Indidont #216 TA B CL TIPO 3 Dec 1948 A 17. 1. 1. 1. locate di Charatta AFB, Ill. AP TO School Weather Observers A Control of the Cont PAST IN TO ATLC 1914 Command 1846.081 Colare White Tatamatal 25 SPIED 250 MPH plus Measures Round ALETTIME 15,000 plus Machined Lat Ster LEMENT OF THE CLASSING AVED\_\_\_ 3 Sec. TYPE OF CHOIF WATTON \_ Ground Wallslykka Made 130 - 200 elimb 1 a area artic Form 309



MCIAIO-3 Subj: "Project Sign"

# UNCLASSIFIED

lat Ind.

Dec 21, 1948

15/Ba/n

119, 3345th Took Ing Mg and Chanute AFB, Chanute Fld, Ill., 29 Dec 48

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB Dayton, Ohio ATTN: MCIAXO-3

Attention is invited to inclosed "Essential Elements of Information" form which has been accomplished and to two statements of witnesses.

3 Inola.

1. Info Form (trip)

DONALD S. GENUNG

Captain, USAF

Intelligence Officer

UNCLASSIFIED DOWNGRADED AT 3 VEAR INTERVALS:
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

MCLUIC-3

2020-3/103/03

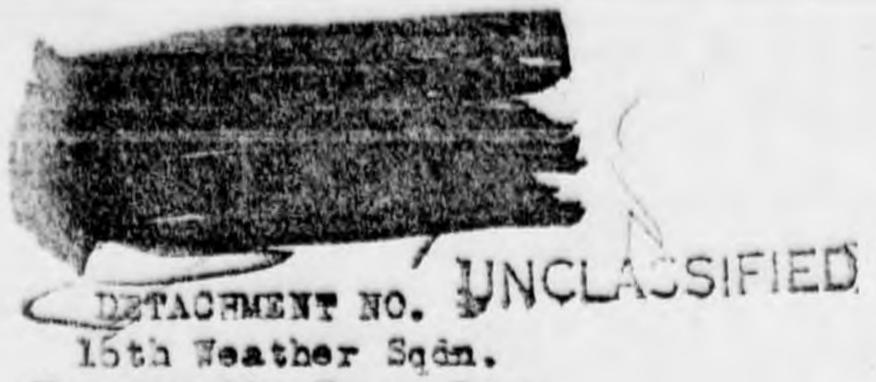
SUBJECT: Project "Sign"

D: Cormanding General Chanuta Air Force Bose Chanute Field, Illinois ATTM: Hess Intelligence Officer

- 1. This Command is charged with the investigation of reported sightings of unidentified seriel objects and is suthorized lirect communication with hir sorce install tions by letter, in that, dated To sebruary 1948, subject, "Reporting of Information on lying Discs".
- 2. A Tax from your Base, 0903352, indicates that Sgts and manufactured loth leather Squairon, sow on unidentified merial object at 1940 hours, & December 1948.
  - 3. It is requested that your office interview all witnesses to this observation and investigate dircumstances surrounding the incident, using the inclosed Essential Dements of Information form as a guide. It is particularly important that the information outlined in the General Dection of this form be obtained.
  - 4. Interested personnel should be advised to avoid publicity in this metter. All evidence will be considered confidential.
  - 5. Direct reply to Commanding Ceneral, By hir Material Command. right-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Chio, ATTM: MCIAMO-3,

FOR THE DICHARDING GENERAL:

1 Incl SI Form in a Cont Colonal. CAF Thief, Intelligence Department



Chanute Air Force Base Chanute Field, Illinois.

5/H/1

9 December 1948

SUBJECT: Reporting of Information on "Flying Discs"

Commanding General TO: Air Material Command Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Dayton, Ohio ATTM: TSDIN

1. In compliance with 2102D Air Weather Group TYK 464 dated 19 November 1948 and letter, Headquarters, United States Air Force, subject as above. 5 February 1948, the following report is submitted:

- a. Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois, 0900462.
- b. High scattered clouds, visibility ten miles.
- and Sgt. Frankling Weather Observers, Det 16/11, 16th Weather Squadron, Chanute AFB, Illinois.
- d. Photographs of objects none available.
- e. Skauches of objects Mone available.
- f. Object sighted:
  - (1) Cns
  - Round
  - Undetermined size
  - Bright white color
  - Two tenths of distant sky within two to three seconds.
  - Heading from north east toward south south west.
  - Undetermined maneuverability.
  - Undetermined altitude.
  - No sound
  - Exhaust trail undetermined.

#### g. General remarks:

Object sighted to north east moving to south south west that resembled a skyrocket or meteor but was moving upward fifteen degrees. Object was described to be about thirty five dagrees above the horizon and traversed across thirty five degrees of the horizon within three seconds and disappeared. DOWNER IDED AT 2 YEAR INTERNATE

DOD DIR 5200.10

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No file # Subj: ROIDFD



9 Dec 43

2. Statements of observers are inclosed herewith.

2 Inols.

1. Stmt Sgt.

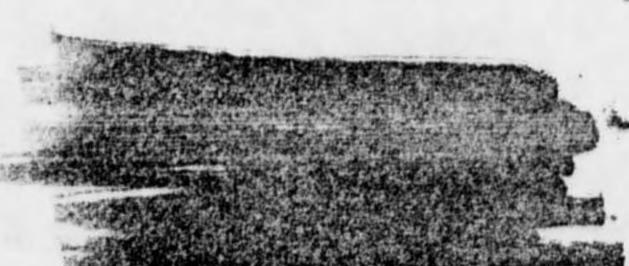
Rush of Kelley RUSH T. KELLEY

Captain, USAF or CHARLES K. TAYLOR,

Major, USAF

Station Weather Officer

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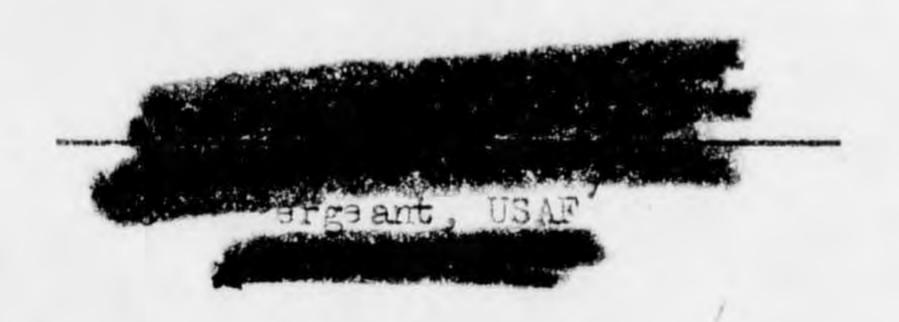
9 December 1948

I, Sergeant, USAF, Weather Observer, 16th Weather Squadron, Chanute Air Force Base, Chanute Field, Illinois do hereby make the following statement to Captain Rush T. Kelley, Assistant Base Weather Officer.

On 8 December 1948 at approximately 1846 hours, I was walking with Sgt. towards the Base Weather Station when I happened to look up at the sky and notice what appeared to be either a sky rocket or meteor. I tapped Sgt. on the arm and called his attention to it.

The object did not appear to be a star because it was three or four times as large as a star and it seemed to be closer to us than a star would be. It was heading from the north east toward the south south west and was moving upwards at about 15 or 20 degree angle. As it moved it seemed to get larger, and it was leaving a trail. In about two or three seconds it disappeared. The object was round, white and moved very fast.

We went into the Weather Station and reported this to the Duty Porecaster whose name is M Sgt. Robert W. Fillman.



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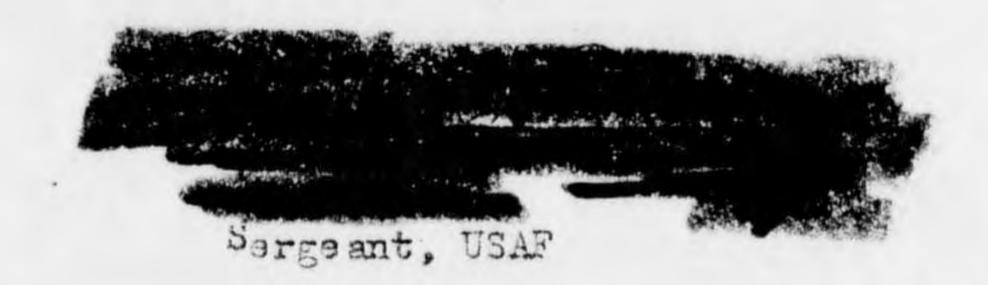
9 December 1948

Observer assigned to the 16th Weather Squadron, Chanute Air Force Base, Chanute Field, Illinois, and do hereby make the following statement to Capt. Rush T. Kelley, Assistant Base Weather Officer, Chanute AFB:

on 8 December 1948 at approximately 1846 hours, I was walking with Sgt. also of the 16th Weather Squadron, towards the Base Weather Station when I noticed what appeared to be a sky rocket or meteor. This object was heading upwards about a 15 degree angle, moving from the north east to the south south west. The object was white in color, very bright and moved about two to three tenths of the sky and then disappeared.

This object did not appear to me to be a falling star.

I immediately went to the Duty Forecaster at the Base Weather Station and reported seeing this.



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216

9mm-I-333

# ESSENTIAL BLENENTS OF INFORM TION

(Re: Sightings of Unidentified Aerial Objects)

#### PROJECT "SIGN"

- 1. Date of sighting 8 December 1943
- 2. Time of sighting -18:46
- 3. Where sighted -

### a. Ground

- (1) Town Chanute Air Force Base, Chanute Field, Illinois.
- (2) Distance and directionfrom city or town The object was sighted from the sidewalk in front of the Operations Building (two-story building) thile facing the ramp or N. Mast.
- (3) From building (story), yard, etc. The sidewalk runs East and West along the south side of the Operations Building bounded to the south by a 3/4 story crash truck building approximately 75' south of the sidewalk.
  - (4) Map coordinates (if feasible) showing latitude and longitude 400-18' No-880-7 1/2' East.

#### b. Air

- (1) Type aircraft, speed, altitude, direction of flight Does not apply.
- (2) Distance and direction from city, town or known landmark Does not apply.
- (3) Clock position of object from observer's aircraft Does not apply.
- (4) Latitude and Longitude Does not apply.

## c. Sea

- (1) Latitude and longitude Does not apply.
- (2) Proximity to land Does not apply.

to Mumber of objects

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s. Formation type - One

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-2-

- 5. Distance of object from observer Object was very high, not under 15,000 feet.
  - a. Laterally or horizontally Travelled from the North East to South, South West and seemed to be going up from the time first seen travelling horizontally.
  - b. Angle of elevation from horizon 1t to 200
  - c. Altitude Over 15,000 feet.
- 6. Time in sight 18:46
- 7. Appearnace of object
  - a. Color White
  - b. Shape Hound, le ving a trail of white.
  - c. Apparent construction Could not discern.
  - d. Size
    - (1) Estimated size About the size of plane.
    - (2) Size as it appeared from observer(s view Alout the size of jet plane(fighter type)
- 8. Direction of light North East to South South West.
- 9. Tactics or maneuvers.
  - (a) Vertical ascent or descent, horizontal, oscillating, fluttering evasive, aggressive, erratic Seemed to be moving in upward path horizontal form 15° above horizon to 20 or 25°.
- 10. Evidence of Exhaust
  - a. Color of smoke White trailing smoke of fire.
  - b. Lenght and width lt ! long, 6' wide.
  - c. Odor (if any) None.
  - d. Rate of evaporation Two seconds.
  - e. Does trail vary with sound? No sound at all.
- . Il Edde on chouse
  - a. Opened path thru clouds To clouds. DOWNGRADED AT S YEAR INTERVALS;
    DOD DIR 5200.10



- 3 -

- b. Formed cloud or mists Could not discern at night.
- c. Reflected on cloud None.
- d. Shown thru cloud None

### 12. Lights

- a. Reflected or attached Could not discern.
- b. Luminous Could not discern.
- c. Blinked on and off in relation to speed Could not discern.

### 13. Support

- a. Wings Could not see.
- b. Aerodynamic lift of fuselage Unknown.
- c. Vertical jet Unknown.
- d. Rotating cylinder or cone Unknown.
- e. Aerostatic lift Not a balloon or dirigible.

### 14. Propulsion

- a. Propeller or jet Possible jet.
- b. Rotar No.
- c. Aerodynamic vanes Unknown.
- d. Visible exhaust or jet epenings White ball of fire leaving trail.
- 15. Control and stability
  - a. Fins Could not see.
  - b. Stabilizers.
    - (1) Size Could not see.
    - (2) Shape Could not see,
    - (3) Location Could not see.
- 16. Air ducts Could not see.

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17. Speed - Possibly 350 or over.



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#### 18. Sound

- a. Continuous whine or buzz None.
- b. Roar, whistle, whoosh None.
- 19. Was any radio antenna to be observed, i.e., (any projections or extensions that might presumably be construed as such) None.
- 20. Manner of disappearnace
  - a. Exploede None
  - b. Faded from View Yes.
  - c. Disappeared behind obstacle No.

## Relative to the Observer

- 1. Name of observer Sgt., 16th Weather Squadron, Detachment #1.
- 2. Address Chanute Air Force Base, Chanute Field, Illinois.
- 3. Occupation Weather Observer.
- 4. Place of business Chanute Air Force Base, Chanute Field, Illinois
- 5. Hobbies
  - a. Time engaged in hobby Weather observer for 2 years in Army
- 6. Ability to determine
  - a. color
  - b. Speed of moving objects
  - c. Size at distance
- 7. Peliability of observer
  - a. Sources
    - (1) Neighbors # Unknown
    - (2) Police Dept. No police record.
    - Cor FEI Records Unimown.

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2 years' past experience as an

observer for Army.

(4) Employer - USAF

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Incident 121: -- Chanute Al base, Illinois -- 3 December 1948

planation for the object reported in this incident. The apparent rise can be explained as an effect of perspective. There is nothing in the description given that is contradictory to the bolide hypothesis.

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- 8. Notes relative to observer on
  - a. Sightings in general -
  - b. How attention was drawn to object
    - (1) Sound None
    - (2) Motion Heading upwards about 150 angle.
    - (3) Glint of light Streaking
- 9. Witnesses Sgt. 6 Sergeant, USAF, Commission of Sergeant, USAF, Commission of the Sergeant, USAF, Commis
  - a. Address 16th Weather Squadron Detachment #1, Chanute Air Force Base, Chanute Field, Illinois.
  - b. Occupation Weather Observer, USAF.
  - c. Reliability Good.
- 10. Coments of interrogator re intelligence and character of person interrogated.

Informant appeared to be above average in intelligence and is highly recommended by his commanding Officer.

#### Relative to Radar Sightings

Does not apply.

#### General

Sighting at Chanute Air Force Base, Illinois, 0900462. High scattered clouds, visibility ten miles. Informant sighted one round object of undetermined size, bright white color, two tenths of distant sky within two to three seconds. Object heading from north east toward south south west at undetermined altitude. leaving an exhaust trail. Object resembled a skyrocket or meteor but was moving upward fifteen degrees. Traversed across thirty five degrees of the horizon within three seconds and disappeared. No photographs of object available. No physical evidence or fragments obtained. To informant's anowhere, object did not contact earth in this vicinity.

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From Detachment 16/11, 16 Wes Sq to MCIAXO-3, AMC Info 2102 Air West Cp, 16 Wes Sq.

In compliance with command instructions, the following report of sighting unusual aerial object is submitted:

- a. Chanute AF Base, 299 0900162 or 3 Dec 48 at 1946
- b. High scattered clouds, visibility 10 miles.
- c. Sgt Sgt Sgt weather observers, this detachment.
- d. Negative.

- e. Negative
- f. (1) 1
  - (2) round
  - (3) Undetermined
  - (4) bright white
  - (5) 2/10ths of distant sky within 2 to 3 seconds.
  - (6) From NE toward SSW.
  - (7) Undetermined
  - (8) Undetermined
  - (9) Negative
  - (10) Undetermined
- g. Object sighted to Northeast moving to South Southwest resembling skyrocket or meteor but moving upward 15°. Object 35° above horizon. Traversed 35° within 3 seconds and disappeared.

Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

#### INCIDENT INDEX

#### 1. Astronomical

- #26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140, 147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216, 219, 238.
- b. Fair or low probability: #19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 35, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100, 112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192, 199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.
- 2. Hon-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations
  - #3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115, 126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.
  - b. Rookets, flares or falling bodies: \$\pm\$4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107, 106, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.
  - o. Miscellansous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.);
- 3. Mon-astronomical, with no explanation evident
  - a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation: #38, 44, 45, 47, 56, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118, 125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213, 229, 232, 233.
  - b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation: #1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 188, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 238, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.

8 Dac

No. 216: Object reported moving directly into 70 M.P.H. head winds at an estimated 350 M.P.H. Observer is a professional weather observer and should know a weather balloon. Also, reported sighting was four hours after scheduled release time.

AIR WHATHER SERVICE Andrews Air Force Base Mashington 25, D. C.

In Reply Refer To: AMS DSS

11 Pay 1949

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

TO : Commanding General

Air Fateriel Command

Wright-Patterson Air Force Base

Dayton, Chio

ATTN: MCIAXO-3

- 1. Reference is made to letter from your headquarters, MCIAXS, dated 9 March 1949, subject "Unidentified Flying Objects," and first indersement thereto by this headquarters, dated 31 March 1949.
- 2. The incident summaries 173 through 233 have been checked against routine weather-balloon ascents made by the Air Force, Navy and Neather Bureau. Comments based on this review are inclosed.
- 3. It is recommended that the "Guide To Investigation Of Unidentified Aerial Objects" be changed as follows: Item 13, "Direction of Flight of Object," should be clarified so that vertical and horisontal motions are distinguished if possible, and so that motion is specified as the direction towards which the object appears to move. "Relative to Eader Settings" should include a statement of the type of radar set used.

FOR THE CHARF, AIR WEATHER STRVICE

2 Inols;

1 - Incident Summaries

2 - Comments 173 thru 233

/s/ W. A. West

W. A. WEST

Lt. Col., USAP

Adjutant General

- 1. Date and Time of Observation: 8 December 1948 18:46
- 2. Where Sighted: Chamite AF Base, Illinois 400-18' North 880 7-1/2' East
- Observer's Position: ground while facing northeast (i, e., ground, air, control tower, etc.)
- 4. Name and Address of Observer: Sgt Det 16/IL, 16th Wea Sq, Chamute AFB, Rantoul, Illinois
- 5. Occupation and/or hobbies: Weather Observers, 16th Wea Sq
- 6. Attention Attracted by: glint of light
- 7. Number of Object(s) Seen: 1 thick(?)
- 8. Size of Object(s): 15 feet long x 6 ft wide size jet fighter type plane
- 9. Color of Object(s): white
- 10. Shape (Sketch if Possible) Round
- 11. Nature of Luminosity: N/S (directed beam of light?)
- 12. Altitude of Object: Over 15,000 ft (estimated)
- 13. Estimated Distance of Object from Observer: N/S
- 14. Estimated Speed of Object: over 350 MPH
- 15. Time in Sight: 3 seconds
- 16. Tactics: Seemed to be moving in upward path horizontal from 15° above horizon to 20 or 25°
- 17. Sound Made by Object(s): No sound
- 18. Direction of Flight of Object(s) Northeast to South Southwest
- 19. Apparent Construction: N/S
- 20. Effect on Clouds: No clouds
- 21. Exhaust Trail (Color of): Statement of mentions that the object was leaving a trail
- 22. Manner of Disappearance: flew out of sight
- 23. Weather Conditions at Time of Sighting: high scattered clouds visibility: 10 miles
- 24. Peculiarities Moted:
- 25. Summary of Incident: (over)
  (See attached page)

On S Dec 1948 at approximately 1846 hours Sergeant noticed what appeared to be either a sky rocket or meteor, and called the object to the attention of his companion, Sergeant

Sergeent stated that the object did not appear to be a star becouse it was three or four times as large as a star and seemed closer than a star would be. It was heading from the northeast toward the south southwest and was moving upwards at about a 15 or 20 degree angle. As it moved it seemed to get larger. The object left a trail. In about two or three seconds it disappeared. The object was round, white and moved very fast.

Sergeant statement does not differ as to direction or color or angle of ascent. States that the object traversed about 2 to 3/10s of the sky while under observation and did not appear to him to be a falling star. He reported to the Duty Forecaster at the Base Weather Station. Sergeant statement does not mention seeing a trail.

INCOMING MESSAGE

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08:18

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TO VELGHT-PAT AFB

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AFB CMA ZERO WITH ZERO ZERO FOUR SIX ZEBRA PD HIGH SCATTERED

CLOUDS CMA VISIBILITY ONE ZEROTMILES PD CHARLIE PD SGT

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DETACHMENT PD DOG PD NEGATIVE PD ÉASY PD MEGATIVE D FOR PD SUBTIFE PD SUBTIREE PD MIDERTER MINED PD SI

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MCAG Form No. 228 be prepared for destruction in accordance with Section IV, Inq. Office Instruction No. 11-2.

(Rev 25 Oct 43)

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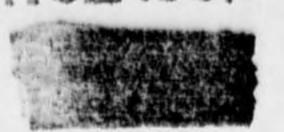
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MCAG Form No. 228 be prepared for destruction in accordance with Section IV, Hq. Office Instruction No. 11-2.



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HEADQUARTERS, 2059TH AIR WEATHER WING, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson AFB,
Dayton, Chic
ATTN: TSDIN

Basic correspondence received in this headquarters by error.

FOR THE GOWNANDING DETICER:

l Incl complete file

HENRY W KINNAN

1st Lt, USAF

GAST Adjutant

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