

No.	Date	From	To	REMARKS
				<p>have been made at the university to determine what material would give off the whitish-greenish glow under extreme heat. The only material which they have discovered giving off this color is <u>Beryllium Copper</u>, a metal used in the construction of guided missiles. It is the unsubstantiated opinion of Dr. La Paz that the presently unidentified objects are man made missiles constructed to be self disintegrating, hence the whitish-greenish color given off at the time of observation.</p> <p>6. It is of interest to note that at least two of the objects have been sighted directly over the Los Alamos AEC project. One person who observed one of the objects at Los Alamos has stated that it looked exactly the same as <u>V2 Rockets</u> he had seen over England during the war.</p> <p>7. In view of the continuation of these objects being sighted over this area, it is suggested that Fourth Army coordinate with the Air Force and the Air Material Command to conduct a scientific study of the phenomena. The situation is beyond the capabilities of ordinary intelligence agencies, who can only report occurrence and cannot evaluate the probabilities or possibilities.</p>

GODSCE

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WDT 46



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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Brigadier General James McCormack, Jr.,
Director, Division of Military Application
USAC, Washington, D. C.

January 3, 1949

Carroll L. Tyler, Manager, SFDO, USAC, Los Alamos, New Mexico

OBSERVATION OF PHENOMENA AT LOS ALAMOS PROJECT

SYMBOL: SFDS

Since my memorandum of December 27, 1948, the same subject, two (2) additional phenomena have been observed at the Los Alamos Project. A detailed report of each of these incidents is attached hereto.

Mr. Jerry Maxwell, Agent-in-Charge, FBI Unit at Los Alamos stated that he had received information from the El Paso Field Office of the FBI that investigation jurisdiction relative to these phenomena has been given to the Office of Special Investigation, Air Force.

Colonel Doyle Reese, Headquarters, 17th District, Office of Special Investigation, Air Force, Albuquerque, New Mexico, was contacted by Mr. Maxwell by telephone for confirmation of this fact. Colonel Reese advised that he had not yet received such authorization from his Headquarters Office, but that his Unit was still continuing to investigate all incidents reported.

On Wednesday, December 29, Captain H. E. Keef, Office of Special Investigation, Air Force, Kirtland Field, accompanied by Dr. Lincoln LaPas, University of New Mexico, visited this installation to interview the Security Inspectors who had turned in reports on the phenomena observed. Efforts were made to obtain accurate measurements as to elevation, direction of flight, and other data, in order that a ground search of the Area of exploration could be made. To date, it does not appear that sufficient data has been collected to make any determination with sufficient accuracy to warrant a ground search.

cc: John E. Gingrich, Director, Office of Sec. & Intell., Washington

3 Enclosures:

1. Memo to J. A. Carroll fm. J. P. Hardie, above subject, dtd 12-28-48 (in dup).
2. Memo to J. A. Carroll fm. D. M. DeLuche, above subject, dtd 12-29-48 (in dup).

OFFICE	SECURITY DIV.	MANAGER	CONFIDENTIAL	INFORMATION & PUBLICATIONS
SURNAME	WELLS:ah	C. L. TYLER		
DATE	1-3-49	1-3-49		RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT (GEN.)

#5

~~SECRET~~

TO: Director, Intelligence & Security Division 7 January 1949

FROM: Chief, Physical Security Branch

SUBJECT: Reported Observation of Unidentified Light or Flare Moving Across the Sky on 6 January 1949

1. On 7 January 1949, the writer interviewed Pfc. Meredith J. Everitt, ASN 38562954, Headquarters, 8450th M.P. Group, concerning the unidentified light or flare which he had reportedly seen moving across the sky.

2. Pfc. Everitt advised that on 6 January 1949 he was guarding a C-97 airplane at the landing strip, located adjacent to the Ordnance Area, when at approximately 1730 hours he noticed a bright object travelling across the sky, from the Southeast towards the Northwest. He related that the object was diamond shaped, approximately two feet long, and appeared to be much brighter in its center than at the edges. He estimated that the object was approximately 1500 to 2000 feet in the air and travelled approximately 500 feet, horizontal to the earth's surface, before he lost sight of it. Pfc. Everitt was unable to estimate the speed of the object but stated that he has seen low flying jet planes, and that this object travelled much faster than the jets that he has observed. There was no smoke or other vaporous material visible to Pfc. Everitt around or following the object.

3. At the time Pfc. Everitt witnessed the object, he stated that the sky was clear, furnishing a light blue background, and that the object appeared to be a bright white light, with no other apparent visible color.

4. Standing guard with Pfc. Everitt were Sgt. Richard Koleslegce and Cpl. Wilson, and according to Pfc. Everitt, neither of the other men saw the object. Everitt explained that he called to Sgt. Koleslegce, who was standing at the other end of the plane, and told him to look at the object in the sky, but by that time it had disappeared.

5. Pfc. Everitt stated that he attended Flight School, under the G.I. Bill of Rights in Houston, Texas, during the year 1947, and that he has had some experience in observing aircraft.

/s/ MATTHEW J. DOYLE
Chief, Physical Security Branch
Intelligence & Security Division

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
HEADQUARTERS NORTH ARMY
Fort Sam Houston, Texas

/dcb

13 January 1949

452.1 AKADB

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft (Control No. A-1917).

TO : Director of Intelligence, GSUSA
Washington 25, D. C.

1. The inclosed Summary of Information, subject, "Unconventional Aircraft (Control No. A-1917," dated 13 Jan 49, is forwarded for your information and any action deemed necessary.

2. Agencies in New Mexico are greatly concerned over these phenomena. They are of the opinion that some foreign power is making "sensing shots" with some super-stratosphere devise designed to be self-disintegrating. They also believe that when the devise is perfected for accuracy, the disintegrating factor will be eliminated in favor of a warhead.

3. Another theory advanced as possibly acceptable lies in the belief that the phenomena are the result of radiological warfare experiments by a foreign power, further, that the rays may be lethal or might be attributed to the cause of some of the plane crashes that have occurred recently.

4. Still another belief that is advanced is that, it is highly probable that the United States may be carrying on some top-secret experiments.

5. It is felt that these incidents are of such great importance, especially as they are occurring in the vicinity of sensitive installations, that a scientific board be sent to this locality to study the situation with a view of arriving at a solution of this extraordinary phenomena with the least practicable delay.

6. It is further requested that this Headquarters be informed of action taken on this and a previous report in order that reporting agencies may be advised.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

1 Incl:
as stated

EUSTIS L. POLAND
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE 15 Jan 49

PREPARING OFFICE: Office of the AC of S, G-2, Headquarters, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

SUBJECT

Unconventional Aircraft

(Control Number A-1917)

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

(G-2 NOTE: This report is a supplement to report, this headquarters, subject as above, dated 3 January 1949.)

1. Following is a list of sightings of unidentified lights over New Mexico subsequent to 27 December 1948:

a. Los Alamos, 20 Dec 48, 2054 hours. Falling light from 45 degree angle, decreasing to 20 degree angle. Observed by four security inspectors at Los Alamos AEC project.

b. Los Alamos, 28 Dec 48, 0431 hours. Descending vertical light much slower than falling star. Disintegrated in greenish flash lighting up cloud area between observer and light. Observed by security inspector, Los Alamos AEC project.

c. Los Alamos, 30 Dec 48, 2010 and 2100 hours. High speed motor sound directly over Los Alamos and above overcast. Sound heard for seven seconds (timed) and repeated 10 minutes later. Heard again at 2100 hours for 8.2 seconds (timed). Positive determination that no vehicles on approaching highways and no planes overhead. Checked and observed by Los Alamos security inspectors.

d. Sandia Base, 6 Jan 49, 1730 hours. Brightly lighted object from southeast to northwest. Diamond shape, two feet long. Altitude 1500 to 2000 feet. Speed -- faster than a jet plane. No smoke or vapor trail. No sound. Observed by Sandia Base sentry who claims experience in aircraft observation.

2. Dr. LA PAZ, Meteorologist at the University of New Mexico, personally interviewed all persons who have made observations. He has made transit sightings to determine altitudes and angles of flight. He has made a report to the O.S.I. of the U.S.A.F., closing with this remark, "I have no hesitancy in testifying that an object possessing the real path and other peculiarities observed by Messrs. WILSON, TRUETT, STRONG, and SKIPPER was not a falling meteorite."



Distribution: D/I; C/S; G-3; 14th AF; FBI; file; O.S.I., A.M.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, SAN ANTONIO

SUBJECT: PROTECTION OF VITAL INSTALLATIONS
BUREAU FILE # 65-53300

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF declass
DATE 2/5/68

DATE: January 31, 1949

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1 CSK/MLK
ON 2/5/68

Flying Discs PH
CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

At recent weekly Intelligence Conferences of G-2, ONI, OSI, and F.B.I., in the Fourth Army Area, Officers of G-2, Fourth Army have discussed the matter of "Unidentified Aircraft" or "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena" otherwise known as "Flying Discs", "Flying Saucers", and "Balls of Fire". This matter is considered top secret by Intelligence Officers of both the Army and the Air Forces.

It is well known that there have been during the past two years reports from the various parts of the country of the sighting of unidentified aerial objects which have been called in newspaper parlance "flying discs" and "flying saucers". The first such sightings were reported from Sweden, and it was thought that the objects, the nature of which was unknown, might have originated in Russia.

In July 1948 an unidentified aircraft was "seen" by an Eastern Airlines Pilot and Co-Pilot and one or more passengers of the Eastern Airlines plane over Montgomery, Alabama. This aircraft was reported to be of an unconventional type without wings and resembled generally a "rocket ship" of the type depicted in comic strips. It was reported to have had windows, to have been larger than the Eastern Airlines plane, and to have been traveling at an estimated speed of 2700 miles an hour. It appeared out of a thunder-head ahead of the Eastern Airlines plane and immediately disappeared in another cloud narrowly missing a collision with the Eastern Airlines plane. No sound or air disturbance was noted in connection with this appearance.

During the past two months various sightings of unexplained phenomena have been reported in the vicinity of the A.S.C. Installation at Los Alamos, New Mexico, where these phenomena now appear to be concentrated. During December 1948 on the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 11th, 13, 14th, 20th and 23rd sightings of unexplained phenomena were made near Los Alamos by Special Agents of the Office of Special Investigation; Airline Pilots; Military Pilots, Los Alamos Security Inspectors, and private citizens. On January 6, 1949, another similar object was sighted in the same area.

Dr. LINCOLN L. FOLEY, a Meteorologist of some note, has been generally in charge of the observations near Los Alamos, attempting to learn characteristics of the unexplained phenomena.

Up to this time little concrete information has been obtained.

md
5-100-7513
cc: El Paso (2)
Dallas (2)
Houston (2)

Little Rock (2)
Oklahoma City (2)

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DIRECTOR, FBI

1/31/49

There have been day time sightings which are tentatively considered to possibly resemble the exhaust of some type of jet propelled object. Night-time sightings have taken the form of lights usually described as brilliant green, similar to a green traffic signal or green neon light. Some reports indicated that the light began and ended with a red or orange flash. Other reports have given the color as red, white, blue-white, and yellowish green. Trailing lights sometimes observed are said to be red. The spectrum analysis of one light indicates that it may be a copper compound of the type known to be used in rocket experiments and which completely disintegrates upon explosion, leaving no debris. It is noted that no debris has ever been known to be located anywhere resulting from the unexplained phenomena. (S)

Recent observations have indicated that the unidentified phenomena travel at a rate of speed estimated at a minimum of three miles per second and a maximum of twelve miles per second, or a mean calculated speed of seven and one-half miles a second, or 27,000 miles an hour. Their reported course indicates that they travel on an East - West line with probability that they approach from the Northern quadrant, which would be the last stage of the great circle route if they originated in Russia. When observed they seem to be in level flight at a height of six to ten miles and thus traveling on a tangent to the earth's surface. They occasionally dip at the end of the path and on the occasions a definite vertical change in path was indicated. These phenomena have not been known to have been sighted, however, at any intermediate point between Russia and Los Alamos, but only at the end of the flight toward the apparent "target", namely, Los Alamos. (S)

In every case but one the shape of the objects has been reported as round in a point of light with a definite area to the light's source. One report gives a diamond shape; another indicates that trailing lights are elongated. The size is usually compared to one-fourth the diameter of the full moon, and they have also been compared in size to a basketball with trailing lights the size of a baseball. (S)

On no occasion has sound been associated directly with the phenomena, but unexplained sounds have been reported from Los Alamos. On two occasions reports have been received of the sighting of multiple units. (S)

Some nine scientific reasons are stated to exist which indicated that the phenomena observed are not due to meteorites. The only conclusions reached thus far are that they are either either unobserved natural phenomena or that they are man made. No scientific experiments are known to exist in this country which could give rise to such phenomena. (S)

DIRECTOR, FBI

1/31/49

Mrs. ~~MARIE G YNE MERCHANT~~ was the subject of a letter from the Atlanta office to the Bureau dated August 10, 1948, entitled, "MARIE G YNE MERCHANT; INFORMATION CONCERNING." (S)

She has written many letters to Military Authorities concerning her theories regarding Atomic Energy. She has generally been considered unreliable and possibly mentally unbalanced. She, however, has submitted to Military authorities the only theory thus far known that has any credibility at all, namely, that the lights are manifestations of cosmic rays which are directed toward a specific point. She further theorizes that such rays may interfere with the ignition of motors and may account for various unexplained air crashes. (S)

The above is submitted for the confidential information of the Bureau and offices to which copies of this letter are directed so that these offices may evaluate any such reports they may have received or may receive in the future.

It is noted that the Fourth Army has the responsibility of protecting vital installations at Los Alamos, New Mexico, Sandia Base, New Mexico, and Camp Hood, Texas. Any information developed should be expeditiously transmitted to G-2, Fourth Army. (S)

It is further noted that G-2 and O.S.I. are actively engaged in investigating this matter. No investigation is being conducted by this office. (S)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

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PRIORITY

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From: CO Kirtland AFB New Mexico

To: Chief of Staff USAF attn Dir of Special Investigations
Officer of the Inspector General

Re: OSI-1-90

31 January 1949

Reference previous reports, subject; unknown, aerial phenomena, file number 24-8. Sighting of identical object reported at 2255Z 30 Jan 49 by aprx 30 people. Estimate at least 100 total sightings. A7C, AFSWP, 4th Army, local commanders perturbed by implications of phenomena. Sighting reported from El Paso, Albuquerque, Alamogordo, Roswell, Socorro, and other locations. All appear to be same object at different points in trajectory. Unless instructed to contrary this office will make all out investigation with view to location of impact point if any. Request reply.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED ~~SECRET~~ FOR ~~SECRET~~
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV
BY WENT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
Historical 3 DEC 1975
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(3 Feb 49)

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THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE IS FORBIDDEN

PRIORITY

Hq USAF
AFCSI

72231

3 February 1949

Mr. Koch

XII

COMSERMAC Wright-Patterson AFB Dayton Ohio

COMSERMAC pass to ACSIAC-3 From AFCSI 51077

Following information received this date from OO Kirtland AFB New Mexico: "subject; unknown, aerial phenomena, file number 24-8. Sighting of identical object reported at 2255Z 30 Jan 49 by appr 30 people. Estimate at least 100 total sightings. AXC, AF3VP, 4th Army, local commanders perturbed by implications of phenomena. Sighting reported from El Paso, Albuquerque, Alamogordo, Roswell, Socorro, and other locations. All appear to be same object at different points of trajectory. Unless instructed to contrary this office will make all out investigation with view to location of impact point if any." OO Kirtland AFB has been advised by this headquarters to conduct investigation and to keep your office informed of results.

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HANDLE AS
CORRESPONDENCE
PARAGRAPHS 511 AND 60 (4)
EA 300-8.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, 1998

BY: [Signature] DATE: 3/17/85

AFCSI

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PRIORITY

Hq. USAF
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72231

3 February 1949

XXX

Mr. Koch

DISTRICT COMMANDER 17th OSI DISTRICT (IG) Kirtland AFB New Mexico
From AFCSI reur OSI-1-9C

Reurad OSI-1-9C dated 31 January 1949 authorization to proceed with investigation granted. This office transmitting information contained your message to Headquarters Air Materiel Command, Attention: MCIAXO-3. Request you keep that office informed of results as well as Headquarters OSI.

OSI-1-9C is CM IN 321 (2 FEB 49)

WILLIAM M. TURNER, Lt Colonel, USAF

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John Gingrich, Director, Division of Security,
USAEC, Washington

2 February, 1949

(THRU: B. O. Wells, Director, Security Division, SPOC, Los Alamos)
Sidney, Newberger, Jr., Chief, Security Operations Branch,
SPOC, Los Alamos
AERIAL PHENOMENA

FER TO
MBOL: SFD-3-1

Attention: C. A. Rolander, Jr.

At a meeting of representatives of various intelligence agencies in this area on January 10 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, one item of prime importance which was discussed was the matter of the recurring aerial phenomena observed in this area.

Present at this meeting was Capt. M. E. Neef, USAF, of the 17th District OSI, Kirtland Field, who has been devoting considerable time to the subject, pursuant to orders from his higher headquarters, USAF. Capt. Neef stated that it would be of great value to him locally and also to his higher headquarters if he could discuss the information they have already obtained with some of our top scientists in order to obtain their opinions, at the same time bringing to their attention that the USAF considers this matter of vital importance from an intelligence angle and a national defense matter.

Upon return from the meeting a written report was submitted to the Manager, SPOC, setting forth in general the above information and recommending to him that we proceed to arrange a meeting between our top scientific personnel, selected by E. E. Bradbury; Capt. Neef; and Major W. A. Godsee, Officer in Charge, Military Intelligence District, New Mexico, Fourth Army, at a date mutually agreed upon by Dr. Bradbury and parties concerned. Mr. Tyler concurred in this and Dr. Bradbury is willing to undertake the selection of the scientists. The date has now been tentatively set as the afternoon of February 18 beginning at 1300 hours at which will be present scientists of Bradbury's selection, the writer, and whoever is designated by the Manager, SPOC, with Mr. Tyler included if he so desires.

Since our original plan, we have indications that Col. E. L. Poland, G-2, Fourth Army, would be desirous of attending such a meeting, as well as Dr. Lincoln La Paz, University of New Mexico Department of Meteoritics. Dr. La Paz, has in the past been of valuable assistance not only to this organization but also to the Air Force on similar subjects.

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John Gingrich
(THRU: B.O. Wells)
Sidney Kewburger, Jr.

February 2, 1949

AIRIAL PRENOXNA

REFER TO
SYMBOL: STD-3-1

No Restricted Data will be discussed at this meeting, and it will not be held within limited or exclusion areas but will be in an office within the controlled area of Los Alamos.

It is recommended that you assist in obtaining the necessary approval for this action from the Military Application Committee in order that it might be coordinated with the Department of the Army and Department of the Air Force. The matters to be discussed will be classified within the meaning of military classifications.

An early reply to this request will be appreciated.

CC: N. E. Bradbury
Capt. M. E. Neef
Major V. A. Godsoe
Col. E. L. Poland

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CONFIDENTIAL

/loa

452.1-AKADB

7 February 1949

SUBJECT: Conference for Discussion of Unconventional Aircraft Activities

**TO: Director of Intelligence
General Staff, U. S. Army
Washington 25, D. C.**

1. Reference is made to the phenomena of the "unusual lights" that have been observed for sometime past in the vicinity of Los Alamos. A summary of observations and theories is hereto attached.

2. Due to the inexplicability of this phenomena, it has become a matter of some concern to this Headquarters as well as the USAEC and the OSI.

3. It has accordingly been suggested by the Security Division of Los Alamos that representatives of the three interested services hold a joint conference, to include eminent scientists appointed for the purpose, and that an effort be made to evaluate the situation and plan future action. Copies of the correspondence embodying the suggestion are attached.

4. It is therefore the present intention of this Headquarters to have a representative at the conference which has been scheduled at Los Alamos on 16 February 1949 at 1500 hours. Should your office have any questions that you desire brought up at the said conference, it is requested that they be submitted in time for such action.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

3 Incls
1-Ltr, USAEC, to Poland,
dtd 2/2/49
2-Cy memo to Gingrich,
dtd 2/2/49
3-S/I, Hq LA, AC of S, G-2,
dtd 2/7/49

EUSTIS L. POLLARD
Colonel, GSC
AC of S, G-2



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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

Date 7 February 1949

Preparing Office

Office of the AG of S, G-2, Headquarters Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas

Subject

Unconventional Aircraft

Summary of Information

During the month of December 1948, twenty-three (23) observations of unusual "lights" moving through the atmosphere were recorded in the general vicinity of the area between Las Vegas and Los Alamos, New Mexico. All have been described as intense, white to greenish-white in color, with trajectories of north to east, north to west, or west to east. Estimated altitudes range between 3,000 to 20,000 feet, and estimated speeds were supersonic.

Dr. Lincoln La Paz, nationally known meteorologist of the University of New Mexico, is cooperating with the OSI in the observations. He is reported to have interviewed all persons making the observations and is known to have observed one of the "lights" himself. He unhesitatingly stated that none of the phenomena described or seen bore the characteristics of meteorites. Neither Dr. La Paz or anyone else connected with the survey has been able to explain the phenomena. Experimental tests were made at the University of New Mexico to determine what materials gave off the greenish-white glow under extreme heat. The only material discovered was beryllium copper, a metal used in the construction of guided missiles.

Dr. La Paz expressed the opinion that the "lights" are man-made "missiles" constructed to be self-disintegrating, hence the color effect at time of observation.

On 6 January 1949 at 1730 hours, a brightly lighted diamond-shaped object moving from southeast to northwest was observed by a Sandia Base sentry. He estimated the altitude at 1,500 to 2,000 feet, the object to be two feet in length, and the speed faster than a jet plane. There was no sound, smoke or vapor trail. On 17 July 1948 at 1650 hours, two Master Sergeants from Kirtland Air Force Base reported a flight of seven "unusual" aircraft moving north over the San Acacio Dam, on the Rio Grande River, about 30 miles south of Sandia, New Mexico. The craft appeared shaped like a balloon when overhead, but as elongated spheres when viewed from the oblique. When first seen, the objects were in "V" formation but later changed to an "L" formation. Altitude was estimated at 20,000 feet and speed at 1,500 M.P.H. (based on angular movement from zenith to 30 degrees above horizon). A pulsating, flashing type light was emitted from the objects.

So far as this Headquarters knows, there is no explanation for the foregoing. A Mrs. [redacted] presently of Pampa, Texas, and formerly a resident of Santa Fe, New Mexico, has advanced the theory that the "lights" are man-made masses of electrical energy, similar to ball lightning, performing the function of a guided missile. She believes these missiles, or "bolids" bombs as she calls them, are induced by a "ray" or similar form of energy which gradually "compacts" the molecular structure of the atmosphere along its trajectory until the missile itself forms and becomes visible. This energy dissipates itself in the same manner as ball lightning; but it is supposed to build up an extremely high voltage--several billion volts in most cases. Mrs. [redacted] believes the "ray" is directed by a foreign power and originates at a point outside the United States. She alleges the "attack" is now in the experimental stage; that is, that the missiles so far seen are "sensing shots" made in an effort to bracket the Atomic Energy Commission installation at Los Alamos.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Mrs. [redacted] has expounded on this theory in voluminous and numerous letters passed to this, and other, official Headquarters, for more than two years. The [redacted] of the Director of Intelligence of the General Staff, has classified Mrs. [redacted] as within the "lunatic fringe;" but this was prior to the "official" observations herein reported.

In summation, all that can be factually stated is that many brilliant greenish lights are appearing in the vicinity of Los Alamos and that the cause, so far as Headquarters is concerned, is unknown, except that the phenomena does not appear to have natural causes.

2
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10/10-4/Jackson
/dsd

JSJ

CSGID 452.1-10-42 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Conference for Discussion of Unconventional Aircraft Activities

Intelligence Division, General Staff, U.S. Army, Washington 25, D.C.

15 FEB 1949

TO: Commanding General, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas
(Attn: Colonel Eustis L. Roland, A.C. of S., G-2)

1. A check has been made with the Military Application Committee of AEC referred to in the last paragraph of Mr. Newburger's memo to Mr. C.A. Rolander, Jr. Information received is to the effect that this committee does not believe the matter is of sufficient importance to justify a formal meeting as proposed.

2. If an informal meeting should be held it is suggested that you convey to the meeting the opinion of this office as expressed in CSGID 452.1 dated 14 February 1949

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE:

131
GEORGE S. SMITH
Colonel, GSC
Chief, Intelligence Group
Intelligence Division, GSUSA

3 incls
n/c

Memorandum for Record:

Attached file from G-2 Fourth Army discusses a proposed meeting at Los Alamos, scheduled for February 16, to discuss the phenomena of "unusual lights" that have been observed in the vicinity of Los Alamos and suggests guidance for G-2 Fourth Army who plans to attend.

Check with AEC discloses that they will not officially approve such a meeting, as they do not think the phenomena justifies such action. They will not, however, attempt to prevent any purely local meetings which the local manager at Los Alamos deems feasible in the interests of local public relations. Attached 1st Ind. directs G-2 Fourth Army to be guided by CSGID 452.1 dated 14 February 1949. Subject: "Investigation of information on Controlled Missiles", in case such a meeting is held.

Coordinates: Lt. Col. Alame B.F.

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MAILED 10. WINGS 15 FEB 1949

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6196/dsd

Jef

CSGID 452.1-ID-42 2nd ind
SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

Intelligence Division, General Staff, U.S. Army, Washington 25, D.C.

18 FEB 1949

TO: Commanding General, Fourth Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas
(Attn: Colonel Eustis L. Poland, A.C. of S., G-2)

1. Reference is made to 1st Ind.
2. This office believes the last sentence of paragraph 2 is true only because sufficient data has not yet been obtained. It is not believed that any "unnatural" or hostile basis exists for these occurrences or that they are due to "unconventional aircraft".
3. It is suggested that paragraph 5, receive special attention.

FOR THE CHIEF, INTELLIGENCE GROUP:

JAMES E. LIGON
Lt. Col., GSC
Asst. Exec.
Int. Gp., CSGID

RECHISELLE

1128512

MAILED 10, WDCS 18 FEB 1949

Memorandum for Record

G-2 Fourth Army on 18 January addressed a letter to Commanding General, Air Materiel Command suggesting that the unexplained lights which have been reported near Los Alamos might be connected with Mrs. [redacted] theories. First indorsement from Chief, Intelligence Department, AMC indicates that Mrs. [redacted] theories are believed completely unsound and that further more she is reported associated with known communists and is considered to be dangerous. Second Indorsement transmits the reply.

ID-3. (Hed [redacted])

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Record Section
Temporary Record Copy

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5-19-49
45-211
15 Jan. 49
(25-11-11-11)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF MESSAGE CENTER
INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

WMA

PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED

PRIORITY

From: CG 17th Dist OSI Kirtland AFB N Mex

To: CSUSAF Wash DC attn Dir of Spec Investigations

No: OSI-2-50 2 February 1949

BI Reference report 24-8 subject unknown aerial phenomena. *17th Dist*

S/Melvin E Neef on 7 Feb 1949 attended lecture by Doctor Joseph Kaplan of University of California, also member Scientific Advisory Board. Kaplan lectured on upper atmosphere. At lecture consultation was arranged between S/A Neef, Doctor Kaplan, Major William H Gadson, 4th Army Intelligence Liaison Sandia Base, Doctor Kaplan re release Kaplan stated probability of unimportance is vanishing it is not of cosmic origin that as it related to defense it should be cleared up Kaplan also advised he will discuss it with and make recommendations to Doctor Leon Karman Chairman Scientific Advisory Board USAF.

END.

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED TO FWR 07/20/80
BY AUTHORITY OF THE DIRECTOR
BY KURT K. KUNZE, Capt, USAF
DATE 8 DEC 1975

1725

ACTION: AF

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

AFM 2203

(10 Feb 49) DDB
RS 2/19

24-105-52

UNCLASSIFIED

COPY No. 3

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

SPECIAL INQUIRY
(Aerial PHENOMENA)
30 January, 1949

File No. 24-8 09 February, 1949
Rept. made by EDGAR J. BETHART
DO 17, Kirtland AFB
Period: 31 Jan., 1, 2, 3, 4, 8 Feb. 1949
Office of Origin: DO 17, Kirtland AFB
Status: REFERRED UPON COMPLETION

CHARACTER: SPECIAL INQUIRY

REFERENCE: Telephonic request from Captain MELVIN NEEF, on 31 January, 1949

This investigation was requested by Captain MELVIN E. NEEF, 17th District OSI (IG) USAF. Seven people (7) were interviewed and six (6) readings were taken with a transit in an effort to locate the azimuth of the aerial phenomena.

Approved, A. C-Murelle, II
Captain, USAF
Acting District Commander

DETAILS

1. This investigation is predicated upon a telephonic request by Captain MELVIN E. NEFF, 17th District OSI (IG) USAF on 31 January 1949 to obtain all pertinent data in connection with an aerial phenomenon seen in the vicinity of Almgordo, New Mexico on Jan. 30 1949, at approximately 1800 hours.

2. On 1 February Major JAMES C. PETERSEN, A0-561833, adjutant, Holloman AFB, Almgordo, New Mexico advised that on 30 January 1949 at approximately 1800 hours, he sighted a single bright green object in an Easterly direction. PETERSEN hesitated to estimate the altitude or distance of the object. PETERSEN described the object as a bright green ball of flame traveling in a Southerly direction, without evidence of smoke or a trail of any kind. PETERSEN advised that there were no clouds and that the object did not make any noises to his knowledge. PETERSEN advised that the object seemed "to fizzle out" in the air

3. On 2 February 1949, the writer set up a transit at the approximate location where Major PETERSEN sighted the object and obtained the following readings:

Location: 33° North and 106° 05 1/2' East (Holloman AFB)
Object First Sighted: 55° Magnetic North and 3° elevation
Object Last Sighted: 63° Magnetic North and 3 1/2° elevation

4. On February 3 1949, at the Office of Special Investigations, Holloman AFB, the writer interviewed Mr. ??????? electronics technician with ?????? Aircraft Company, Holloman AFB, who advised that on 30 January 1949, at approximately 1800 hours, while in the vicinity of Tularosa New Mexico, and in the company of Sgt. MAURICE C. ANTHON, AI-20923264, Holloman AFB, he saw single, bright green ball of fire to the East. The ball of fire seemed to be traveling in a southerly direction. Mr. ?????? believed the object to be at an elevation of about 15° but declined to make an estimate of his distance from the object. He advised

that the ball was visible for approximately 10 seconds. He stated that there was no apparent exhaust to the object, nor were there any clouds in the sky. He stated that the object seemed to die out of its accord and did not explode.

5. On 4 February 1949, Pfc. IRA W. VAIL, AF-16214526, Weather Detachment, Holloman AFB, Alamogordo, New Mexico advised that he had seen a green ball of flame with a trail of some kind in an Easterly direction. VAIL described the object as traveling in a Southerly direction and added that the object was visible to him for approximately 6 seconds. VAIL described the object as being bright green and disappeared without an explosion but merely seeming to burn out. VAIL advised that there were no clouds and no apparent wind, and that the object was soundless.

the writer set up a transit at the exact location from where Pfc. VAIL sighted the object and obtained the following readings:

Location: 33° 56' North and 106° 05 ½ West (Holloman AFB)

Object First Sighted: 38° Magnetic North and 3° elevation.

Object Last Sighted: 75° Magnetic North and 3° elevation.

6. Mr. ???????? Alamogordo, New Mexico was interviewed on 8 February 1949. Mr. ???????? advised that his position at the time of the sighting was approximately 3 miles South of Three Rivers, New Mexico, but that he was not positive inasmuch as Mr. ????????, Alamogordo, New Mexico, was in the car with him and believed that they were not at Three Rivers when the object was sighted. The description of the object was that it was a longish object, green with a white flame in front. He added that he saw the object for about 15 seconds. An attempt was not made to take a transit reading with Mr. ???????? because of his indeterminate position at the time of his sightings. Other than the difference of the shape of the object, the description given by him concurred with the other description noted herein.

AT TULAROSA, NEW MEXICO

7. Sgt. MAURICE C. ANTHON AF-20923264, Holloman AFB, Alamogordo, New Mexico was interviewed on 1 February 1949 and made the following statement;

"On the 30th of January 1949 at approximately 1800 hours, while in the company of Mr. ????? of Boeing aircraft, I observed an object that appeared to be traveling diagonally across the front me, at an angle of 35 to 40 degrees above my line of sight. Its distance seemed very close and appeared to be traveling very slowly. The object was in my sight for approximately 3 or 4 seconds. The actions of said object during this time were as follows:

Gentle downward glide; bright burning (Green and yellowish light) a fizzling out and then a bright burning, and then appeared to die out. (This could have been the effects of its passing beyond my view).

My direction of travel was nearly due east, thus the object's direction was East-Southeast or Southeast. The weather at that time was clear and cold, no ground wind and no indications of upper winds. My location was West of Tularosa, New Mexico, beyond the railyards of the Southern Pacific Railroad."

8. On 1 February 1949, the writer set up a transit at the approximate location wher Sgt. ATHON sighted the object and obtained the followings readings:

Location: $33^{\circ}04'$ North and $106^{\circ}02'$ West
 Object first sighted: 47° Magnetic North and $26\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ elevation.
 Object last sighted: 65° Magnetic North and 26° elevation.

AT THE WHITE SANDS NATIONAL MONUMANT, NEW MEXICO

9. On 3 February 1949, the writer, accompanied by Mr.???? Alamogordo, New Mexico, and Mrs.???? Alamogordo, New Mexico, attempted to locate in the White Sands National Monument the spot from which the object had been sighted on 30 January 1949, at approximately 1755 hours. Because of the many turns of the road, only an approximate location could be established. Through the use of a transit the followin reading were obtained:

Location $33^{\circ}49'$ North and $106^{\circ}13'$ West.

a. Mr.????

First sighted object: 55° Magnetic North and 12° elevation.
 Last sighted object: 60° Magnetic North and 10° elevation.

b. Mrs.????

First sighted object: 68° Magnetic North and 20° elevation.
 Last sighted object: 80° Magnetic North and 19° elevation.

c. Mrs.????

First sighted object: 65° Magnetic North and 11° elevation.
 Last sighted object: 72° Magnetic North and 8° elevation.

All of the above concurred in the discription of the object as being a single, bright burning green object, which was in veiw approximately 3 seconds. Body had gentle downward glide and to fizzle out with the light becoming less intense and finally disappearing altogether. Angle of elevation was estimated above with transit and none would venture a guess as to the distance of the object. Original statements were to the effect that object appeared to be between the Base and White Sands, located to the West of the Base.

GENERAL

In compliance with request made by Col McCoy, Capt Groseclose and Lt Smith proceeded to Kirtland AFB, 23 Feb 1949 to discuss progress made and problems encountered in the investigation of unidentified aerial phenomena being conducted by 17th Distric OSI with the assistance of Dr loncoln La Paz, University of New Mexico.

BACKGROUND

Starting 5 Dec 1945 sightings of unidentified green fireballs were reported in the area of northeastern New Mexico and northwestern Texas. Approximately 11 objects were sighted up to 30 Jan 1949 and several were reported subsecuent to the date. Numerous witnesses to many of the sightings were located and interveiwed by CAPT NEFF, MR BOLLING, both of 17th District OSI, and by Dr LaPaz of the University of New Mexico. They have been conducting a continuing investigation. Witnesses include CAPT NEFF and Dr LAPAZ themselves. OSI have forwarded reports of investigations regularly to this office.

CONFERENCE

On 24 Feb 1949 a conference was held in the offices of 17th District OSI at which the following were present:

CAPT GROSECLOSE	Technical Intel Div	Hq AMC
LT SMITH	" " "	" "
MAJ GODSOE	Hq 4th Army Intel Division Officer	
CAPT NEFF	17th District OSI	
JACK BOLLING	" " "	
Dr LINCOLN LAPAZ	Prof of Math, Dir Meteoritics Institute, Univ of New Mexico	

Maj GODSOE's connection with the investigation seemed indirect although it was not made quite clear to representatives of this Command. The Major expressed disappointment at AMC's apparent (to him) lack of interest in the green fireballs and suggested that they (the OSI) discontinue their investigations.

Capt NEFF revealed that OSI also was not sure of AMC's connection with the incidents. No direct association was made between the green fireballs incidents and the "Flying Discs" even though Departments of Air Force and Army letters direct all echelons to report all information on unidentified aerial phenomenon to Hq AMC. In the absence of a specific request for investigation and because of regular workload, the OSI were required by their immediate Hq to spend less time on this investigation

After AMC's position and the scope of the project relative to reporting of unidentified flying phenomena had been clarified, Maj GODSOE left the conference without further comment.

It was learned that Dr LAPAZ who is an astronomer by avocation but not by profession, has unselfishly devoted much of his time assisting the OSI. Recently his leave of absence from the University has expired and he is now on full time teaching duty.

In the beginning Dr LAPAZ expected to prove the green fireballs to be meteors or other natural phenomena. Later he became convinced that the objects are not natural. It had been the practice for Dr LAPAZ to reduce numerical and statistical information and apply it to his knowledge of meteoritics. His conclusions were then included in the OSI reports.

It was pointed out in the conference that while we are deeply appreciative of Dr LA PAZ's efforts in this respect the omission of statistical data from the final reports precluded proper evaluation of the facts by interested personnel in other branches of science and engineering.

Capt NEFF reaffirmed that in view of the fact that these unknown fireballs are active in the immediate vicinity of AEC installations, personnel concerned are becoming alarmed as to the possible threat to their security. AEC personnel have given some assistance to investigative efforts but Capt NEFF has been informed that they do not have sufficient personnel to give all out cooperation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations were made by Capt NEFF and Dr LA PAZ:

1. That AMC provide a party of twelve (12) with twenty-four (24) cameras (Speed Graphic or equivalent) to make night photographic coverage of the sky in the area where these incidents have occurred.
2. That Dr LA PAZ be contracted as a consultant to aid in investigation and evaluation of data collected as a result of these investigations.
3. That AMC make a formal request for OSI to continue their investigation.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: February 10, 1949

FROM : SAC, EL PASO

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GSK/PSK
ON 4/2/82
221034

SUBJECT: PROTECTION OF VITAL INSTALLATIONS
Bureau file #65-58300

CONFIDENTIAL

Flying Disc

Reference is made to the letter from the San Antonio Office to the Director dated 1/31/49. u

On 2/6/49 PAUL RYAN, Office of Special Investigations, Roswell, New Mexico, advised the resident agent at Roswell that he had just left a conference with Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ, Meteorologist, who has written a letter summarizing the search for the "Unidentified Aerial Phenomena".

RYAN advised that Dr. LA PAZ came to Roswell after one of these objects had been observed by several persons in the Roswell area the night of January 30, 1949, at approximately 6:00 P.M. One of these persons who witnessed the object was an OSI Investigator who stated the object appeared to explode or *disintegrate* near the Walker Air Force Base at Roswell, New Mexico.

RYAN informed that all of his agents had been searching the area around Roswell, Artesia, Tatum, and Kenna, New Mexico; Amherst, Brownfield, and Lanasa, Texas, where the phenomena had recently been observed. These searches all met with negative results.

Dr. LA PAZ advanced the theory to RYAN that the objects were controlled missiles traveling around the earth at an altitude of approximately 25 miles and at a speed of approximately 15 miles per second. The missile was probably controlled by agents stationed at various intervals who are able to bring the missile down over a designated area and explode it. He stated that Dr. LA PAZ added that he believed the Russians or some other country was practicing with these weapons which carried no war head and were being exploded at an altitude of approximately 10 miles. After the practice period LA PAZ assumed the weapons would be loaded with an atomic war head.

LA PAZ told RYAN that two men whom he interviewed at Kenna, New Mexico, who had observed phenomena which appeared to have disseminated near Tatum, New Mexico, had informed him "nothing will be found". LA PAZ stated he attached significance to the above statement and that the men apparently had some knowledge that the phenomena was not a meteorite.

RYAN advised his Office would keep this Office informed of any current developments.

CC: San Antonio

RECORDED - 105 EX-47
INDEXED - 105

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F B I
23 MAR 4 1949

100-4562

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) DATE 3/15/52

3 MAR 10 1949

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HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS		FILE NO. 21-8	DATE 11 February 1949
REPORT OF INVESTIGATION		REPORT MADE BY PAUL L. RYAN	
TITLE Aerial Phenomena		REPORT MADE AT DO #17, Kirtland AFB	
		PERIOD 31 Jan. - 5 Feb 1949	
		OFFICE OF ORIGIN DO #17, Kirtland AFB	
		STATUS RUC	
CHARACTER Special Inquiry			
REFERENCE Telephone call from Hq 17th Dist OSI, Kirtland AFB, on 31 Jan 49			
SYNOPSIS Acting on telephonic instructions received from DO #17, Kirtland AFB, Kirtland Field, New Mexico, on 31 January 1949, in which Mr. CHESTER MARYZIGER, JR., Administrative Supervisor, advised that a peculiar light or aerial phenomena had been observed at 1755 hours, 30 January 1949, in the vicinity of Walker AFB, Roswell, New Mexico, and that Sgt EDWARD P. MCCRARY, a tower control operator of Walker AFB, be contacted for information. The following action was taken: A check with Police Department, Sheriff's Office, Municipal Airport, the Continental, Pioneer, and Charter Service Air Lines in Roswell, New Mexico, was made to determine if any of these agencies had received any reports pertaining to this phenomena. Results negative. Eight persons who had witnessed this aerial phenomena were interviewed at Walker AFB, and grid coordinates with an engineer's transit reading of azimuths and elevations was taken at points of observation on Walker AFB. An almost house-to-house search was conducted East of Roswell by OSI and Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ of the University of New Mexico for all possible witnesses. This search extended throughout southeast New Mexico and West Texas. The search for additional information extended North of Roswell to Clovis, New Mexico, and South of Roswell to a point about fifteen miles South of Artesia, New Mexico. In Artesia, this questioning elicited the information that about the approximate date of the appearance of this meteor (interviewees could not recall the exact date), a noise resembling somewhat the sound made by the robot bombs utilized by Germany against England			
DISTRIBUTION	ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP	
CO, DO #17 (Action Copy) 1 OSI Hq 2 File 2	CO, DO #17, Kirtland AFB	<p>CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED BY THE DIRECTOR OF SPEC INV</p> <p>BY _____</p> <p>DATE _____</p> <p>APPROVED _____</p> <p>DATE _____</p> <p>Lt. Colonel, USAF</p> <p>DISTRICT COMMANDER</p>	

CONFIDENTIAL

in 1944 was heard by two men. An aerial and ground search conducted in the vicinity of Lamesa, Texas, for physical evidence was negative. A report from a ten year old boy in Amherst, Texas, reporting a sound accompanying with the aerial phenomena, was obtained.

DETAILS:

1. A telephone call from Mr. CHARLES NAFFZIGER, Administrative Supervisor, DO #17, Kirtland AFB, Kirtland Field, New Mexico, on the morning of 31 January 1949, instructed this office to ascertain the azimuth, elevation, and direction of a peculiar light observed near Walker AFB at 1755 hours, 30 January 1949, by Sgt EDWARD P. McCRARY.

2. This is a joint report of Special Agents JACK B. WILLIAMS, LEWIS S. RICHETT, and the writer.

AT ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

3. The Municipal Airport, Sheriff's Office, and Police Department of Roswell, New Mexico, were contacted on 31 January 1949 and advised that no report had been received in their agencies of an aerial phenomena the preceding day. The Continental, Pioneer, and Charter Service Air Lines stated on this date that no flares had been utilized by any of their personnel in or near Roswell.

AT WALKER AFB, ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

4. Sgt RAYMOND D. FLATT, AF 12254077 (MOS 766); Sgt EDWARD P. McCRARY, AF 18141615 (MOS 552); S Sgt DONALD J. McKENNA, AF 19244055 (MOS 561); Cpl WILLIAM J. BRYANT, AF 14268902 (MOS 552); and Pvt ROGER M. JOHNSON, AF 31271834 (MOS 552), all of 1900-4 AACS Detachment, Walker AFB, Sgt DANIEL SULLIVAN, AF 11105867 (MOS 213); and JIM MULLI, Special Agent of Office of Special Investigations, Walker AFB, Roswell, New Mexico, were interviewed on 31 January 1949 and the following facts obtained: On 30 January 1949 at 1755 hours, a blue-green light resembling a flare was observed travelling on a horizontal line. This light came out of the North headed South at an estimated altitude of 2,000 feet, moving slowly, and disappeared in the vicinity of SE Walker Air Force Base. To some observers, this phenomena disappeared in its entirety while other statements mentioned a disappearance as a disintegration into a shower of smaller lighted fragments such as a shower of sparks. The only sound accompanying this object was heard by Sgt McCRARY, who described it as a high pitched whining noise similar to that of a blowtorch. All of these observers sighted this light from a position West of it while facing East.

5. Obtaining the services of an engineer's transit, the following information was secured by making a reading from points of observation:

First observed at 52° magnetic.
Last observed at 27° magnetic.
Elevation of 22°.

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The following grid coordinates were secured:

- a. Center of Walker AFB: 104° 31' W
33° 01' N
- b. Control Tower (reading from center of WAFB): 75' N
5470' E
- c. Tennis Courts: 1125' N
5630' W
- d. Base Theater: 1925' N
5060' W

6. An interview with Cpl JOHN G. THADEN, AF 1320658 (MOS 778), 1900-L AACS Detachment, Walker AFB, Roswell, New Mexico, on 1 February 1949, elicited information identical with the other observations.

7. On 2 February 1949, an attempt was made to contact any person who might have observed this phenomena from the East or facing West. This questioning continued for about forty (40) miles East of Roswell with negative results.

8. Special Agent RICKETT continued this search throughout Southeast New Mexico and East Texas from 1400 hours, 2 February 1949, to 2400 hours, 5 February 1949, in the company of Dr. LINCOLN LA PAZ of the University of New Mexico. All information obtained during this part of the investigation was retained by Dr. LA PAZ and will be incorporated into his report to OSI.

AT CLOVIS, NEW MEXICO

9. Acting on information related to the OSI from a Major GROSS of Sandia Base stating the Sheriff at Clovis, New Mexico, had information pertaining to a meteor landing on a farm in the vicinity of Clovis, an attempt on 2 and 3 February 1949 to locate this farm in Clovis met with negative results. Questioning of persons and law enforcement agencies enroute to and in Clovis did not produce any information of a pertinent nature. The Sheriff at Clovis stated that he knew nothing of the meteor.

AT ROSWELL AND ARTESIA, NEW MEXICO

10. On 4 February 1949, a search was conducted South of Roswell to a distance of approximately fifteen (15) miles South of Artesia, New Mexico, to determine if possible the extent of observation of this aerial phenomena. Mrs. [REDACTED] Street, Artesia, New Mexico, was questioned as to a light observed by her, and it was ascertained that she had witnessed this phenomena. A noise resembling a racing motorcycle was heard in the vicinity of Artesia on or about 30 January 1949 about 0530 hours. The people hearing this noise stated its duration was about three (3) minutes. Mr. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Allen Oil Company, East Main Street, Artesia, New Mexico, stated they had been separated by a distance of about three (3) miles at this time and both heard the noise. No directions, altitude, or speed was obtained because of the difficulties of locating a sound in the air. Both observers stated

[REDACTED]

positively that the sound was not emanating from an aircraft. When questioned as to the sound, [REDACTED] revealed the fact that, as a soldier in the European Theater of Operations during the war, he had observed and heard many robot bombs (buzz bombs). According to [REDACTED] the sound he heard was somewhat like the noise produced by these bombs.

AT AMHERST, TEXAS

11. In accordance with instructions from Dr. LA PAZ on 5 February 1949, in Lamesa, Texas, a trip was made to Amherst, Texas, for the purpose of interviewing Master [REDACTED] the ten (10) year old son of [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] National Bank, Amherst, Texas. An interview with this family confirmed the fact that young [REDACTED] had witnessed the aerial phenomena, with the added information that he had heard a rumbling noise emanating from it. The best description offered by this ten year old boy was its similarity to a short roll of thunder. No other member of this family had seen or heard anything out of the ordinary; this is explained by the fact that the boy was playing outdoors with his dog. No mention was made by [REDACTED] as to any peculiar actions on the part of this dog during the observation. [REDACTED] position when he observed this light was facing South. A highway running North and South is located about a mile and a half to the West of his home. No railroad was observed South of his home. Approximately thirty (30) other persons questioned in this small town had not seen or heard anything with the exception of [REDACTED] Clerk, [REDACTED] National Bank, Amherst, Texas. Miss [REDACTED] stated that she was in a car heading South about twenty (20) miles North of Amherst on Highway 51 when she observed this red and blue light. Its direction at this time was South of her. An interrogation of Miss [REDACTED] elicited information identical to the description of the phenomena. Dr. and Mrs. [REDACTED] (parents of Miss [REDACTED]) were in the car and also witnessed the light. No sound was heard by these persons.

C O P Y

AEC INTERESTS IN METEOROLOGICAL PROGRAM AT LOS ALAMOS

1. The determination through effective co-ordination with all regional weather stations of factors which contribute to general weather conditions at Los Alamos.
2. The development of a system for weather forecasting suitable to the needs of the area.
3. The conduct of meteorological surveys particularly suited to local topography and requirements of the Los Alamos operations so that the characteristics of atmospheric flow and diffusion throughout the reservation may be ascertained.
4. The assignment of an experienced meteorologist to Los Alamos who can serve as a consultant to all agencies at the reservation on problems of planning, design, operation, control and research - especially in relation to:
 - a. Environmental Hazards - on and off-site
 - b. Weapons Research
 - c. Site Selection for facilities and housing
 - d. Disposal of Toxic and Radioactive Gaseous Effluents
 - e. Planning and Operation of Public Works, Suits or Utilities, Airport, Roads, Incinerators, Communications Facilities, etc.
 - f. Disaster Planning
 - g. Security Operations
5. The installation and operation of such instruments as may be necessary to determine meteorological conditions in and around the reservation on a continuing basis. The records obtained to be reviewed by an experienced meteorologist and kept current in such a manner that they can be integrated with standard Weather Bureau data for control and research purposes as needed.
6. The establishment on a continuing basis through AEC channels liaison with other Areas of Operation in matters of meteorology which concerns the development of the atomic energy industry and the national defense.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Carroll L. Tyler, Manager
 Santa Fe Operations Office

FROM : Brigadier General James McCormack, Jr., AUS
 Director of Military Application

SUBJECT: OBSERVATION OF PHENOMENA AT LOS ALAMOS PROJECT.

DATE: February 14, 1949

Refer to
 Symbol: MAW:PTP

Reference is made to your memo of January 13, 1949, subject as above, in which you inquire as to the agency which will assume investigation jurisdiction of phenomena reported in the Santa Fe area.

*of omitted
 with AAF
 Kulland per
 this instruction
 Gen*

We are advised by the Division of Security that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is charged with the responsibility for investigation of incidents of this nature. The FBI has been notified on the Washington level of these phenomena.

James McCormack, Jr.
 James McCormack, Jr.
 Brigadier General, AUS
 Director of Military Application

cc: Bruce Uthus

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT (GEN.) 9

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

#4

~~SECRET~~
CONFERENCE
ON
AERIAL PHENOMENA

Held at 1300, 16 February 1949, in conference room F-162, Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico. Present:

4th Army:	Major Winn Major Goddard Captain Neef
AFSMP:	Commander Kandelkorn
University of New Mexico:	Dr. LaPaz
FBI:	Mr. Maxwell
ESAC, SFOO:	Mr. Morgan Mr. Newburger
University of California:	Dr. Bradbury Dr. Holloway Mr. Lipp Dr. Kistner Dr. Heines Dr. Teller

Mr. Newburger opened the conference and stated that the subject of Aerial Phenomena was classified Secret within the meaning of ACP 300-5 and comparable appropriate regulations of the Navy and Air Forces, and that all personnel at this meeting were properly cleared. Mr. Newburger then introduced Captain Neef, who briefly outlined the purpose of this meeting.

Captain Neef: It all started back in December, 1948, when we first received some reports from some airline pilots that these green fireballs were sighted. At this stage we had no idea what to do with it or what it was. We approached Dr. LaPaz who has been assisting us, gratis, since that date. Almost over two months now that he has been assisting us, so in order to have you get the facts as they are to a scientist, I'll let Dr. LaPaz explain these things as we have found them. Then you can give us your opinion from there; that is what we are interested in.

Dr. LaPaz: I would like to review what is observed in the case of a conventional meteorite fall. Not that I have any hopes of saying anything you don't already know, but because I regard the observational evidence observed by the conventional meteorite falls as providing the necessary background for what is now observed. Meteorite falls (for next minute or two, Mr. LaPaz's comments on record drowned out by noise from outside (immediately outside conference room).... Because of sound phenomena primarily, the fall of a large meteorite will cause great fright among human beings necessarily but primarily among animals, of all kinds. The first victims, of a meteorite

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BY AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DATE

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Page 2

falling into the earth, is as you would expect, one at random - in azimuth and elevation. If the radiant were known, you can predict the minimum angle with respect to the plane of the horizon at which the meteorite path has been observed. There is no choice, as far as the...for direction when meteorites fall in at random. I'd like to contrast now, at this time, this fact with what has been observed by some individuals here at the conference and by many of the AESS inspectors, UAL pilots, special agents, goodness knows how many other categories of people. I choose to describe the only one of the incidents that I was personally a witness to. It is the only one of the incidents that I am in a position to vouch for on the basis of experience, dating from 1915, as a member of the American Meteor Society, was most certainly not a conventional meteorite fall. It was the so-called Starvation Peak incident on the night of December 12, 1948. Time of observation was around 9:02 P.M., plus or minus 30 seconds. This fireball appeared in full intensity instantly - there was no increase in light. Its color, estimated to be somewhere around wave length 5200 angstroms, was a blue green, or yellow green, such as I had never observed in meteor falls before. The path was as nearly horizontal as one could determine by visual observation. We have a photograph which might be some liters of departure from horizontal. The trajectory was traverse at, I am inclined to believe, constant angular velocity. Just before the end of the path there was the very slightest drooping of the path, that is the green fireball broke into fragments, still bright green.

Dr. Teller: And all this time the intensity was approximately constant?

Dr. LaFaz: All the time, as far as I could determine. The eye, of course, is admittedly a very crude photographer.

Dr. Teller: How long did the phenomenon last?

Dr. LaFaz: Almost exactly two seconds. We have in the reports here, I brought the complete file with me and would be glad to circulate them, duration measures in relation to all observations. Few of these, however, I believe, were determined under as favorable circumstances as the duration of the Starvation Peak incident. Possibly I should go back and review the situation a little bit. Because some report, issued by the AESS, would certainly suggest that I was primarily responsible for starting this whole matter. I am glad that Captain Keef corrected that impression. Actually, I was on an investigation in regard to the green fireball observed on the night of December 5th at the time the December 12th incident occurred. As a result I was keyed up; I was watching; I had a stop watch with me and a transit. We got into position and made measures, transit measures, on azimuths and elevation readings; that is, we made a duration check, certainly within not more than two or three minutes after the incident occurred. To that extent, I believe, it is possibly the best observed of any incident up to the time of the January 30th fall.

~~SECRET~~
CONFERENCE
ON
AERIAL PHENOMENA

Held at 1300, 16 February 1949, in conference room P-162, Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico. Present:

4th Army:	Major Winn Major Godson Captain Neef
AFSXP:	Commander Handwerker
University of New Mexico:	Dr. LaPaz
FBI:	Mr. Maxwell
USABC, SFGC:	Mr. Morgan Mr. Newburger
University of California:	Dr. Bradbury Dr. Hillman Mr. Hoff Dr. Kistler Dr. Heines Dr. Keller

Mr. Newburger opened the conference and stated that the subject of Aerial Phenomena was classified Secret within the meaning of All 31a-5 and comparable appropriate regulations of the Navy and Air Forces, and that all personnel at this meeting were properly cleared. Mr. Newburger then introduced Captain Neef, who briefly outlined the purpose of this meeting.

Captain Neef: It all started back in December, 1948, when we first received some reports from some airline pilots that these green fireballs were sighted. At this stage we had no idea what to do with it or what it was. We approached Dr. LaPaz who has been assisting us, gratis, since that date. Almost over two months now that he has been assisting us, so in order to have you get the facts as they are to a scientist, I'll let Dr. LaPaz explain these things as we have found them. Then you can give us your opinion from there; that is what we are interested in.

Dr. LaPaz: I would like to review what is observed in the case of a conventional meteorite fall. Not that I have any hopes of saying anything you don't already know, but because I regard the observational evidence observed by the conventional meteorite falls as providing the necessary background for what is now observed. Meteorite falls (for next minute or two), Dr. LaPaz's comments on record drowned out by noise from outside (immediately outside conference room)....Because of sound phenomena primarily, the fall of a large meteorite will cause great fright among human beings, not only but primarily among animals, of all kinds. The fact follows, if a meteorite

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Dr. Manley: How did you have time to use the transit?

Dr. LaPas: The transit was in the back of the car. The moment the car was parked at the side of the road, we yanked the transit out and set it up and began measurements. We were in motion at the time but we were able to get a very good check of what we observed at the time on the road near Starvation Peak. We had a clear view of the sky to the Northwest and the West, and the object was so low over the horizon it was possible to compare it not only to the stars with which I am familiar, but with respect to mountain peaks that were also visible. To continue, that duration was about two seconds. This is when I say that 90% of the duration determinations have been made in the case of the green fireballs have given durations right in that vicinity. Whereas you take, say, 100 ordinary meteor observations you will find the widest diversions in durations. You could take the same lesson as observed by 100 people - possibly that's a better example - and there would be wide variations in the estimates of duration.

Dr. Manley: Did you correlate the azimuths with.....?

Dr. LaPas: No. There is an azimuth factor here which I am going to talk to you about, that relates to the choice of direction. Both our observations are single station observations, so that it becomes impossible from the observation measure to determine the real path of the fireball in the atmosphere. There have been only three cases where that path was determinable. One, as I recall it, was that of December 12, another December 20, and finally, of course, the very large fall on January 30, 1949. I'll give you some particulars on the paths. I do want to observe, however, that even our station observations present a puzzling characteristic to the meteorists. If you plot what are called, by meteorists, the admissible protozones for a green fireball that has been observed, you will find that they give, on the average, an approach almost to the North, come down from the North, they are restricted to ? . Now what about the real paths? I gave some indications as to the altitude at which meteorites normally disrupt full....and come down. That relates to the lowest...of the path. The green fireballs are unusual in this respect: probably that they are horizontal or nearly so, or that their horizontal path is traversed very low down in the atmosphere. In the case of the real paths for which we have been able to make determinations so far, those are graphical determinations, as we have not taken the trouble to use Chablis (?) methods or...because the observations are regarded as necessarily too rough for mathematical niceties. Those paths are traversed at elevations between 8 and 10 miles. I defy you to find anywhere among meteorists, examples of conventional meteorites that move over long horizontal paths reserving nearly constant angular velocities and therefore, on the average, constant linear velocities, at elevations of the order of 8 to 10 miles. There is a good deal of evidence that may be of value in the complete reports that are available here, but since this is an introduction I would like to summarize at this stage: the fireball which I personally witnessed on the night of December 12, 1948, was not, in my opinion, a conventional meteor fall. Since the majority of the green fireballs

have been reported to me, both before and after this December 12th occurrence, possess almost all the properties which I personally observed on the night of December 12th, I feel that in all probability they are not themselves conventional meteor falls. Now, the easy way out of this is to conjure up an unconventional type of...meteorite, which comes in practically parallel to the surface of the earth and is somehow endowed with the property against the very great atmospheric resistance that is experienced on a level, it reserves nearly constant velocity over paths say of the order of 25 to over 100 miles, as in the case of the green fireball on January 30th. It should also have the property that it is a very remarkable hue of green, not heretofore observed, to my knowledge, in the case of any conventional meteor falls. And finally, and this possibly is the most implausible feature of all, that although it produces light visible at distances of the order of 400 miles, it doesn't make a sound. In the case of January 30th fall, due to the fact that there had been a large number of military personnel alerted, we were able to obtain observations within a minute after the fall occurred and pursued the investigation over a distance of 1,600 miles - in Texas and primarily! - in some ten days' time interviewing literally hundreds of people, we saw not one substantiated account of noise produced by the meteorite fall.

Dr. Teller: May I ask how many people have seen this one big meteorite?

Dr. LaPaz: That is difficult to say. (record blank for short period)..... Finally, in the interrogation of such persons, we invariably interview them as individuals. We tried a family of 8 the first night, as Major Godsoe will recall, interviewing...and it became apparent at once that there was some sympathetic influence and we broke it off after I think the third or fourth observation and thereafter interviewed separately. If you were to search, however, the independent observations of those who were widely separated, possibly stations of the order of 100, there were probably 100 different stations' reporting.

Dr. Teller: What area did that cover?

Dr. LaPaz: All of New Mexico, all the Western half of Texas. I have a map here with some indications of possibly the extent of that.

Boyt and Bradbury: Wasn't that Sunday the 24th?

Dr. LaPaz: No, it was definitely Sunday the 30th. The newspapers have very helpfully concealed most of the relevant facts relating to this fireball. First, they described it as a fireball, second, they...(record blank for few seconds)...interfered with OSI and wasn't able to do that this time. This is the field map and will give in various colors, dots and pencil dashes, etc. all of the observations obtained on the Texas search.

Dr. Teller: All relate to one fall? *

Dr. LaPaz: Yes. These lines are drawn from points of observation. The center,

As you see, all points of appearance is somewhere Southwest of Amarillo or South-southwest of Amarillo. The disappearance point is in the vicinity of Lubbock, Texas. At the time this was done, before I was able to make out transit measures in the vicinity of Albuquerque, this was the best apparent path of the fireballs. These other ink lines are independent, made by other groups of observers working on the same problem. (record blank again for short time) This transit, unfortunately, had a needle with a bent piston and it was not discovered until much later that we were getting faulty records. Independently, I have re-determined, using the best equipment available at the University, the lines of sight at all points where the faulty transit had been used. I have plotted on this map only observations that I made personally or such observations as I have every reason to believe were made by experienced personnel, for example UAL flyers, who took the trouble to make measures, or possibly civil engineers.

Dr. Teller: You mean these people right afterwards or shortly afterwards took an instrument and tried to measure it?

Dr. LaPaz: That's right.

Dr. Teller: This is the point where it disappeared?

Dr. LaPaz: And normally, all you will get is the point where it disappears, because the average man is aware of the fact that when he is not warned, he makes a very inaccurate observation. Having been warned by the appearance of the fireball, his attention is fixed and he watches where it bursts, where it explodes, where it disappears. So I say this is a much better determination. This beginning point, although you notice the....of line here, is reasonably satisfactory.

Dr. Teller: Are these points here observers of the test, locations of those observations?

Dr. LaPaz: Usually a dotted circle like that indicates a reported sound observation. We use this symbol: a circle is a report, whether or not the observation includes azimuth of elevation, light appearances; is indicated by the presence of a cross. If it is blacked out, both light and sound were heard. Now every one of those things has been disproved. In the area where the end point was located, oil well drilling was underway, dynamite blasting in connection with setting up of rigs, some nitro being used apparently to shatter....in every case we were able to exclude the possibility that the noises reported actually were tied in with the meteorite fall. At least let me say, in my opinion, those noises were excluded. In certain cases, independently, that was confirmed by a visit of Lt. Ryan of the Roswell Group of the OSI. For instance, the best case of all, near Amherst ?, or noise - the observer, it's true, was only a ten-year old boy, but he wrote a very intelligent letter, and it is well known that children, like animals, are more sensitive to sound than people who have listened for too many years, say, to the radio. It appeared conceivable that he had actually made a sound observation, but Lt. Ryan went to Amherst ? found that even three members of the

family were not able to confirm his observation of noise and no one in the town, some 300 or 400 persons I think in all were estimated to have been visited, no one at all had heard a sound, so I think that Mike probably heard the same dynamite blast as had been reported by Miss Winson Wedgasture - I didn't take that name out of the funny papers, it actually exists.

(continued examination of the maps with minor interrogations concerning markings.)

Dr. LaFaz: With one exception, in the case of Roswell, there are two types of sound associated with meteorite falls and, I assume, associated with the motion of any very high velocity projectiles or missiles through the air. There are what physicists would call reasonable sounds, and while he would not acknowledge it, simultaneously with the appearance of a meteorite, you hear a meteorite, the physicist will refuse to believe the observation. Nevertheless, there is a tremendous volume of evidence indicating that these anomalous sounds occurred. Anyone who does field work in the search for meteorites will come across possibly 10% of the observers who say that, although my attention was attracted by hearing, a whining noise, a whistling noise, I looked up and there was the fireball. In other words, this anomalous sound apparently attracts attention to the occurrence. I have an article by Brandon...one of the sons of the man who first investigated the great crater out in Arizona, and a chap by the name of Hart ? with whom I am not personally acquainted by a physicist apparently at Princeton, in which they attempt to justify the occurrence of anomalous sound. They express it roughly in this fashion. Electromagnetic radiation is set up by

(Dr. Tallor excused to answer the phone)

Dr. LaFaz: You wouldn't believe it anyway! However...electromagnetic radiation is rectified somehow by the...changed into sound that can be heard and, therefore, you can hear the meteorite at the same time you see it fall. In the case of the Roswell observation apparently that occurred. We have a group of five men - there were near a steel smokestack - and every last one of them swears that they heard at the same time they were watching the green fireball go by, a noise like, say, a gasoline blowtorch. That is certainly not an ordinary explosives sound. One more thing in connection with the noises. In every other meteorite fall, any one meteorite fall that I have investigated, - that covers many years - I have never yet found an occasion of a detonating fireball, without meteorites coming down at all, in which there was not some evidence of alarm of animals. Chickens will fly around to try to get under cover. Dogs will howl and try to get into the house. Horses will run away. In the case of the Texas fall, in spite of the tremendous area in which the light was observed, we found not a single case in which the animals were disturbed. We knew of the case of a farmer who had, in sunny Texas, a pond with a five-inch layer of ice; who reported that a meteorite had fallen through the ice on that pond, had broken a hole. Captain