PROJECT 10073 RECORD

	PROJECT 10073 RECORD
1. DATE - TIME GROUP	2. LOCATION
22 Mar 66 23/01152	Normal, Illinios
3. SOURCE	10. CONCLUSION
Civilian	AIRCRAFT (DC-3)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS	The DC-3 was 25 minutes late. A low pass was made over the tor
One	Frior to letdown at the airport. A slow descending pattern was flown. The lighting configuration on the DC matches that of the
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS UFO
3-5 Minutes	Object was described as being oblong in shape like a football.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	The lights were red and green, separated by a white and red alternating light with blinking on top. Object was about 20 deg. above the horizon when sighted and disappeared at tree
7. COURSE	tops. gradually in the ENE.
SW to NW	
8. PHOTOS	
XSt No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	
XX No	l Witness

FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

the tail. It flew a right hand pattern making a right base for landing at Bloomington Normal. Since there is not a tower, the DC-3's usually make a pass over the airport checking the wind "T". Then they proceed on a downwind to base for landing. About 5 people called in and said they saw a UFO. Actually it was the DC-3 flying over the city."

1830 hrs CST:

Interview with the Single Interview with the

"We were out in back playing basketball when my young brother said, hey Steve look at how low that plane is. I ran to the front of the yard and watched it flying. I didn't think it was a plane. It was moving from the southwest to the northeast. It was moving real slow. It had a green light on the bottom, red, white and blue lights across the front. All the lights were blinking. It was oblong oval shaped. I didn't tell this before but it had two antenna coming out of the top and two antenna coming out of the bottom. It wasn't making any sound at all. It appeared to hover overhead staring at us. Then it moved over toward Main Street toward Krogers. Then it appeared to hover right over the trees back of the house. It was diving and climbing and changing its speed. When we ran toward it, it dived out of sight to the north east. teacher spotted a bright orange ball of light in his back yard but didn't report it. A friend of mine, Roger Simpson, he's no relative, saw the UFO and was listening to his walkie talkie at the time. When the UFO came close, it caused interference on his set. The interference went away when the UFO went out of sight."

Mrs Simpson:

"I saw the UFO above the tree top level. It had blinking lights. Red, white and Green. No, Steve, It
wasn't blue. You said it had a blue light but I didn't
see it. The lights quit working when the object moved
out of sight toward the Kroger area. I'd say we watched
the object for about 3 to 5 minutes."

Steve Simpson:

"Here, let me show you how it looked. (He left and obtained a copy of a dated "Coronet Magazine" and showed me a picture of a UFO, which was in reality a picture of a U-2). The thing that got me was that it hovered over us looking at us. When we ran toward it, it turned and ran. I'm sure it wasn't an airplane. I'd guess the UFO was about a couple of hundred feet in the air.

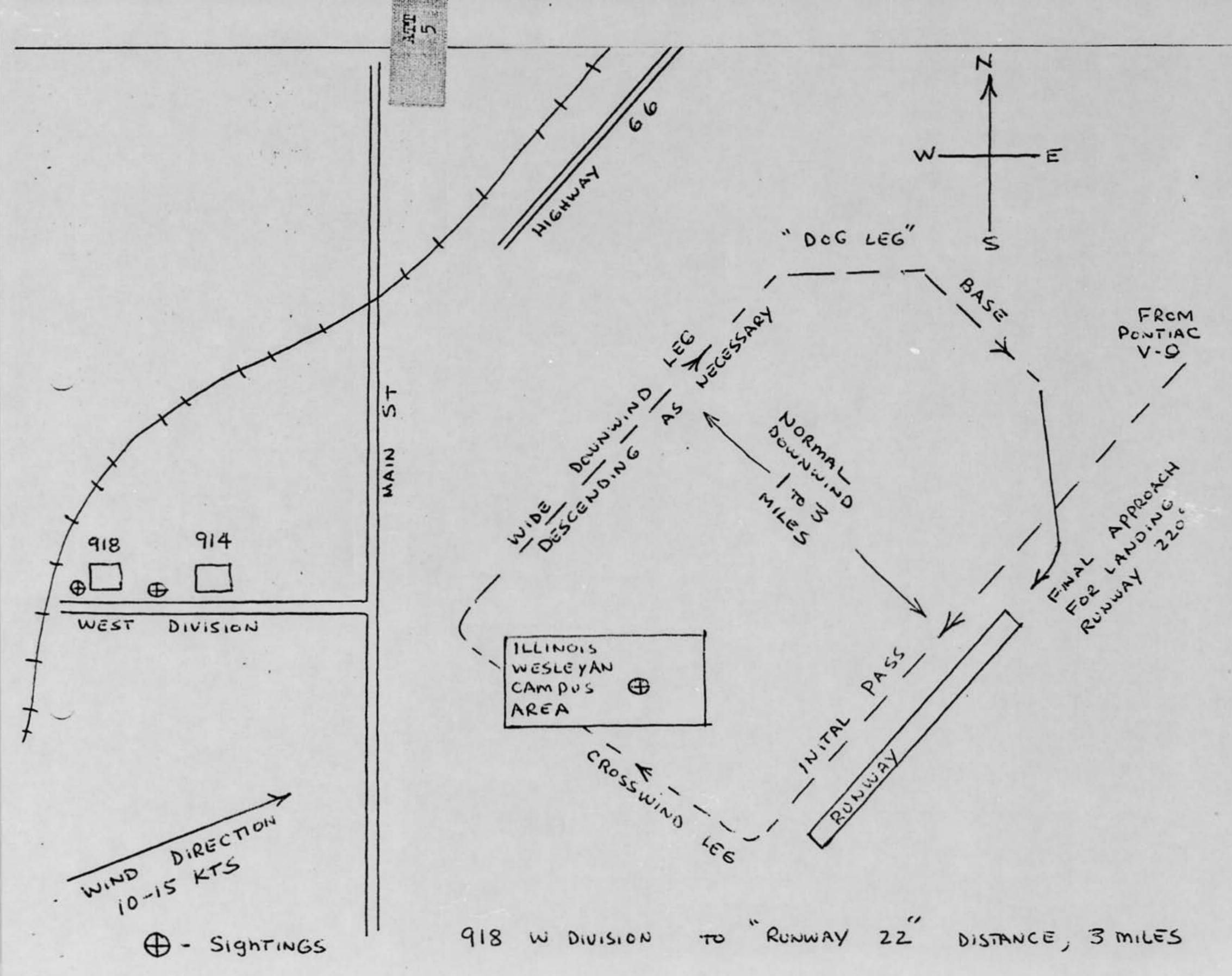
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

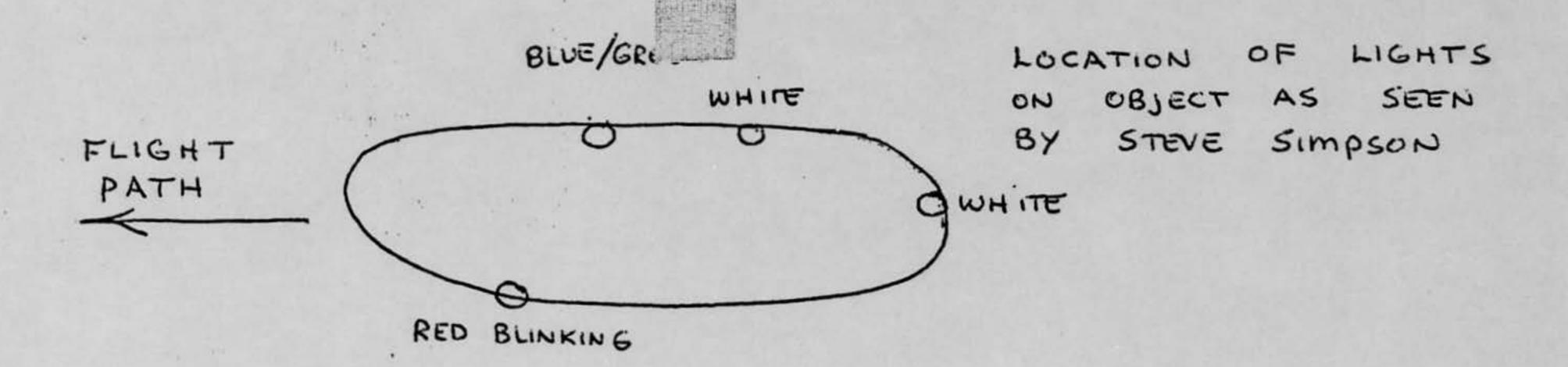
- 1. I believe that the persons contacted did in fact see something and that all witnesses were reliable to a degree. The fact that all agreed on the time of the sighting, the area of sighting, the colors of lights, the oblong shape, the fact that the object apparently had lacked sound generating capabilities and finally they all agreed on the basic flight direction, all these facts tend to strengthen the fact that the UFO was in fact a DC-3 in flight over the city.
- a. The wind at the time of the incident was west south west at about fifteen knots. Since this would tend to blow the sound away from the sighting area, this would answer the questions on the lack of sound.
- b. Since an overhead pattern is flown by the airlines arriving at the Bloomington airport at night, and since these patterns are made at a relatively low altitude in order to determine the wind direction and landing runway, these facts would account for the changes in direction, the low slow speed of the object and since the aircraft are descending for landing, they usually have power reduced in order to lose airspeed and descend into the pattern.
- c. The sky condition on the night of the incident was overcast and ragged. Under these conditions it is almost impossible to determine the shape of the object while in flight. The lights of the city reflecting on the bottom of the object in question, could and usually do present to the viewer, a strange contrast of light and shadow effect.
- d. The DC-3 operated by the Ozark Airlines, arrives at the Bloomington airport each night at about 1850 hours CST. On the night in question, the airlines was 25 minutes late as evidenced by the Ozark operations log. This information places the airliner over the city of Normal, Illinois at the precise time of the UFO sighting. The standard lighting configuration of the DC-3 is comparable to that of the UFO when viewed from various angles. The question of the Blue light is solved when you consider the fact that blue is quite easily mistaken for green at night. Atmospheric conditions at night can cause colors to be mistaken by the bending and absorbing of light rays.
- e. I feel that most witnesses were reliable until facts became confused fantasy as in the case of Steve Simpson. Prior to his sighting of the UFO, he admitted that he was very familiar with the sightings in Michigan. His testimony on the antennaes was revealed two days after the original sighting. Also comments on "hovering right overhead, staring at us, blinking its light at us, running away as we ran toward it, etc.", are added as after thought since he stated originally that the object flew from the southwest to the northeast and then descended out of sight. The more a witness talked about the sighting, the more the sequence of events became and the more the additional fantasies were included. For example, Mrs Simpson had to disagree with her son on the number of lights, the colors of lights and the flight path of the object after he had changed his original testimony.

- 2. In conclusion, all facts point toward the UFO being the DC-3 and vice-versa.
- 3. Recommend that the civilian population be informed as to the proper proceedure for reporting the sightings of UFO's. This would eliminate the costs of investigating fantasies and know flights of air vehicles.

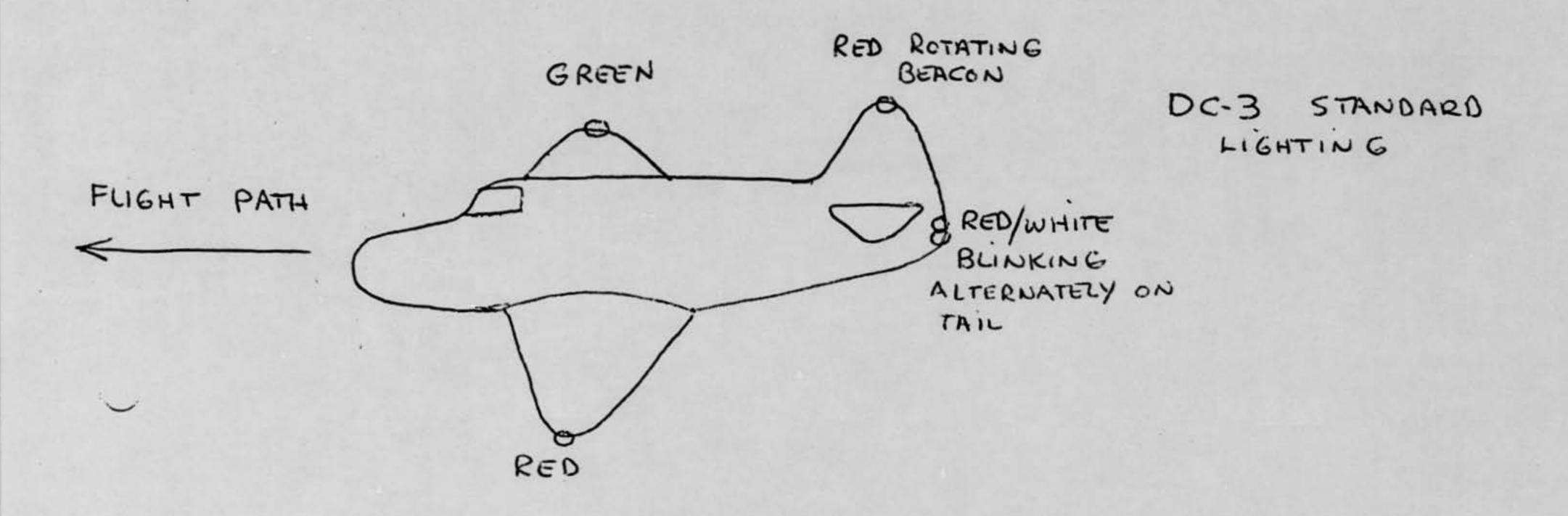
Edward J. Orenic EDWARD J ORENIC, Captain, USAF

Investigating Officer





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Unidentified Flying Object Mystifies Normal Viewers

By STEVE VOGEL

Ray Floyd Jr., 12, of 914 W. Division, Normal, sat talking to a reporter about the unidentified flying object he, five of his friends and four adults reported seeing early Tuesday night.

"Maybe you shouldn't be telling people about this." interjected his mother. She had also seen the strange air-or spacecraft.

"Maybe I shouldn't," laughed young Ray. "Pretty soon the men in the white coats will be after me!"

Crazy? Laugh if you wish, but 10 Bloomington - Normal residents are the latest of scores of persons in the Midwest reporting seeing UFOs this week.

Oval, Soundless

object was by the Merle Simp- parents backed up what their son family of 918 W. Division children had said. "There was at about 7:15 p.m. The Simp- enough of them who saw it," he sons' youngest son, Jimmie, 8, said. "It sure beats me. But I said he first saw it approach don't think there's anything to from the southwest while he and get excited about." his three brothers played bas- Twice In Michigan ketball.

and three others (blue, white a swamp for hours. and red) on the side.

Jimmie. But as the craft ap- than 50 persons, including 12 poproached, the boys said it was licemen near Ann Arbor, Mich. evident that it was neither an Those objects (or object?) were airplane, nor a helicopter, nor described as roughly in the a weather balloon.

attention to it and soon after, was sending Dr. H. Allen Hythat of Mrs. Floyd and her son. nek, chairman of Dearborn ob-The witnesses said the ship flew servatory at Northwestern Uniover them, hovered near a versity and scientific consultant group of trees several blocks! northeast of their homes and then proceeded southeasterly. They said they had the craft in sight for more than a minute and as it "had finished exploring," flew to the southeast, and then dipped.

Area Searched

"I don't know if it landeddon't get me wrong there," said

grader at Chiddix," but I saw book" program to track down

The boys searched the area gan. near Main Street where they And as Steve Simpson put it, thought it could have set down, "I've read stories about these but found nothing.

Mrs. Floyd, having stepped outside to look for a taxi when the Simpsons called her attention skyward, said she saw it hover over the trees. "Now I admit that my glasses need to be changed," she said, "and I saw just the one red light." But she was sure that she saw something, and that something was not an airplane. "It didn't seem to take off very fast," she recalled.

Normal police investigated the sighting. "I don't know what to think about it," said Patrolman First reported sighting of the Robert Fowler. He said that the

It was just Monday night that The craft, said to be oval in a Civil Defense director, an asshape, soared soundlessly at sistant dean and 87 coeds in heights estimated at 200 to 300 Hillsdale, Mich., reported seefeet and had four blinking lights ing a glowing object zip past a -a green light on the "bottom" college dormitory and hover in

And Sunday night a similar "Look at the airplane," yelled craft had been seen by more shape of a football.

The boys called their parents' The Air Force announced it

Steve Simpson, 15-year-old ninth to the Air Force's "project blue it dip down and out of sight." the reports of UFOs in Michi-

> things, but I never dreamed I'd see one."

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN: 12771 (25Mar66) S/rlj

Pg 1 of 3

ACTION: NIN-7 INFO: XOP-1, XOPX-2, SAFOS-3, DIA-1 (8) ADV CY DIA

SMB A151PTTU JAW RUCISBA9762 084 1727-UUUU--

RUEBHQA.

ZNR UUÜUU

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FM TECHTNGCEN CHANUTE AFB ILL

TO RUWMFV A- ADC

RUCDSQ-FTD WPAFB OHIO

RUCDAH-30 AIRDIV TRUAX FLD WIS

RUEBHQA- OSAF

RUEBHQA- OSAF WASH DC

UNCLAS ABOTF 00021 MAR 66. FOR AFNIN (AND SAF-OT

PAR 14, AFR 200-2.

- OBL ONG. A(1)
- FOOTBALL. (2)
- DARK. (3)
- ONE. (4)
- N-A (5)
- RED AND GREEN, SEPARATED BY A WHITE AND RED LIGHT. (6)

ALTERNATING WITH A BLINKING RED ON TOP.

(7) NONE.

AFHQ JAN 65 0-309C

1.3

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

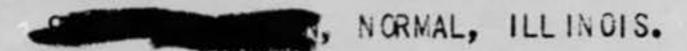
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN: 12771 (25Mar66)

Pg 2 of 3

PAGE 2 RUCISBA9762 UNCLAS

- (8) NONE.
- (9) NONE.
- B(1) A SIX YEAR OLD "SAW AN AIRPLANE".
- (2) 20 DEGREES
- (3) TREE TOP.
- (4) SW TO NE
- (5) GRADUALLY TO ENE
- (6) 3 TO 5 MINUTES.
- C(1) GROUND VISUAL ONLY.
- (2) N-A
- (3) N-A
- D(1) 0115 Z 23 MAR.
- (2) NIGHT.
- E. 918 W. DIVISION ST, NORMAL, ILLINOIS
- F(1) CIVILIAN. AGE 15, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT,



- (2) N-A
- G. WX 2000 BROKEN 4000 OVERCAST, WSW 10 KNOTS.
- H. NORMALLY, A DC-3 FLOWN BY OZARK AIRLINES ARRIVES AT THE

AFHQ JAN 65 0-309C

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN: 12771 (25Mar66)

Pg 3 of 3

A Marie

BLOOMINGTON NORMAL AIRPORT AT 1850 CST. ON THIS PARTICULAR DAY PAGE 3 RUCISBA9762 UNCLAS

THE DC-3 WAS 25 MINUTES LATE. A LOW PASS WAS MADE OVER THE TOWN PRIOR TO LETDOWN AT THE AIRPORT. A SLOW DESCENDING PATTERN WAS FLOWN. THE LIGHTING CONFIGURATION ON THE DC-3 MATCHES THAT OF THE UFO. THE CEILING WAS RAGGED AND OVERCAST.

- 1. N-A
- J. SEE ITEM H.

NEWSPAPER WILL BE SENT F CRWARD.

K. CAPT EDWARD J. ORENIC, FLIGHT OPERATIONS

ALL INFORMATION RECEIVED WAS EVALUATED AND THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSION WAS THEN MADE. THE UFO WAS IN FACT A DC-3 BELONGING TO UZARK

AIRLINES. ALL STATEMENTS OF WITNESSES AND EDITORIALS IN THE

BT

NNNN

AFHQ JAN 65 0-309C

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS 3345th AIR BASE GROUP (ATC)
CHANUTE AIR FORCE BASE, ILLINOIS 61868



ATTN OF: ABOTE

30 March 1966

SUBJECT: UFO Sighting

Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433

Final report of investigation surrounding the circumstances in the sighting of a UFO on the 22 March 1966 in the city of Normal, Illinois.

EDWARD J ORENIC, Captain, USAF Investigating Officer

7 Atch

- 1. Copy of Initial Transmitted Report.
- 2. Copy of orders assigning investigator.
- 3. Chronological order of events.
- 4. Summary of investigating officer.

5. Map of area.

- 6. Diagram of UFO and DC-3.
- 7. Copy of news article.

Copies to: ABOT ABCR PRIORITY

X

TECHTNGCEN CHANUTE AFB ILL

ADC

FTD WPAFB OHIO

30AIRDIV TRUAX FID WIS

CSAF

OSAF WASH D C

UNCIAS ABOTF 00021 MAR 66. FOR AFNIN AND SAFOI. Subj: UFO

Par 14, AFR 200-2.

- a(1) Oblong.
 - (2) Football.
 - (3) Dark.
 - (h) One.
 - (5) N/A
- (6) Light. Red and green, separated by a white and red alternating with a blinking red on top.
 - (7) None.
 - (8) None.

(9) None.

25 1115

MAR 1966

ABOTF

Capt W. J. Orenic, UFO Inves Off

2705

7

2

ARTHUR V HOLMAN, Major, USAF Chief, Base Operations & Training Div

UNCLAS

TECHTNICEN CHANUTE AFB ILL

- b(1) A six year old "saw an airplane".
 - (2) 20°
 - (3) Tree top.
 - (h) SW to ME
 - (5) Gradually to ENE
 - (6) 3 to 5 minutes.
- c(1) Ground visual only.
 - (2) N/A
- (3) N/A
- d(1) 01157 23 Yar.
 - (2) Night.
- e. Jormal, Illinois
- f(1) Civilian. h school student,

Mormel, Illinois.

- (2) N/A
- g. Wx 2000 broken 4000 overcast, WSW 10 knots.
- h. Normally, a DC-3 flown by Ozark Airlines arrives at the Bloomington Normal airport at 1850 CST. On this particular day the DC-3 was 25 minutes late. A low pass was made over the town prior to letdown at the airport. A slow descending pattern was flown. The lighting configuration on the DC-3 matches that of the UFO. The ceiling was ragged and overcast.
- i. M/A
- j. See Item h.
- k. Capt Edward J. Orenic, Flight Operations

ABOTF

TECHTHICCEN CHANUTE AFB ILL

All information received was evaluated and the following conclusion was then made. The UFO was in fact a DC-3 belonging to Ozark

Airlines. All statements of witnesses and editorials in the
newspaper will be sent forward.

TEMPORARY DUTY (If more space is required, continus on		DATE				
TO: CASPD, OTTO	FROM:			24 Mar 60 1. INDIVIDUAL(S) WP ON TDY		
Chanute AFB, Ill.	ABOT, 334,5 th ABOn			AS SHOWN IN ITEMS 5 THROUGH 21.		
2. TYPED NAME, GRADE AND TITLE OF ORDERS ISSUING OFFICIAL	3. SIGNATURE			4. PHONE NO.		
Admin Off 3345th ABGp	Everette A. Robbins			3/15/1		
5. GRADE 6. NAME (Last, first, middle initial, AFSN)		7. ORGANIZATION		8. SECURITY CLEARANCE		
CAPT ORIMIC, MOWARD J. FV30089	517	Hq 3315th AE	3Gp	None		
9. EFFECTIVE ON OR ABOUT 25 1527 66 10. APPL	ROXIMATE NO. OF DAYS (Inclu	ide travel time) 1 0	lay	11. DDALY		
12. PURPOSE OF TOY	13. ITINERARY					
Investigate Unidentified Flying Object (UFO)	TO: Blooming REYURN TO: Cham	gton, Ill.		VARIATIONS AUTHORIZED		
14. MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED WITHIN CONUS	Clid1a	avis ruing did-10	2			
A. Travel time by most economical common carrier available (rail, bus or air) is days. Travel time in excess is charged to leave buth in Item 11.	B. TPA. THIS MODE HA	S BEEN DETERMINED	C. COM	MERCIAL AIRCRAFT I class accommodations)		
15TOTAL POUNDS BAGGAGE, INCLUDING EXCESS,	16. APPROVEDPER AFR 35-14 FOR ALL NECESSARY TRAVEL EXPENSE INCLUDING FOR REGISTRATION AND/OR ADMISSION FEES					
(ITEMS 17 THROUGH 21 APPLY FOR OVERSEAS TRAVEL)						
17. NAME OF DESIGNATED OFFICIAL COURIER 19. PROPER THEATER CLEARANCES HAVE BEEN OBTAINED	18. AIR MOVEMENT DESIGNA	TOR ASSIGNED IS				
20. MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED FOR OVERSEAS TRAVEL						
A. MILITARY 3. COMMERCIAL C. COMME	CIAL AIRCRAFT us accommodations)	D. COMMERCIA	AL AIRCRAFT (2 nos available)	Also foreign registry when U.S., RAIL AND BUS WITHIN OS		
 a. Prior to travel overseas comply with the Foreign Clearance Guide for passports and immunization requirements. b. Return air movement designator will be obtained from the local area priority issuing agency. c. In the event of limited war or mobilization and you are traveling overseas, contact your Hq to determine the necessity for continuance of travel. In the event of general war or if the CONUS is attacked by a foreign military force while you are traveling, report to the nearest AF installation as soon as possible. 						
Verbal order of the Commander of 21, Har 66 is confirmed exigencies of the service having been such as to preclude the assuance of competent written orders in advance.						
23. AUTHORITY	24. DATE		SPECIAL ORD			
26. DESIGNATION AND LOCATION OF HEADQUARTERS	27. EXPENSES CHARGEABLE T			A-884		
DEPARTMENTS OF THE AIR FORCE Hq Chamute Tenn The Cen (ATC) Chamute AFF, 111. 61860	5763400 3066441 Plate 213165 215165 5525900 CUSTOMER IDENTIFICATION CODE (1230 77) (230 77)					
29. DISTRIBUTION 30. SIGNATURE ELEMENT OF ORDERS AUTHENTICATING OFFICIAL OCCUPANCES.						
29. DISTRIBUTION 20. AHOT #69 3. AHOY: 7. T	DOWALL	V MIST, It	CHE WIND A	ED STATES SING		

The following chronological report of the UFO sighting is submitted: 23 Mar 66, 2100 hrs CST

Call received from Mrs. Wormal, Illinois.

Place of Sighting: , Illiois at the above address.

Time of Sighting: Between 1900 CST and 1930 CST, 22 March 1966.

Duration: Approximately 2 (two) minutes.

Description:

Oblong object with a row of lights, four blinking, placement not indicated. No estimate of size of the object but all present received the impression it was of great size. No sound from the object.

Object Activity: Traveling west at tree top level, stopped blinked lights, descended vertically, arose in a different

location traveled east, descended out of sight as

the boys ran toward it.

Altitude: No estimate can be given.

Reported:

Intial report was given to the Pantagraph News in
Bloomington Illinois. Next report was given to the
Civil defense in Chicago. Final report was given to

the Command Post at Chanute AFB, Illinois.

24 Mar 66
1015 hrs CST: Intial call by Captain Edward J. Orenic, investigating Officer, to Chief of Police in Normal Illinois.
1015 CST: Chief Hanna said approximately 15 people had called in about the sighting. No reason to doubt

patched to interview the Simpsons.

1020 hrs CST: Call to the daily Pantagraph in Bloomington. Reporter on the story was student at the Illinois Wesleyan University. Was in school at the

on the city desk, containing the names of persons

the validity of the callers, and one officer was dis-

interviewed and a "reading" of the article in the paper.

1030 hrs CST: Call to the tower operator at Bloomington, Illinois.

Call to the tower operator at Bloomington, Illinois.

stated that he did not know of any aircraft operating in the area, no helicopters, no weather
balloons. Could not offer any information on the object.

1100 hrs CST:

Call to Springfield Air National Guard. Negative aircraft or object report.

1110 hrs CST:

Call to Peoria Air National Guard. Negative Aircraft or Object Report.

1115 hrs CST:

Call to Chicago center for special report on any peculiar activity or objects reports from controllers, Negative.

1130 hrs CST:

Call to the UFO center at Wright Patterson AFB as per instructions in AFR 200-2. Given instructions to proceed with the investigation and to proceed to Normal, Illinois to interview the witnesses.

1345 hrs CST:

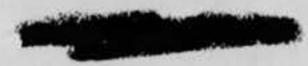
Departed Rantoul, Illinois for Normal.

1505 hrs CST:

Arrived in Normal, Illinois and proceeded to the Police Station for an interview with the Chief of Police, Captain Hanna. Made a preliminary check of the persons involved, a check of the weather in the area on the night of the incident, a check of the terrain including the area of the sighting. The area of the sighting is situated approximately 3 miles parallel to the runways at the airport (see attachment 5). The area of the sighting is heavily wooded, with tall trees in all directions. The area is approximately one city block from the railroad tracks, in a slight depression. The exact location of the area is 3 miles northwest of the runways at the Bloomington airport. The wind on the night of the sighting was west-south-west at about 15 knots. The sky condition was 2,000 broken to overcast with a ragged condition.

1600 hrs CST:

Proceeded to the esidence at to interview the esidence at a large old.



"I was in the house when my neighbor, ran over and told me to come outside and see the UFO in the air. I ran outside and looked to the southeast and saw the object moving from the southeast to the northeast. It was fairly high in the sky and was shaped like a long football. It had a green light on the bottom, red, white and a blue light in that order on the side. I think all the lights were blinking. It was very hard to tell what shape the object was." Question. "What was the weather condition?" Answer. "Well, it was real cloudy and a lttle windy."

Proceeded to interview Mrs. "I did not really see the object very clearly since my glasses aren't very good. It didn't look like the Ozark airliner that comes over the area every night about 7 o'clock. I Saw it for about 15 seconds moving from the NW to the SE. I'm sorry I can't tell you more about it, but I really didn't see it very well."

1730 hrs CST:

Called Mise Student at the Illinois Wesleyan University.

Miss

"At first I thought it was an airplane. I was walking east on Phoenix Avenue on campus, and looked up and saw the blinking lights. I really couldn't tell you what the shape was. It did have a blinking red light on it and I kinda think it was an airplane. My frien who was walking along with her boyfriend, also saw the object. Tom is a science student and he said that it wasn't an airplane. This all happened about 7 o'clock in the evening."

1740 hrs CST:

Called The Called

M

"I was walking north at about 6:45 PM. The object I saw did not look like a small Cessna. I am familiar with airplanes since I have flown in them for about 200 hours. My roommate has a Cessna and we fly together quite a bit. This object was about 4000 feet high, it had red, white and blue blinking lights. It normally moved very slowly and made quick turns. I watched it for about 15 to twenty minutes. It did not make any noise at all. I remember it was quite cloudy that night. The basic direction was from Bloomington towards Normal, north from Normal and then to the east when it went out of sight. I could not tell you what shape it had if any. I'm sure it wasn't any airplane. I'm a science student and have flown before and I'd know an airplane if I saw it."

1800 hrs CST:

Call to Ozark Airlines, Manual

Mr

"The weather on the night of the sighting was 3 thousand broken, 4 thousand overcast with ragged ceilings. The wind was WSW at about 15 knots. Normally a DC-3 out of Chicago arrives at 6:51 and departs at 7:01. It flies V-9 from Pontiac to Bloomington. The runway in use was 22. On this particular night, the DC-3 was 25 minutes late. It landed around 7:15. The standard lighting is Red left wing tip, green right wing tip, Red rotating anti-collision on top of the tail and a red and white alternating on the back of