## PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

| 9 October 1951  3. DATE-TIME GROUP 13/42 Local 09/19/42Z  5. PHOTOS  D Yes B No  | LOCATION  Terre Haute, Indiana  4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION  D Ground-Visual D Ground-Radar  D Air-Visual D Air-Intercept Radar  6. SOURCE  Civilian |                 | 2 000 000 000 | Was Balloon Probably Balloon Possibly Balloon Was Aircraft Probably Aircraft Possibly Aircraft Was Astronomical Probably Astronomical Possibly Astronomical Possibly Astronomical |  |
|--|---|-----------------|---------------|---|--|
| 7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION  1.5 Seconds  | 8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS  | 9. COURSE<br>SE |               | Insufficient Data for Evaluation<br>Unknown   |  |
| Round silver object without protrusions observed in flit to disappearance over the h straight. Total observation vation. Size of 50¢ piece a sound. Witness considered | ight from overhead<br>norizon. Flight<br>1 15 seconds, conser<br>at arm's length. No  | duration of 15  | se<br>poi     | ting, however, to conds for flight from at over the horizon not considert with this case is carried as  |  |

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE WASHINGTON

> The Inspector General USAF 12th District Office of Special Investigations Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois

> > 25 October 1951

### SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

12D 1-11-100

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT

Unidentified Aerial Object Sighted Over Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute,

Indiana, 9 October 1951

TO: Director,

Office of Special Investigations Headquarters United States Air Force

Washington 25, D.C.

- 1. SYNOPSIS: Chief Aircraft Communicator, CAA, Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana, reported to the Office of Special Investigations agent that on 9 October 1951 at 1342 hours he observed an unknown unidentified aerial object directly overhead at Hulman Municipal Airport. The object was approximately the size of a half-dollar coin held at arm's lentth and was flying in a southeasterly direction. The day was clear and informant's vision was unobstructed. Exact size and altitude of the object unknown. Informant advised that a pilot, one district sighted a similar object on the same date at approximately 1345 hours just east of Paris, Illinois at approximately 5,000 feet. Object was last seen traveling in a northeasterly direction, south of the Atomic Energy Plant at Newport, Indiana.
- 2. DETAILS: Mr. Church de Commence 1833 North Eighthu Speact, Terre Haute, Indiana, Chief Aircraft Communicator, Civil Aeronautics Authority, Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana, was interviewed on 12 October 1951 by Special Agent Elbert W. Farris, and stated that he had observed an unknown unidentified aerial object at 1342 hours, Tuesday, 9 October 1951. The object was sighted directly overhead at Hulman Municipal Airport which is located approximately five (5) miles east of Terre Haute, Indiana, on Indiana State Road No. 42. According to Mr. the object was approximately the size of a one-half dollar held at arms length; was silver in color and flew in a southe asterly direction. Mr. Sonner stated that the object pursued a straight path of flight; that he

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12D 1-11-100, Subject: UNKNOWN SUBJECT, Unidentified Aerial Object Sighted Over Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana, 9 October 1951

observed no vapor trails; heard no noise and observed no protruding fins or other protrusions on this aerial object. Mr. ... stated he observed the object pass from directly over his head to the horizon in approximately fifteen seconds which he considered to be a conservative estimate of time. The day was clear, a bright sun, no clouds or haze, vision was not obstructed by trees or other foliage or buildings and the object traveled over flat terrain; shape and general form of object could still be observed at the time it disappeared over the horizon. Mr. Stated that he could not estimate the object's size or altitude. According to Mr. Sonner, if this object was 200 feet high, it would have been traveling approximately 2,880 miles per hour and that the speed in miles per hour would increase in proportion to the object's height. Mr. down further stated that either this object or another was sighted by Charles Warrem, South Seventh Street, Terre Haute, Indiana, at approximately 1345 hours, Tuesday, 9 October 1951, just east of Paris, Illinois. Warrem was flying a private plane at an altitude of 5,000 feet from Greencastle, Indiana, to Paris, Illinois, and sighted this silver object just east of Paris, Illinois at 5,000 feet. The object appeared to be stationary at 5,000 feet, inasmuch as it did not increase or diminish in size with the approach of the plane. The object then reversed its direction and was last seen traveling in a northeasterly direction south of the Atomic Energy Plant at Newport, Indiana.

3. ACTION: Commanding General, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, notified by two (2) information copies of this report.

LeROY BITCON
Lt Col, USAF
District Commander

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AF FORM 112-PART I **APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948** 

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REPORT NO. IR-56-51E U. S. A.

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## AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT

Unidentified Aerial Object Off-18Dec 51

AREA REPORTED ON

FROM (Agency) Hq, EADF, Stewart AFB, Newburgh, N.Y. Holman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Ind.

DATE OF REPORT 30 November 1951

9 October 1951

F-6

PREPARED BY (Officer)

SOURCE

EVALUATION

Major J. L. Hudelson

12th District OSI, Chanute AFB, Illinois

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

ADC Letter 200-1, and 12th District OSI Report 1-11-100, 25 Oct 51

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

1. ( On 9 October at Holman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana, Chief Aircraft Communicator, CAA, .Claude W. Sonner observed an unidentified aerial object directly overhead at 1342 CST for approximately 15 seconds.

2. A second sighting reported approximately 30 miles distant three (3) minutes later indicates the "objects" may have been jet aircraft observed when the reflection of the sun may have distorted the aircraft in the eyes of the observers.

APPROVED:

BRUCE K. BAUMGARDNER

Lt. Colonel, USAF

Director of Intelligence

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DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR

2 cys - CG, AMC, Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton, Ohio, Attn: MCIS

1 cy - CG, ADC, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colo., Attn: Deputy for Intelligence

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

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## AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

| FROM (.lgency) | Hq, EADF,<br>Newburgh, |  | FB, | IR-56-51E | PAGE | 2 | OF | 2 | PAGES |
|----------------|------------------------|--|-----|-----------|------|---|----|---|-------|
|----------------|------------------------|--|-----|-----------|------|---|----|---|-------|

- 1. An unconventional unidentified serial object was observed by the control of the Constant Communicator, CAA, Hulman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Indiana. Observation was made on 9 October 1951 at 1342 CST for approximately 15 seconds.
- 2. The following descriptions were obtained in an interview with Mr. and OSI agent, 12th District Office OSI, Chanute AFB, Illinois: Single object was round and the size of a half dollar piece held at a distance of arms length, silver colored with no vapor or exhaust trail and no sound. Propulsion system unknown, speed estimated up to 2880 MPH.
- 3. Object was sighted visually from the ground and observed to travel a straight path in a south-easterly direction. Electronic surveillance device (TPS-LB located at Rockville, Ind) was used but no sighting was reported.
- 4. Weather: CAVU with bright sun; winds at Chanute AFB on 9 October; surface 270° at 3 knots; 1000 feet to 10,000 feet average direction 315° at 9 knots average. No physical evidence available. No interceptions made.
- 5. Mr. stated Charles Warren, a pilot, sighted a similar object on the same date at 1345 CST just east of Paris, Illinois, at 5000 feet. Object was last seen travelling in a north-easterly direction south of atomic energy plant at Newport, Indiana.
- 6. Although accurate measurement of the distance between sighting number one by Mr. There and sighting number two by Mr. Warren is not possible from the information furnished, it appears as though the object could not have been travelling more than 600 MPH (30 miles from Hulman Airport to Newport) if the two sightings were of the same object.

JAMES L. HUDELSON

Major, USAF Chief, Opnl Intel Div

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INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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### Appendix VIII

### TERME HAVIN, ILLIANA - 9 Cetober 1951

On 9 October 1951 at 1342 CST, a CAA Chief Aircraft Cormunicator observed a silver object bass directly overhead while he was at Halman hunicipal Airport, five miles east of Terre Haute, Indiana. The object was judged to be approximately the same size as a 50 cent piece held at arm's length. The object passed overhead at a very high rate of speed going in a southeasterly direction, passing from directly overhead to the horizon in about 15 seconds. There was no sound or vapor trails. The shape and general form of the object could be seen as the object passed over the horizon and out of sight.

(For related incident, see Appendix IX.)

### Meather

Clear, bright sun, no clouds or haze.

### Status of Investigation

Further details on the incident will be obtained but it is doubtful if any further information will indicate the ressible identity of the object.

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### Appendix V

### THREE HAUT: , INLIANA - 9 October 1951

### I. DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT

On 9 October 1951 at 1342 CST, a CAA Chief Aircraft Communicator observed a silver object pass directly overhead while he was at Bulman Bunicipal Airport, five miles east of Terre Haute, Indiana. The object was judged to be approximately the same size as a 50 cent piece held at arm's length. The object passed overhead at a very high rate of speed going in a southeasterly direction, passing from directly overhead to the horizon in about 15 seconds. There was no sound or vapor trails. The shape and general form of the object could be seen as the object passed over the horizon and out of sight.

(For related incident, see Appendix VI.)

### II. WHATHER

Clear, bright sun, no clouds or haze.

### III. ST.TUS OF INVESTIGATION

Further investigation revealed no additional information.

### IV. CONCLUSIONS

None.

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Status Report 42

### Appendix V

### TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA - 9 October 1951

### I. DISCUSSION OF THE INCIDENT

On 9 October 1951 at 1342 CST, a CAA Chief Aircraft Communicator observed a silver object pass directly overhead while he was at Hulman Municipal Airport, five miles east of Terre Haute, Indiana. The object was judged to be approximately the same size as a 50 cent piece held at arm's length. The object passed overhead at a very high rate of speed going in a southeasterly direction, passing from directly overhead to the horizon in about 15 seconds. There was no sound or vapor trails. The shape and general form of the object could be seen as the object passed over the horizon and out of sight.

(For related incident, see Appendix VI.)

### II. WEATHER

Clear, bright sun, no clouds or haze.

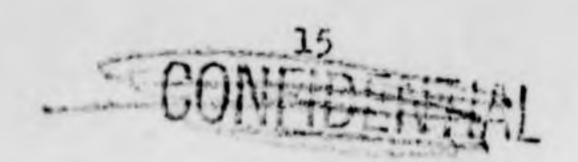
### III. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

Further investigation revealed no additional information.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

None.

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### TURN HAR ... , Indiana - 9 October 1951

On 9 October 1951 at 1342 GST, a CAA Chief Aircraft Communicator observed a silver object bass directly overhead while he was at illumn lumicical Airpart, five miles east of Terre Tatte, Indiana. The object was judged to be approximately the same size as a 50 cent piece hell at arm's length. The object passed overhead at a very high rate of speed going in a southeasterly direction, passing from directly overhead to the horizon in about 15 seconds. There was no sound or vapor trails. The shape and general form of the object could be seen as the object passed over the horizon and out of sight.

(For related incident, see Appendix IX.)

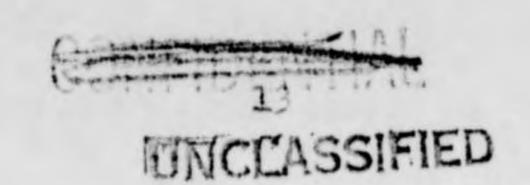
### Monther

Clear, bright sun, no clouds or haze.

### Status of Investigation

Further details on the incident will be obtained but it is doubtful if any further information will indicate the vessible identity of the object.

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DEPUTY FOR INTELLIGENCE/ FOR YOUR INFO A UNITED PRESS NEWS

RELEASE APPEARING IN THE 12 OCT NEWSPAPERS RPTD MR. TERRE HAUTE CMA

SAW A "HUGE METALLIC OBJECT SPEEDING ACROSS THE FIELD" ON 9 OCT.

HALEASE STATES THAT MR. A. T. CHA "A HARDHEADED CAA OFFICIAL" JOINED

THE RANKS OF THOSE WHO NOW BELIEVE IN FLYING SAUCERS. NO FURTHER INFO

AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME. PARA. DO YOU DESIRE ANY INVESTIGATIVE ACTION

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# JOINT MESSAGEFORM

MMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

# UNCLASSIFIED

| FROM: (Originator)                                  | DATE TIME GROUND            |                 | SECURITY CLASSIFICATION |  |  |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--|--|
|   | PRECEDENCE<br>FOR:          | ACTION Triority | Priority                |  |  |
| To: Commanding General<br>Lastern Air Defense Force | BOOK MESSAGE                |                 | GRIGINAL MESSAGE        |  |  |
| Hewburgh, New York                                  | MULTIPLE ADDRESS            |                 | CRYPTOPRECAUTION IND    |  |  |
|   | REFERS TO MESSAGE:          |                 |                         |  |  |
| INFO: Director of Intelligence                      | IDENTIFICATION INTER 281:17 |                 | CLASSIFICATION          |  |  |

Cite INT 28447. Request immediate field investigation of Hollman Municipal Airport, Terre Hauto, Indiana, incident of 9 Cct 51.

Request any information that could be submitted as a flash intelligence report, followed by Form 112 in accordance with ASCI Letter 85.

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|   |                   | 510-148235-3    |   |  |  |
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|   |                   |                 | SECURITY CLASSIFICATION PAGE OF PAGES             |  |  |
| DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required) |                   |                 | RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE-                    |  |  |
|   | Lt. July Commence | UNCLASSI        | FIED  |  |  |
| SYMBOL  | ATTAA-2a          | TELEPHONE 65376 | OFFICIAL TITLE AUTRALI S. Distails, Captain, USAF |  |  |

ATTW: Tech Capabilities Eranch

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Director of Intelligence, Hq USAF, Washington 25, D. C. (R A D N O T S)

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Refer info copy of our teletype to Hq ZADF, dtd 11 October 1951, for our action.

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It. H. Netscher

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MURRAH S. STURGIS, Captain, USAF Air Adjutant Coneral

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-ATI-ACTION NDR 27 20 OCTOBER 51 PRIORTY 2 - ATI - INFO PRIORITY/ROUTINE EASTERN ADF STEWART AFD N V 19200582 一十一州二日日大州二日 TO AMC WPAFD DAYTON OHIO ATTN MCIS INFO ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO ATTN DEPUTY FOR INT PARAPHASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER CITE C2550 BEFORE DECLASSIFYING REUR MSG MFT 23447. INQUIRY REVEALS OSI CONBUC MOLINN MUNICIPAL APRT, TERRE HAUTE, IND, INCIDENT OF 9 OCT 51 SUGGEST. CONTACTING OSI, INDIANOPOLIS FOR CY OF RPT MFT-28447 Francian ATIC 515-153339-1 ACTION COPY

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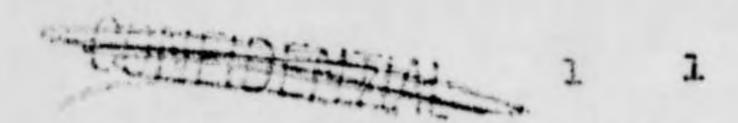
RABNOTE

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D/I, Hq USAF, Washington 25, D. C. R A D N O T E

ATIAA-10-15-E. Eastern ADF has informed the Air Tochnical Intelligence Center that O.S.I. is investigating unidentified aerial object sighted over Holman Municipal Airport, Terre Haute, Ind., on 9 October 1951. Please advise when results of investigation will be available to this Center. Ref: AFCS-1 letter No. 85, dated 23 October 1950. In reply refer to Project Gradge.

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Lt E. J. Ruppelt/vs

ATTAA-20

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MURRAH S. STURGIS, Capt, USAF Air Adjutant General

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11126 26 OCT 51 2-4-11-21 FU CO CHANUTE AFE BAUTOUL ILLI 2522152 TO GO A'C UP AFD OHIO ATTU AIR TECH INTELL CENTER HE MICH TO X A AND A MUSAF CHIEF OF STAFF WAS!! DC ATTH DIR OF INTELLIGENCE OND BEFORE DECLASSIFYING OF SPECIAL INVEST REUR TUX ATS65 DTD 25 CCT 1951 PROJECT GRUDGE THIS DIST CONDUCTING ANY INVEST REGARDING UNIDENTIFIED AFRIAL ODJECT SIGHTED OVER HOLMAN MUNI APT, TERRE HAUTE, IND 19 OCT 51. INFO RECEIVED BY OSI AGT FROM APT AUTHORITIES RECARDING INCIDENT DEING FUD YOUR HO BY MOST EXPEDITIOUS TEAMS. REF PAR 2 ATT belowed a de ATOSEON - ATLANDET AND PAR 4 AFCSI LTR NO 85 DTD 23 OCT 50 25/0415Z OCT 515-15-15-1 ACTION COPY

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