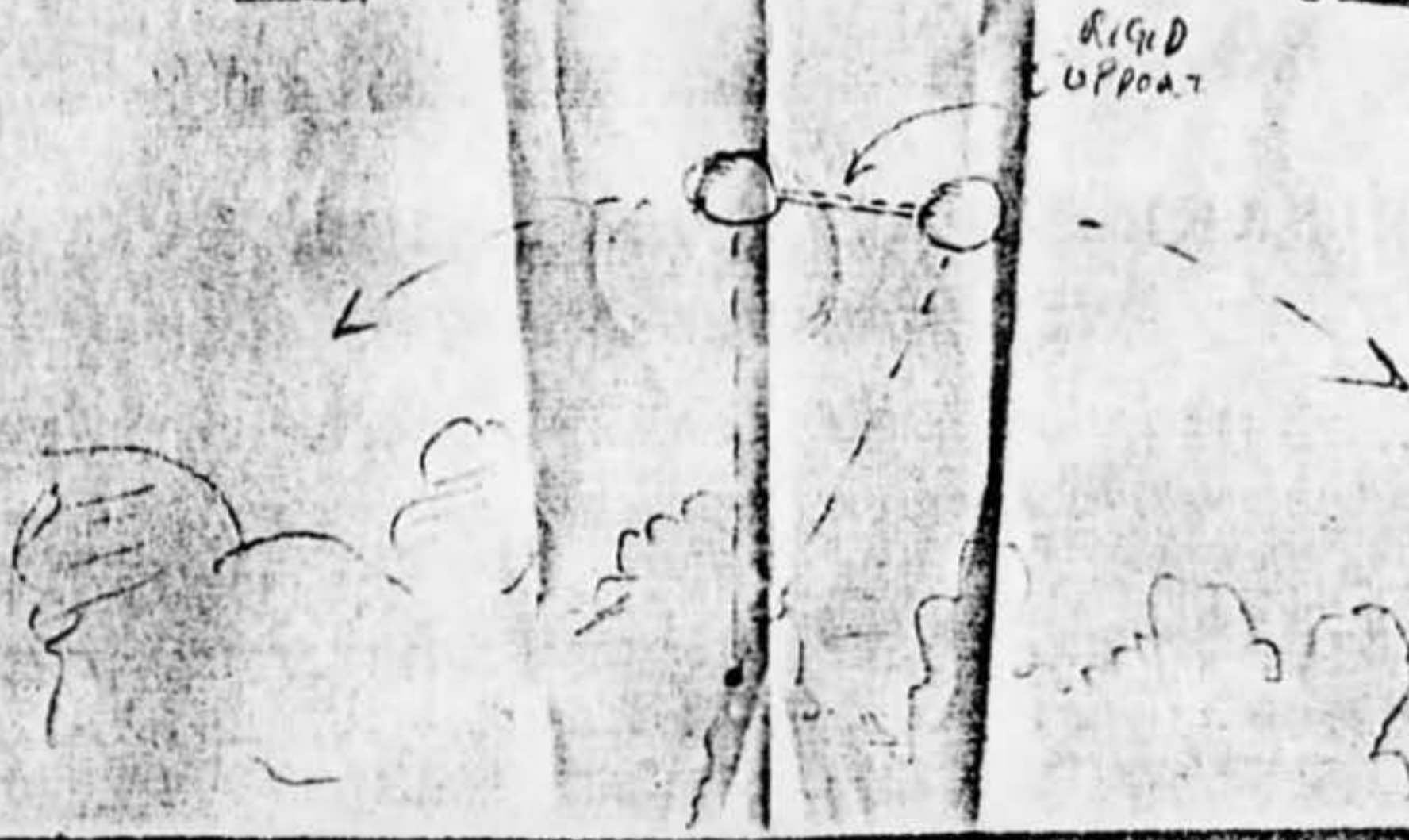
and had a blue paper-like material, somewhat like rice paper, between them. They carried no markings or instruments.

Bishop's Wife Dies

BRUSSELS, Belg
Mrs. Ivan Lee H...
retired Methodist...
souri, died Wednesday...
the bishop left...
European tour...
... the roof from...

NOTE!

*Mr. Baum may
visit these who
"VFD" a space ship
etc - but not unknown
dy to the Air Force.*



— Copy —

Colored 8 MM Film

UKO Sighting:

1 Dec 1957 - Montebello, Calif.

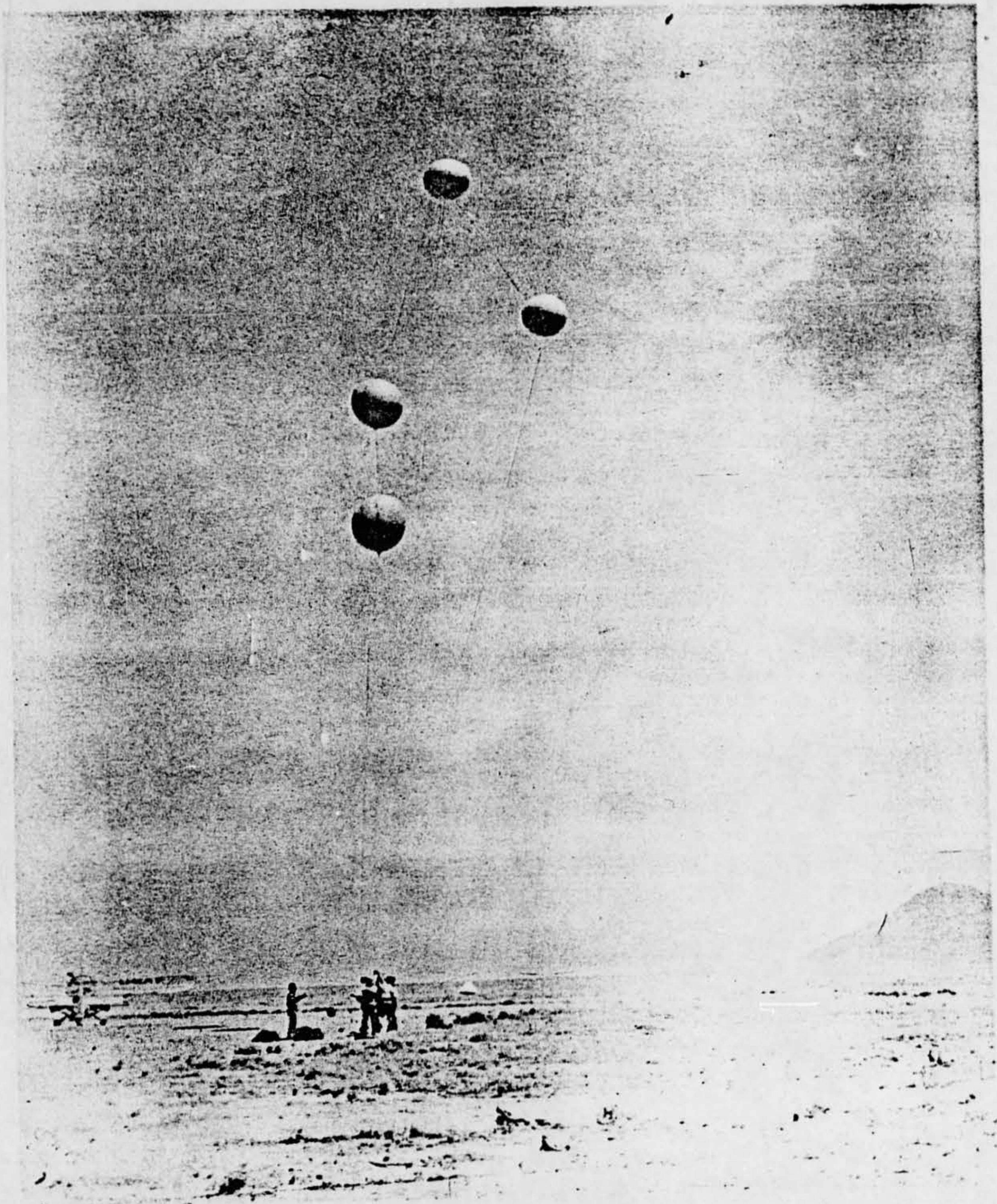
Source:

[REDACTED]

Standard Kodak
25 feet reel

11928

BALLOON CLUSTER



DISPOSITION FORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (if any)

Note date!

FILE NO.

SUBJECT Photography of UFO

TO AFCIN-4E
ATTN: UFO Unit

FROM Western Office, ATIC

DATE 7 Feb 58

COMMENT NO. 1

Lt Col Mitchell/ck

1. Reference Comment 1, this office, subject, Photography of UFO, dated 8 Jan 58 and Comment 2 from AFCIN-4E4, dated 20 Jan 58.
2. Attached hereto is a copy of the film recently furnished to your Headquarters by this office. The film has been reproduced by the Los Angeles Office of Information Services.
3. Also inclosed is a copy of Mr. [redacted] "story" and an interview conducted with him by the Office of Information Services.
4. These items may be retained by your Headquarters.

Max O Mitchell

MAX O. MITCHELL
Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Western Office, ATIC

2 Incls:

1. Ltr fm Mr. [redacted] /film
2. Transcript of Interview w/Mr. [redacted]

*AFCIN-4X1
Office of Scientific Advisor
ATIC*

*10 Feb 1958
Max, [unclear] called on [unclear] for Mr. Aracins office - Capt. [unclear] on [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]*

Sir:

1. This case was handled wrongly!
2. The best people who should attempt to conduct UFO investigations and/or analysis are the public relations people.
3. Yet, here we have the Chief of the Hollywood BIS, conducting interviews of a man who is antagonistic towards the [unclear] Force, and obviously a publicity seeker - [unclear] his [unclear] made up (see his ltr)
4. The matter was compounded by Col. Hess' statement of [unclear]

8. IF you saw the object, at NIGHT, TWILIGHT, or DAWN, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS (Circle One):

- a. None
- b. A few
- c. Many
- d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON (Circle One):

- a. Bright moonlight
- b. Dull moonlight
- c. No moonlight — pitch dark
- d. Don't remember

9. Was the object brighter than the background of the sky?

B. Solid

(Circle One):

a. Yes

b. No

c. Don't remember

10. IF it was BRIGHTER THAN the sky background, was the brightness like that of an automobile headlight?:

(Circle One) a. A mile or more away (a distant car)?

b. Several blocks away?

c. A block away?

d. Several yards away?

e. Other

35,000

*no paper trail
NOTE*

11. Did the object:

(Circle One for each question)

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|
| a. Appear to stand still at any time? | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | Don't Know |
| b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time? | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | Don't Know |
| c. Break up into parts or explode? | Yes | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No | Don't Know |
| d. Give off smoke? <i>upward glancing</i> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No | Don't Know |
| e. Change brightness? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No | Don't Know |
| f. Change shape? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No | Don't Know |
| g. Flicker, throb, or pulsate? <i>rolling</i> | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | No | Don't Know |

12. Did the object move behind something at anytime, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes No Don't Know.

IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved behind: _____

13. Did the object move in front of something at anytime, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes No Don't Know.

IF you answered YES, then tell what it moved in front of: _____

14. Did the object appear:

(Circle One):

a. Solid?

b. Transparent?

c. Don't Know.

15. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|----|----------------|-----|----|
| a. Eyeglasses | Yes | No | e. Binoculars | Yes | No |
| b. Sun glasses | Yes | No | f. Telescope | Yes | No |
| c. Windshield | Yes | No | g. Theodolite | Yes | No |
| d. Window glass | Yes | No | h. Other _____ | | |

made eye

could

DD FORM 1300 1-60
true) that -- (these) were the best UFOs he had
ever seen ---". This is contrary to AF Policy,
procedures, and position regarding statements.

5. Col. Hess is ^{FEB} apparently unaware of AF policies
and regulations, in UFO sightings and statements to the
public
(AFR 200-2)

6. SATIS called 3 times regarding the status of
the film and the statements made by Col. Hess.

7. I feel Col. Mitchell should have sat on this --
and called in the AFS unit only a few
miles away,
JTB

5. WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

CHIEF, WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

1. AIR MAIL

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

NY 100-100000

URGENT 1/28/50

FROM SAC, WASHINGTON (100-100000)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (100-100000)

RE:

5. WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

1. AIR MAIL

URGENT 1/28/50

FROM SAC, WASHINGTON (100-100000)

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

RE:

100-100000

1 FEB 28

CONFIDENTIAL

NY

100-100000

CONFIDENTIAL

INSTRUCTIONS FROM OFFICE OF THE SECY OF THE AIR FORCE INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION TO MAKE AN IMMEDIATE ANALYSIS OF FILM AND RETURN IT TO THAT OFFICE. FILM RETURNED TO MAJOR WAGNER, SAFIS, HEAD-QUARTERS USAF ON MORNING OF 23 DEC 57.

WOULD HAVE LIKED TO HAVE RETAINED FILM FOR SUFFICIENT TIME TO REPRODUCE IT IN ACCORDANCE WITH POLICY TO HAVE A COPY OF ALL PHOTOS AND FILM ON UFOS TO INSURE AGAINST FUTURE CLAIMS, ALLEGATIONS OR OTHER ISSUES.

MY ANALYSIS, CONFIRMED BY INDEPENDENT REVIEW BY PHOTO ANALYSTS, IN BRIEF - OBJECTS ARE FLOATING IN ALL FRAMES. THEY KEEP THE SAME DISTANCE AND POSITION TO EACH OTHER /ALTHOUGH THE WHOLE GROUP SEE-SAWS BACK AND FORTH/, AND GIVE ALL THE APPEARANCES OF BEING BALLOONS ON SOME TYPE OF RIGID FRAMEWORK.

MORE FIRM CONCLUSIONS COULD HAVE BEEN PROVIDED IF A REPORT ON THE BACKGROUND, FACTUAL DATA AND INFORMATION, AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES WERE SUBMITTED TOGETHER WITH THE FILM PER AFR 200-2.

WILL CONTACT MR WAGNER, SAFIS, AT HQ USAF AND NOTIFY YOU OF RESULTS

END

INFORMAL
24/1434Z JAN DE DY TWX 249

CLR GA

*Sgt. Bulmer: Query from Major Byrnes re ~~the~~ film.
File in Hollywood UFO file case file
27 Nov. ? 1957, until we receive
a UFO incident report. The
film alone is of little help.*

Q76

GZ-4COR	COORDINATION
AFCIN-4	
AFCIN-4X2b	AFCIN-4E4
AFCIN-4X2c	TO:
AFCIN-4X3	
AFCIN-4X4	
AFCIN-4X5	
AFCIN-4A	
AFCIN-4B	
AFCIN-4C	
AFCIN-4D	
AFCIN-4E	
AFCIN-4F	
OTHERS	

FILE CLASS: _____
 OFFICIAL FILE COPY

4E4/T/Sgt J. Bolieu/wm
 69216

OFFICE OF RECORD

22 JAN 1958

SUBJECT: (U) UFO Film
Secretary of the Air Force
Headquarters USAF
ATTN: Mr. Wagner, SAFIS-3
Washington 25, D.C.

1. Subject film was forwarded to your office on the morning of 24 December 1957, after a "flash analysis" was made. Reference telephone conversations between your office and Captain Gregory.

2. As pointed out during this telephone discussion, subject film (8 MM colored) could not be reproduced here for retention, as we were instructed to forward film to your office immediately.

FOR THE COMMANDER

WALLACE W. ELWOOD
 Captain, USAF
 Assistant Adjutant

- 2 Incls
 1. Cy, DF fr Western Office, ATIC
 2. Ltr fr Los Angeles PIO

* Hand-carried to Washington per Mr. [redacted] is written instructions in large red.

1 4E4, J. Bolieu 20 Jan 58
 7 4E4, H. Miley 20 Jan 58

ATIC DISPATCHED

RECEIVED

ATIC

PERM	
TEMP	
90 DAYS	
INITIAL	

Photography of UFO

AFCIN-4E
ATTN: UFO Unit

Chief, Western Office,
ATIC

8 Jan 58

Lt Col Mitchell/ck

1. Reference our message DET 2-12-210-E. Forwarded herewith is a statement from the Los Angeles Office of Information Services pertaining to the photography of unidentified flying objects on 29 Nov 1957.
2. The film was previously air mailed to ATIC under separate cover.
3. Mr. [redacted] is anxious to have his film returned to him and the Air Force PIO, Los Angeles promised prompt action in this regard.
4. Request the film with any appropriate analysis that can be released to Mr. [redacted] be forwarded to this office as soon as possible.

1 Incl
a/s

MAX O. MITCHELL
Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Western Office, ATIC 3 addressees

No! Mr. Wagner, SAFIS-3 addressees

TO: Chief, Western Office
ATIC

FROM: ATIC

DATE: 20 Jan 58 COMMENT NR. 2
4E4/T/Sgt J. Bolieu/wm/69216

1. The subject film was forwarded to SAFIS-3, 24 December 1957.
2. A copy of your IF has been forwarded to SAFIS-3 for necessary action.

1 Incl
w/d

WALLACE W. ELWOOD
Captain, USAF/C
AFCIN-4X2a

COORDINATION

AFCIN-4E4

H. A. Miley DATE | *20 Jan 58*
Dr. H. A. Miley

RECEIVED
14 35

RECEIVED

RR DY 60

DE PASA CAL 7190

RR 202345Z

FM CHIEF WESTERN OFFICE ATIC PASADENA CALIF

TO COMMANDER ATIC WPAFB OHIO

BT

(Not to ATIC!)

*① 4E4
2-4X1
3-4X2
WB*

/UNCLASSIFIED/. DET 2-12-210-E FOR AFCIN 4E UFO UNIT

AIRMAILED 20 DEC 57 ONE ROLL 8MM COLOR FILM WHICH SHOWS SHORT SCENES OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS. FILM WAS TURNED IN TO AF PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE, HOLLYWOOD, STILL IN UNPROCESSED FORM. PIO OFFICE HAD FILM DEVELOPED. FILM SHOWS CLEARLY SOME OBJECTS WHICH THIS OFFICE UNABLE EXPLAIN HOWEVER DOUBT IF OF ANY SIGNIFICANCE.

STATEMENT FROM INDIVIDUAL WHO DID PHOTOGRAPHY AND WITNESSES OF INCIDENT WILL BE FOREWARDED 23 DEC 57 OR SOONEST THERAFTER. PLEAS NOTIFY MR ~~██████~~ OF ABOVE.

BT

21/0005 DEC DE PASA CAL 7190

① Where's the film? Our records and check with mail unit shows no receipt as yet.

11
82 ACK PLS

ACK 1MSG AT 20/703P

06 60 25 DEC 57

②

Check with local AMC PIO office - a AISS here - may be misrouted to these places.

G 707

SUBJECT: (U) Request for Review and Comment - UFO Motion Picture Film

TO: AFCIN-4E4

FROM: AFCIN-4A2f

DATE: 24 Dec 57

COMMENT NR 2

Maj R. M. Buckmaster/11

Ext 5-9196/Bldg 263/E-N

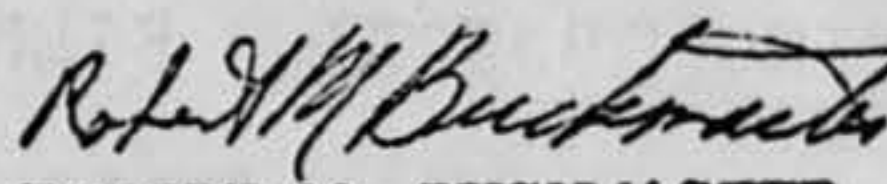
1. Film referred to in Comment 1 has been reviewed and the following facts have been analyzed:

a. Objects in question appear to be real and it is believed they are four balloons attached to each other.

b. Objects are at a great distance from photographer and the distance became greater as objects were photographed.

c. The objects appear to be floating and retain throughout the film, basic relationships to each other and appear to rotate in the relationship clock-wise.

2 Incl
N/c



ROBERT M. BUCKMASTER

Major, USAF

AFCIN-4A2f

DISPOSITION FORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (If any)

FILE NO.

SUBJECT

(U) Request for Review and Comment--UFO Motion Picture Film

TO AFCIN-4A2F

FROM AFCIN-4E4

DATE 23 Dec 1957

COMMENT NO. 1

ATTN: Maj. Buckmaster

4E4/Capt. Gregory/dn
69216

1. Reference conversation between Maj. Buckmaster and Capt. Gregory, Saturday night, 21 December 1957, regarding a UFO film that Gen. Watson was informed would be submitted to this Center for immediate review and comment.

2. Request study of subject film, with detailed comments as to the nature of the objects purported to be UFOs. The detailed report attendant to this case has not arrived as yet, but a brief TT message regarding the general circumstances surrounding the matter is attached.

3. The fact that the ^{*}film was submitted directly to the PIO Office in Hollywood, rather than directly to Headquarters USAF or ATIC is considered significant. Reference our recent discussions concerning the soon-to-be-released report (to AFCIN) that approximately 85% of UFO hoaxes submitted are from Southern California.

4. Hq. USAF has telephonically requested that it be notified immediately of our findings with regard to this film.

for
Henry A. Miley
HENRY A. MILEY
Chief, Air Sciences Division
AFCIN-4E4

2 Incl

1. Roll film
2. Cy TT Msg

*Pentagon called at 1430 hrs. - wants
some info. on this by 8:30 a.m. tomorrow.*

16. Tell in a few words the following things about the object.

a. Sound none paper cut
at same time

b. Color red (glow night) shined

17. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapor trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.

up over trees

speck dot

dark

after passed over seemed lower
W-E

18. The edges of the object were:

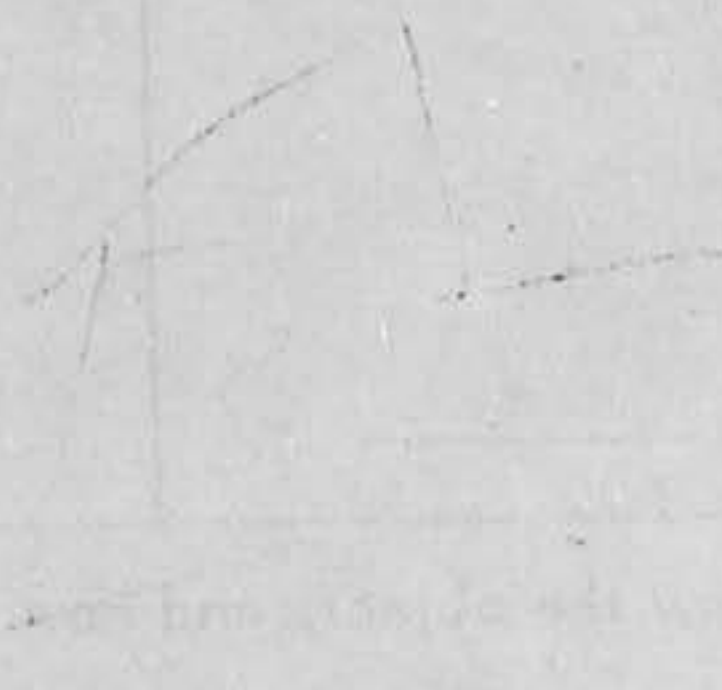
- (Circle One): a. Fuzzy or blurred
- b. Like a bright star
- c. Sharply outlined
- d. Don't remember

e. Other Faded out -
bright - fade etc
dark object between
glow

19. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? _____
Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

20. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.

out of sight



21. IF POSSIBLE, try to guess or estimate what the real size of the object was in its longest dimension. _____ feet.

couldn't

22. How large did the object or objects appear as compared with one of the following objects held in the hand and at about arm's length?

(Circle One):

- a. Head of a pin
- b. Pea
- c. Dime
- d. Nickel
- e. Quarter
- f. Half dollar
- g. Silver dollar
- h. Baseball
- i. Grapefruit
- j. Basketball
- k. Other

Shirt Button

put at 35 - 40,000 ft

22.1 (Circle One of the following to indicate how certain you are of your answer to Question 22.)

- a. Certain
- b. Fairly certain
- c. Not very sure
- d. Uncertain

23. How did the object or objects disappear from view? _____

24. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, we would like for you to imagine that you could construct the object that you saw. Of what type material would you make it? How large would it be, and what shape would it have? Describe in your own words a common object or objects which when placed up in the sky would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

25. Where were you located when you saw the object?
(Circle One):

- a. Inside a building
 b. In a car
 c. Outdoors
 d. In an airplane
 e. At sea
 f. Other _____

26. Were you (Circle One)

- a. In the business section of a city?
 b. In the residential section of a city?
 c. In open countryside?
 d. Flying near an airfield?
 e. Flying over a city?
 f. Flying over open country?
 g. Other _____

27. What were you doing at the time you saw the object, and how did you happen to notice it?

*happened to look out window
 (tracks satellites as hobby + space watching)*

28. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

28.1 What direction were you moving? (Circle One)

- a. North c. East e. South g. West
 b. Northeast d. Southeast f. Southwest h. Northwest

28.2 How fast were you moving? _____ miles per hour.

28.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?

(Circle One) Yes No

29. What direction were you looking when you first saw the object? (Circle One)

- a. North c. East e. South g. West
 b. Northeast d. Southeast f. Southwest h. Northwest

30. What direction were you looking when you last saw the object? (Circle One)

- a. North c. East e. South g. West
 b. Northeast d. Southeast f. Southwest h. Northwest

31. If you are familiar with bearing terms (angular direction), try to estimate the number of degrees the object was from true North and also the number of degrees it was upward from the horizon (elevation).

31.1 When it first appeared:

- a. From true North _____ degrees.
 b. From horizon _____ degrees.

31.2 When it disappeared:

- a. From true North _____ degrees.
 b. From horizon _____ degrees.

34. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

34.1 CLOUDS (Circle One)

- a. Clear sky
- b. Hazy
- c. Scattered clouds
- d. Thick or heavy clouds
- e. Don't remember

34.2 WIND (Circle One)

- a. No wind
- b. Slight breeze
- c. Strong wind
- d. Don't remember

34.3 WEATHER (Circle One)

- a. Dry
- b. Fog, mist, or light rain
- c. Moderate or heavy rain
- d. Snow
- e. Don't remember

*hazy on
foggy*

34.4 TEMPERATURE (Circle One)

- a. Cold
- b. Cool
- c. Warm
- d. Hot
- e. Don't remember

35. When did you report to some official that you had seen the object?

____ Day _____ Month _____ Year

1 Dec 1800

36. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object?

(Circle One) Yes No

36.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too?

(Circle One) Yes No

36.2 Please list their names and addresses:

*wife + 2 children
5 + 9 (boy)*

37. Was this the first time that you had seen an object or objects like this?

(Circle One) Yes No

*last when blue light (large)
then went out*

37.1 IF you answered NO, then when, where, and under what circumstances did you see other ones?

*like sparkles thrown in air
between Shilo + Englewood EW. 3 AM
Somebody reported this to
Trotwood*

38. In your opinion what do you think the object was and what might have caused it?

may have been jet

Pete Minnick

THE AIR FORCE DIVISION OF INFORMATION SERVICES
PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION
OFFICE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
3033 QUINN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20330
MAIL ROOM - 3033

TAB

- A Interview with Mr ██████████
- B Data pertaining to alleged film cutting
- C Miscellaneous Information

SMC