PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE

12 October 1957

2. LOCATION

Martha's Vineyard, Massachus[illegible]

3. DATE-TIME GROUP

Local _____

GMT 12/2035Z

4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION

☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar

Binoculars

☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar

5. PHOTOS

☐ Yes

☒ No

6. SOURCE

Civilian

7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION

2 minutes

8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS

one

9. COURSE

hovered

12. CONCLUSIONS

☐ Was Balloon
☒ Probably Balloon
☐ Possibly Balloon

☐ Was Aircraft
☐ Probably Aircraft
☐ Possibly Aircraft

☐ Was Astronomical
☐ Probably Astronomical
☐ Possibly Astronomical

☐ Other _____
☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation
☐ Unknown

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Object described variously as sphere, cylinder, oval with what appeared to be spikes or antennae observed from a small boat in the water. The object hovered, rose and descended, reversed direction & moved away. Source gave impression that object was hostile or sinister.

11. COMMENTS

Object believed to have been balloon with many corner reflec- tors. These are tested in that area by AFCRC. 34 aircraft were in that area. Checks were made & showed nothing unusual observed. Same also with radar units and other activities in that area.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

Tough Draft of "Blitz" Evaluation given to NAVY

Request by U. S. Navy for "Blitz" Evaluation

1. General: The Air Technical Intelligence Center is in receipt of three official reports on subject incident. This would normally provide sufficient data for identification or valid conclusions. Ref: Flash Report TT Msg, WOIN-5281, dtd 13 Oct 57 (uncl), USAF AIIR Report from 1608th ATW, Charleston AFB, S. C. (Uncl) and ONI Report No. 43-57, dtd 14 Nov 1957 (Conf).

However, a comparative analysis of basic data reveals certain inconsistencies and discrepancies among the three reports, which presents some difficulties to analyses.

2. Inconsistencies and Discrepancies:

a. Shape: given as cylindrical by AIIR Report; spherical or oval by ONI report and spherical in TT Msg.

b. Description of Protrudences: ONI report: small antennae,
TT Msg: prongs
AIRR: trihedral in shape.

c. Course of Object: ONI Report: heading SW
AIIR: SE (from 15 degrees to 35 degrees from heading of vessal
TT Msg: hovered for 90 seconds. disappeared to SW

d. Wind Directions: ONI Report: from W - NW
TT Msg: from W - NW (10-15,000 ft alt)
AIIR: not given in basic data

Blitz analysis

3. Data in Agreement:

a. Time of sighting: All: approximately 1535 local time, 12 OCTOBER 1957.

b. Aids to sighting: All observers used binoculars. (Presuming at least 7 power, the object undoubtedly appeared substantially larger than its actual size).

c. Maneuvers: These were described variously as stationary, hovering reversing directions, descending, diving on observer's boat, etc.

d. Vapor, exhaust, jet, trail emitted: all reports: none observed, through any of the maneuvers described.

4. Factual Data in Support of Final Conclusion:

a. Sun was fairly low toward horizon at that time, and West of the object. Weather conditions: clear, bright, no clouds, unlimited visibility.

b. The aggregate of maneuvers given in all reports is characteristic of balloons.

c. The fact that no vapor, exhaust, or trail was emitted rules out propulsive devices (aircraft and missiles), also strongly suggestive of a balloon.

d. Analysis of similar type of UFO reports over a period of more than ten years has shown that reflection of the setting sun's slanti rays off a many-surfaced or spherical object (specular reflections) often produce unusual or odd appearances to otherwise conventional objects. (photographic examples of a balloon with one design of radar reflector, under varying conditions of light, as well as a simple explanatory sketch, is attached)

e. A check discloses that the winds were generally from the Northwest at that time and place(NE of Martha's Vineyard, Mass). A further check with weather unit locations and facilities launching balloons indicate a number were located Northwest of the area that the object was sighted. (Small localized areas or spots [redacted] having wind eddies, swirls, or temporary reverse-direction flows, often give an impression of a free-floating object moving against the wind.

5. Conclusions: On the basis of the above data, and the fact that nothing unusual in the air was seen or reported by any of the 34 aircraft in the area at that time, or by radar units which scan that sector 24 hours of the day, there is no compelling reason to conclude that the object was other than a balloon, or a balloon-supported device.

Query to AF Cambridge Research Center (as part of the investigations) disclosed that aerially launched radar-reflector balloons are launched in that area. Ref TT M5 P-765, in case file.

George P. Gregory
Capt USAFR
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Group

Blue Evaluation sent out on 16 Jan 1958
(Maj Mac Mc March

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSI[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

[redacted] CATEGORY B ENCRYPTION—PHYSICALLY REMOVE ALL INTERNAL REFERENCES BY DATE-TIME GROUP PRIOR TO DECLASSIFICATION—NO UNCLASSIFIED REFERENCE IF THE DATE-TIME GROUP IS QUOTED

01782

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE			
ACTION PRIORITY			X	AF	ORIGINAL	
INFO						

FROM: COMDR ATIC 11X

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

TO: COMDR, ADC, ENT AFB, COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO
ATTN: SENIOR CONTROLLER

/FROM: AFCIN-4E4 IC40194

REQUEST INFORMATION AND DATA REGARDING UFO REPORTEDLY TRACKED BY RADAR FROM AREA NEAR MARTHA'S VINEYARD, MASS. TO SOME POINT IN VICINITY OF OMAHA, NEBRASKA. SPEED ESTIMATED AS 2000 MPH. ALSO REPORTED THAT TRACK PLOTS MADE OVER BUFFALO, NEW YORK, AND CHICAGO, ILLINOIS AS IT PASSED OVER THESE CITIES. THIS SIGHTING IS REPORTED AS A SINGLE, CONTINUOUS TRACK PLOT, AND BELIEVED TO HAVE TAKEN PLACE SOME TIME IN SEPTEMBER 1957.

THIS CENTER HAS NO OFFICIAL RECORD OF ANY SINGLE, CONTINUOUS UFO LONG TRACK PLOT OF THIS NATURE. REFERRED TO YOUR OFFICE UPON QUERY TO HEADQUARTERS SAC FOR PARTICULARS ON THIS CASE. DESIRE FOLLOWING BASIC INFORMATION:

1. WAS THIS A SINGLE, CONTINUOUS TRACK OF THE SAME OBJECT FROM POINT OF ORIGIN TO POINT OF DISAPPEARANCE OR A SERIES OF SEPARATE PLOTS MOVING IN SAME GENERAL DIRECTION, WITH ASSUMPTION THAT SOME

ENCODED
Initials [illegible]
Time 1743Z
Checked By [illegible]

[redacted]

Page 1 of 2 Pages
Cy 1 of 4 Cys

DATE	TIME
17	1430
MONTH	YEAR
FEB	58

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

WRITER

SYMBOL AFCIN-4E4 DOD DIR 5200.10

TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required) Capt G.T. Gregory G.T. Gregory

PHONE 69216 | PAGE NR. 1 | NR. OF PAGES 2

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

RELEASER

SIGNATURE [signature]

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE

WALLACE W. ELWOOD
Captain, USAF
Assistant Adjutant

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

JOINT MESSAGEFORM - CONTINUATION SHEET	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

FROM: COMDR ATIC

UNCLASSIFIED

TRACK AND OBJECT?

2. HEADINGS, ALTITUDES AND SPEED?

3. TIME UFOS PICKED UP AND WHEN DISAPPEARED?

4. MANNER OF APPEARANCE?

5. MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE?

6. ACTION TAKEN TO IDENTIFY AND/OR INTERCEPT, WITH RESULTS?

7. IF IDENTIFIED AS ANOMALOUS PROPAGATION, OR SPURIOUS BLIPS DUE TO TEMPERATURE, INVERSIONS, ELECTRONIC INFLUENCES, TARGET SIMULATORS OR OTHER NATURAL PHENOMENA, GIVE DETAILS.

REQUEST EXPEDIENCY RE THIS REQUEST, AS INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR PART OF A USAF, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT.

COORDINATION:

AFCIN-4E4 H A Miley DATE 17 Feb 58
Dr. H. A. Miley

AFCIN-4E H K Gilbert DATE 17 Feb
Col H. K. Gilbert

AFCIN-4X1 A Francis Archer DATE 17 Feb.
Mr. A. F. Archer

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

Page 2 of 2 Pages
Cy 1 of 7 Cys

FEB 18 14 21 28 [redacted]

SYMBOL	PAGE NR	NR OF PAGES	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	INITIALS
AFCIN-4E4	2	2	[redacted]	

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173-1

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955—[illegible]

UNCLASSIFIED

Notified at 0350Z TH

A.T.I.C.

TH

14 Oct 57 07 57 Oct 13 03 45 '57

WPA011 YDA013 TYB017 TMA013DGA007

PP RJEPNB RJEPHQ RJEDEN RJEDWP

DE RJEPDG 1

P 130130Z

FLASH REPORT FROM

FM COMDR 551ST AEW CON WG OTIS AFB MASS

TRJEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COLO

RJEPNB/COMDR EADF STEWART AFB NY

RJEDWP/COMDR ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJEPHQ/DIR INTELLIGENCE HQ USAF WASH 25 D C

BT

UNCLASSIFIED WOIN 5281. UFOB. FOLLOWING REPORT SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFR 200-2.

1A. SPHERE WITH APPROXIMATELY 12 PRONGS. APPEARED TO AS ANTENNAE.

B. APPROXIMATELY 5 FEET IN DIAMETER

C. OPAQUE. DESCRIBED AS THOUGH OF FIBER GLASS.

D. 1 OBJECT

E. N/A

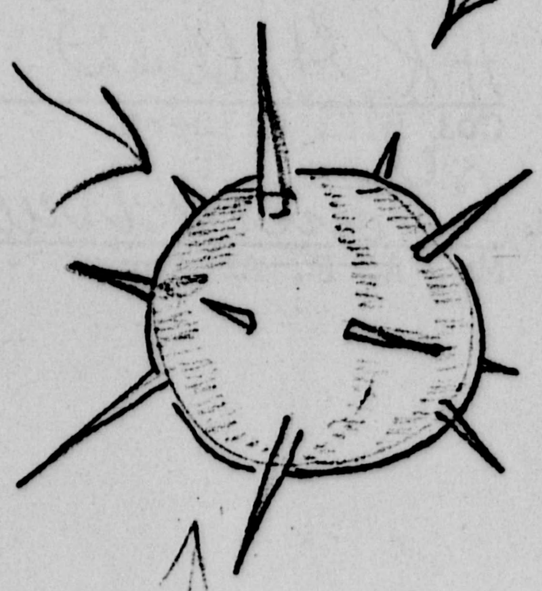
F. PRONGS OR ANTENNAE APPERED TO BE 1 FOOT LONG

G. NONE

H. NONE

TWX Report - (See sketch) →
USAF Rept - a cylinder with spikes
ONI Report - oval or spherical with what appeared to be small antennae

1) 2) 3) 4E4
4-4X2a



A NAVY MINE FLOATING IN THE AIR?

Looks like mine alone water

PAGE TWO RJEPDG 1

2A. LOOKING FOR SEAGULLS TO DETERMINE FISHING AREA.

B. 240 DEGREES 2 MILES NORTHEAST OF VINEYARD HAVEN, MASS. OBJECT 90 DEGREE ELEVATION FROM OBSERVERS. ← This would put object directly over their heads - where the balloon would blend in with the reflector suspended below.

C. SAME AS B. OBJECT REMAINED IN SAME POSITION FROM TIME OF FIRST SIGHTING UNTILL DISAPPEARANCE.

D. ON FIRST SIGHTING OBJECT DECENDED RAPIDLY TO POSITION AS ABOVE. HOVERED FOR APPROXIMATELY 90 SECONDS THEN DEPARTED RAPIDLY AND DISSAPPEARED WITHIN 20 SECONDS.

E. 240 DEGREES CLIMBING AT 90 DEGREE ANGLE, 10 DEGREES SOUTH OF SUN.

F. ALL TOGETHER APPROXIMATELY 2 MINUTES.

3A. WATER-VISUAL

B. BINOCULARS ← Note! Observed with binoculars. Assuming 7X power. Object was approx. 1/7th size as would be observed with naked eye.

C. SIGHTING MADE FROM BOAT.

4A 12/2025Z OCT 57 ← approx 2035 - 5 = 1535 (i.e. 3:35 PM)

B. DAYLIGHT

3:35 PM → Sun approaching to horizon

SUN IN WEST

5A. 2 MILES NORTHEAST VINEYARD HAVEN, MASS WHILE OBSERVERS WERE IN FISHING BOAT.

6A. [redacted] AGE 44, WOODS OCEANAGRAPHIC INSTITUTE, CAPTAIN OF REASEARCH VESSEL, [redacted].

[redacted] AGE 37, WOODS HOLE OCEANAGRAPHIC INSTITUTE, CAPTAIN

PAGE THREE RJEPDG 1

OF MOTOR RESEARCH VESSEL [redacted]

[redacted], AGE UNKNOWN, WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE,

RORMER USAF MAJOR. SCIENTIST.

[redacted], AGE UNKNOWN, CHARLESTON, S.C., FORMER AIR FORCE

PILOT

7A. VERY CLEAR, NO CLOUD COVER.

B. SURFACE-315 DEGREES, 10 KNTS

5000 FT-350 DEGREES, 20 KNTS

10000 FT -300 DEGREES, 25 KNTS

15000 ~~QTPPP~~ FT -280 DEGREES, 35 KNTS

20000 ~~WPPPP~~ FT -270 DEGREES, 45 KNTS

30000 FT -250 DEGREES, 85 KNTS

45000 ~~RTPPP~~ FT -260 DEGREES, 80 KNTS.

C. UNLIMITED

D. UNLIMITED

E. NONE

F. NONE

8. OVER THE COASTLINE THERE WAS A SUBSTANCE INVERSION AT 6000 FEET.

9. NONE

10. NONE

TT MSG (FLASH MSG) WDIN 5281

RE INCIDENT

Rsch 4E4

Reply from Cambridge Research Center - on ATICS gun balloon experiments or tests in that area

3 4x2a

VSQH011T SQF136 TYD199EBF1039 10 1 58 13 34

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJEPBF 3B

P 101400Z

FM COMDR AFCRC

TO COMDR ATIC WPAFB

BT

UNCLAS FROM CRZD-1-1-E (P-6665). FOR AFCIN-4E4 PD TESTS WERE CONDUCTED OF AERIALLY LAUNCHED RADAR REFLECTIVE BALLONS ON 12 AND 13 DECEMBER 1957 PD IN EACH CASE CMA THE BALLOON LAUNCHING DEVICE WAS DROPPED AT FOUR THOUSAND FEET ALTITUDE AND THE BALLOON WAS INFLATED AND RELEASED AT AN ALTITUDE OF TWO THOUSAND FEET PD THE BALLOONS WERE SPHERICAL CMA APPROXIMATELY SEVENTEEN FEET IN DIAMETER AND CONSISTED OF A SANDWICH CONSTRUCTION OF TWO LAYERS OF POLYETHYLENE PLASTIC AND ONE LAYER OF ALUMINUM FOIL PD IN THE ABSENCE OF EXACT INFORMATION FROM THE PROJECT ENGINEER CMA IT IS PRESUNED THAT THE BALLOONS ASCENDED TO A CEILING ALTITUDE OF FORTY THOUSAND FEET CMA FLOATED ON OR NEAR THAT

11. WING STAFF INTELLIGENCE OFFICER. WITH WEATHER INVERSION AND CLEAR CONDITIONS A GREAT AMOUNT OF REFRACTIVE AND REFLECTIVE ACTION WAS POSSIBLE. NO ANALYSIS OF POSSIBLE CAUSE OF SIGHTING.

12 NONE.

BT

130235Z OCT RJEPDG

COUNTRY OF ACTIVITY REPORTING: USA-MATS

REPORT NO.

(Leave blank)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY OR AREA REPORT CONCERNS: Massachusetts USA	DATE OF INFORMATION: 12 Oct 57	
ACTIVITY SUBMITTING REPORT: Hq 1608th Air Transport Wing (M) Charleston Air Force Base, S. C.	DATE OF COLLECTION: 15 Oct 57	SRI STATUS (If applicable) SRI NO. CANCELED/COMPLETE
PREPARING INDIVIDUAL: T/Sgt. Henry B. Alton NCOIC Intelligence Section	DATE OF REPORT: 16 Oct 57	SRI NO. CANCELED/INCOMPLETE
NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE: Mr. George R. Omufer (Captain USAFR) Box 668, Charleston, South Carolina	EVALUATION: A-6	SRI NO. ACTIVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON (Date)

REFERENCES (BAIR Subject, previous reports, etc., as applicable)

480T

SUBJECT (Descriptive title. Use individual reports for separate subjects)

Unidentified Flying Object or Unconventional Aircraft.

SUMMARY (Give summary which highlights the salient factors of narrative report. Begin narrative text on AF Form 112a unless report can be fully stated on AF Form 112. List inclosures, including number of copies)

1. Attached is a report of unidentified flying object, cylindrical in shape with trihedral protrusions on front, back and rear. Sighting was made at 2035Z 12 October 1957 by five observers while on a fishing trip off Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts.

a. Inclosure number two is a sketch of object.

b. Inclosure number three is sketch of boat's position in relation to object, as source was unable to give boats heading or exact position.

2. This information was telephoned in to the Base Operations Officer at Ottis AFB, but source left to return to Charleston, South Carolina before finding out if report was satisfactorily completed.

APPROVED: J. B. HOLLEY
Major, USAF
Intelligence Officer

3 INCLS
1. Report
2. Sketch of object
3. Sketch of boat position

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR (Except USAF and file. Indicate Dupl M/oz and copies w/o inclosures, if applicable)

Hq CNTLD w/o Incls 2 and 3

DISTRIBUTION BY ADC: Original to ACS/I, HEDUSAF
Copy to Comdr, ATIC
Copy to Comdr, ADC

WARNING: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Section 793 and 794. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to

CEILING ALTITUDE OF FORTY THOUSAND FEET CMA FLOATED ON OR NEAR THAT

ALTITUDE UNTIL TWO TO THREE HOURS BEFORE SUNSET CMA AND THEN DESCENDED TO THE SEA BEFORE DARKNESS PD THERE WERE NO PROJECTIONS FROM THE BALLOON EXCEPT A SMALL STABILIZING PAYLOAD OF ABOUT FOUR POUNDS SUSPENDED TWO FEET BELOW THE BALLOON PD THE DEVICE WHICH PERFORMED THE BALLOON INFLATION AND RELEASE DESCENDED TO THE GROUND AND WAS RECOVERED SOME TEN MINUTES FROM THE START OF THE TEST PD /S/ ATMOSPHERIC DEVICES LABORATORY.

BT

10/1720Z JAN RJEPBF

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY	REPORT NO.	PAGE 3 OF 6 PAGES
Hq, 1608th ATW (M) Charleston AFB, S. C.		

(5) Location of observers: All observers were on the same boat. Mr. [redacted] was unable to give the heading of the boat. Their position was approximately 800 yards off Martha's Vinyard and one to two miles ESE of Woodshole, Massachusetts. Subject stated that Mr. [redacted] would be able to give the correct heading and position.

(6) Identifying information of all observers:

(a) Capt [redacted], age 46, Master, Research Vessel [redacted], Oceangraph Institute, Woodshole, Mass.

Capt [redacted], age 46, Master, Research Vessel [redacted], Oceangraph Institute, Woodshole, Mass.

Mr. Ronald Veeder (Major, USAFR), Assistant to Director Oceangraph Institute, Woodshole, Mass.

Mr. [redacted], age 42, [redacted] Charleston, S. C., President, [redacted], Charleston, S. C.

Mr. [redacted] (Capt, USAFR, [redacted]), age 35, [redacted] Charleston, S. C., Manager, [redacted], Charleston, S. C.

(b) None.

(7) Weather and winds-aloft conditions:

(a) Clear, no ceiling, visibility 15 miles, no cloud cover and no thunderstorms observed in or near area of sighting.

(b) Negative.
(c) Negative.
(d) Negative.
(e) Negative.
(f) Negative.

No wind tracks?

See Navy Rept ONI Ser. No 43-57 dtd 14 Nov. and TLMsg WGIN-528 dtd 13 Oct 57 fr. 551st AEW Unit, OTis Mass — for offical winds.
ONI rept: winds from W—NW
TLMsg: winds (2000-5000) 310° (W-NW)
Therefore wind in both reports, from W-NW

(8) Negative.

(9) Negative.

(10) Approximately thirty minutes after sighting, a C-121 was observed performing what appeared to be touch-and-go landings at Ottis AFB.

Object appears to have been moving in same direction.

(11) See paragraph 4.

(12) None.

c. Mr. [redacted] stated they telephoned a report in to the Operations Officer, Ottis AFB, Massachusetts, at approximately 2100122 October 1957 but

1. In accordance with AFR 200-2, dtd 12 August 1954, the following UFOB report is submitted.

2. On 15 October 1957, the following information was reported to this organization:

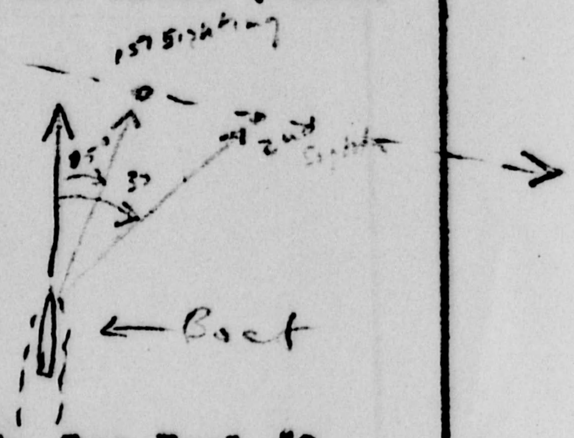
a. While on a fishing trip, one to two miles ESE of Woodshole, Massachusetts, Mr. [redacted] (Capt, [redacted]), his brother and three companions sighted an unidentified flying object at 203512Z October 1957.

b. Listed below is data as prescribed in paragraph 7d, AFR 200-2:

(1) Description of object:

(a) Cylindrical.
(b) Nickel. — SHAPE
(c) Aluminum. — color
(d) One.
(e) N/A.
(f) Tribedral protrusions on front, rear and sides (exact number unknown).
(g) None.
(h) None.
(i) None.

Therefore, object was moving from W-NW seeing apparent North



(2) Description of course of object:

(a) Capt Maysons sighted object first.
(b) Overhead, 15 degrees to the right.
(c) Approximately 35 degrees to the right. See Incl #3.
(d) When first sighted overhead, object appeared to be falling at a high rate of speed, it then slowed down and began moving comparatively slow to the right, then reversed its course and began moving to the left at approximately the same speed, then reversed its course again to the right and disappeared at a high rate of speed. Object appeared to stay at the same altitude, after its initial descent, until disappearing. ← Note
(e) Object became wavy and blurred before fading from view.
(f) Approximately 20 seconds.

(3) Manner of observation:

(a) Ground-visual.
(b) Binoculars (make and power unknown).
(c) N/A.

(4) Time and date of sighting:

(a) 203512Z October 1957. — 2035Z — 5 =
(b) Day.

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ORIGINATING AGENCY	REPORT NO	PAGE 4 OF 6 PAGES
Hq, 1608th ATW (M) Charleston AFB, S. C.		

left to return to Charleston before he found out if the report was satisfactorily completed. In view of the exceptional good sighting and number of persons observing this object, he felt he should report it again.

3. Mr. [redacted] was the only one I contacted as his brother was not available. Subject has been on active duty as an officer in the USAF for approximately ten years, flying both jet and multi-engine aircraft and appears to be completely reliable. In view of the fact that action has most probably been taken and distance involved, no attempt has been made to investigate or analyze this report.

Henry B. Alton

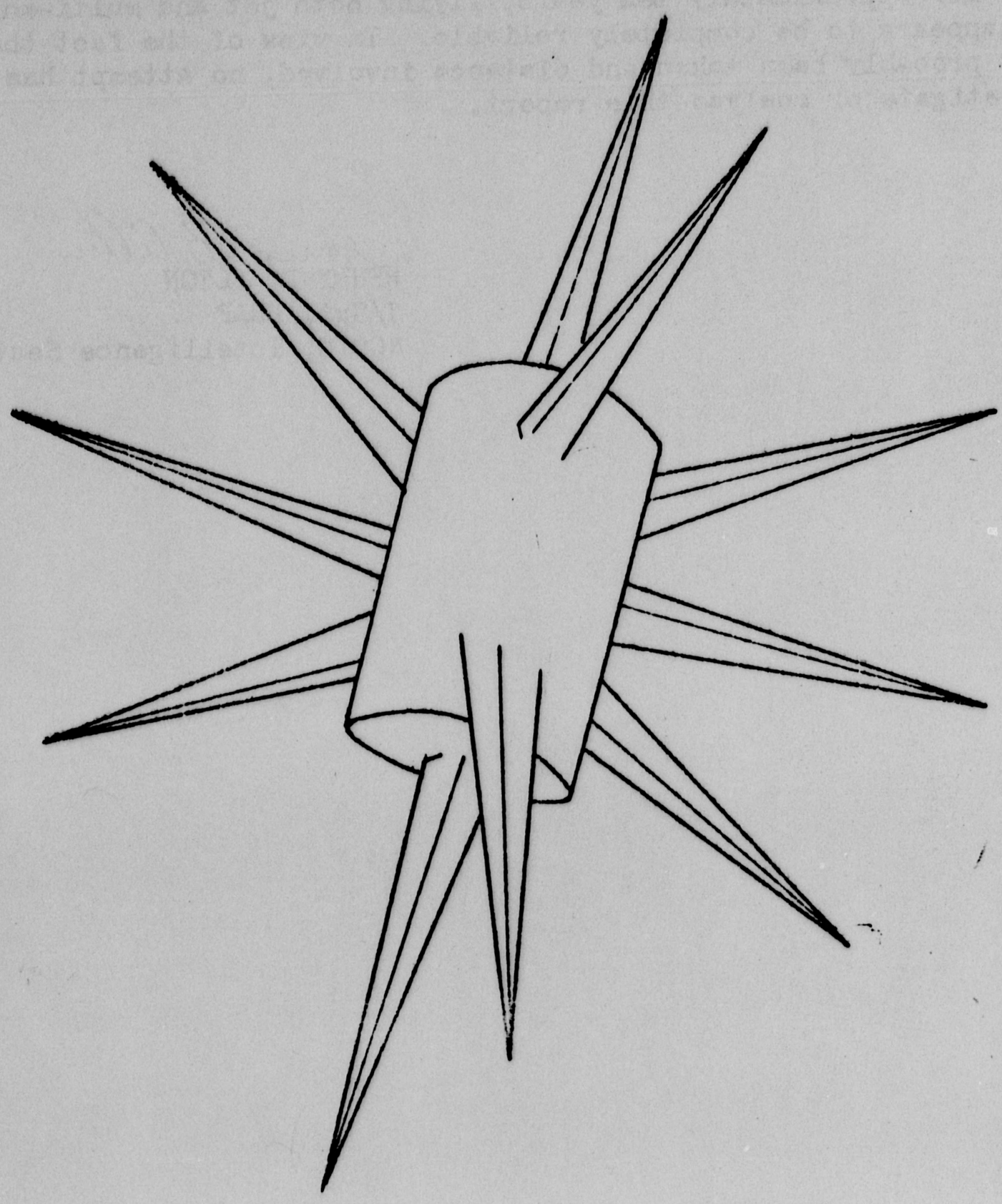
HENRY B. ALTON
T/Sgt, USAF
NCOIC, Intelligence Section

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SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY	REPORT NO.	PAGE 5 OF 6 PAGES
Hq 1608th Air Transport Wing (M) Charleston Air Force Base, S. C.		



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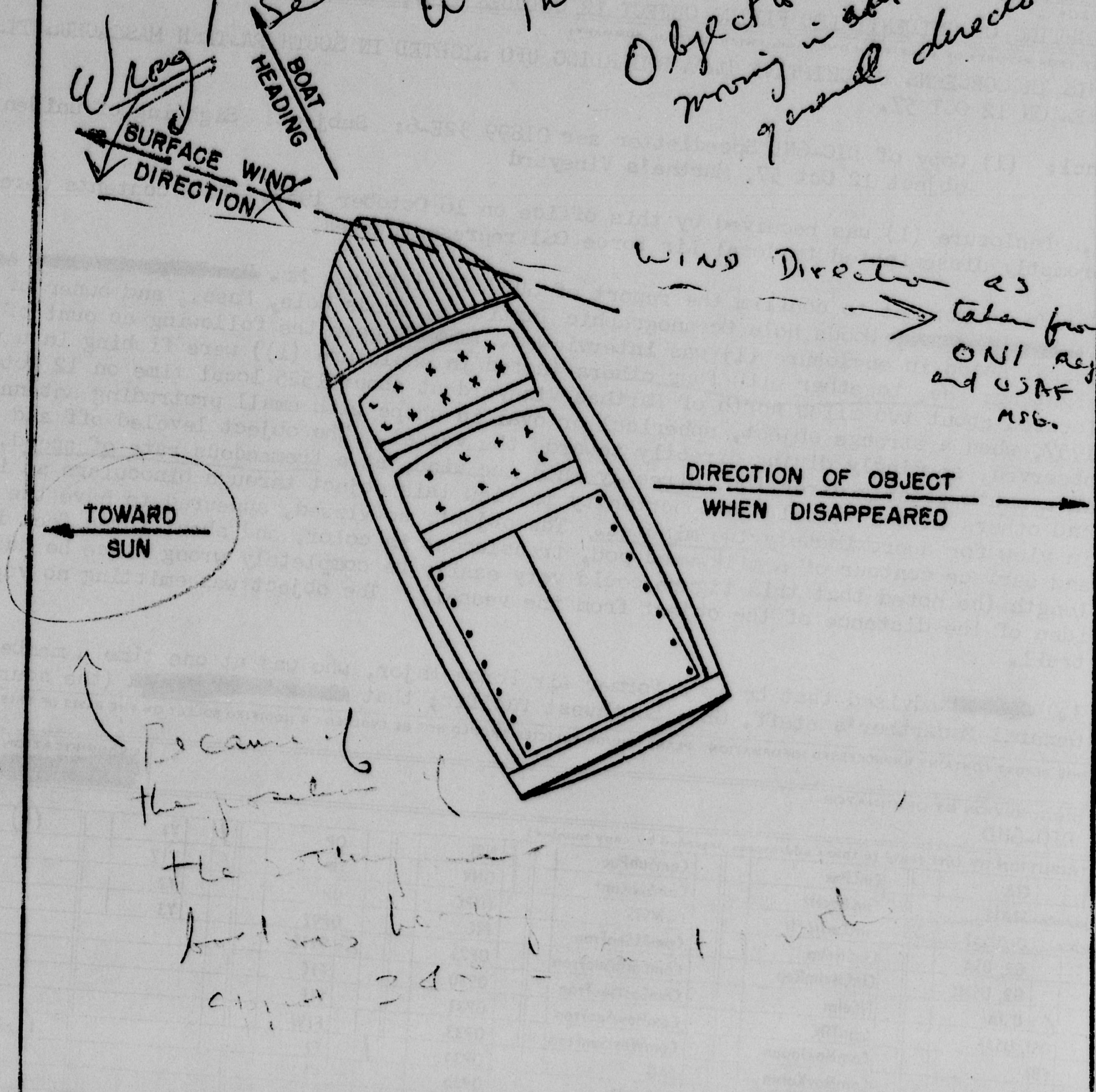
ORIGINATING AGENCY	REPORT NO.	PAGE 6 OF 6 PAGES
Eq 1608th Air Transport Wing (M) Charleston Air Force Base, S. C.		

See 2h(2) and 2h(7)

Winds were from the West-Northwest.

Objects were therefore moving in about same general direction

Wing 1



Became the problem [illegible]

[illegible]

Exhibit #3

4E4J

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFIC[redacted]

INFORMATION REPORT
OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

OPNAV FORM 3820-2 (REV. 6-57)

SERIAL NO. 43-57

DATE OF INFORMATION: 16 Oct - 6 Nov 1957

DATE OF REPORT: 14 November 1957

FROM: District Intelligence Officer, 1-ND

SOURCE: Various

JAN 2 1958.

EVALUATION: B-3

REQUEST NO.:

SUBJECT: SIGHTING OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT 12 OCTOBER 1957, MARTHAS VINEYARD

BRIEF (FOR REPORTS OF MORE THAN ONE PAGE, ENTER CAREFUL SUMMARY)

THIS IR CONCERNS DESCRIPTIVE DATA REGARDING UFO SIGHTED IN SOUTH EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS AREA ON 12 OCT 57.

Encl: (1) Copy of DIO-6ND Speedletter ser 01899 32E-6: Subject: Sighting of unidentified object 12 Oct 57, Martha's Vineyard

1. Enclosure (1) was received by this office on 16 October 1957. It's contents were promptly disseminated to local Air Force OSI representatives.

2. In an attempt to confirm the report of SUBJECT sighting, Mr. [redacted], Assistant to [redacted], Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute, Woods Hole, Mass., and owner of the vessel noted in enclosure (1) was interviewed. [redacted] gave the following account of SUBJECT sighting: He, together with four others (noted in enclosure (1)) were fishing in a vessel located about two miles north of Marthas Vineyard at about 1525 local time on 12 October 1957, when a strange object, spherical or oval in shape with small protruding antennae was observed, seemingly diving directly towards the vessel. The object leveled off and headed in a southwesterly direction, directly into the wind, at a tremendous rate of speed. He and others in the vessel had opportunity to view this object through binoculars as it was in view for approximately two minutes. The object, so viewed, appeared to have the shape and surface contour of a milk-weed pod, translucent in color, and about three feet in length (he noted that this figure could very easily be completely wrong since he had no idea of the distance of the object from the vessel). The object was emitting no vapor trail.

3. [redacted] advised that he is a former Air Force Major, who was at one time a member of General MacArthur's staff, GHQ, Southwest Pacific; that [redacted] (the source of th

THIS REPORT CONTAINS UNPROCESSED INFORMATION. PLANS AND/OR POLICIES SHOULD NOT BE EVOLVED OR MODIFIED SOLELY ON THE BASIS OF THIS REPORT.

DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR: DIO-6ND

CLASSIFICATION: [redacted]

DISTRIBUTION BY ONI (only to those addressees preceded by copy number)

9		CIA			CinCPac			ComSubPac			NRL			OP			1	YI			(1)	ENCLOSURE
		STATE			CinCPacFlt			ComSubLant			ONR			OP			5	YIZ				M5
		DI/USAF			CinCLant/Flt			COMSTS			NTPC			OP				Y2				H1
0		G2, USA			CinCNelm			ComALSeaFron			PIC			OP92				Y3				F2
		G2, USMC			CinCNelmRep			ComCaribSeaFron			OP25		0	921E								N1
	0	USIA			FICelm			ComEastSeaFron			OP30			FIC								N2
		OSI, USAF			ComTDC			ComHawSeaFron			OP31			FIE								N3
		FBI			ComNavJapan			ComWestSeaFron			OP33			FIW								N4
		ICA			ComNavKorea			JAG			OP34		1	F2							(V)	(CC each add
		Commerce			ComNavMarianas			BuSandA			OP36			F3								CC each rpt
		AEC			ComMidEastFor			BuShips			OP37			F4								
1		USCG			ComNavPhil		2	BuAer			OP40			H1								
					Com1STFlt			BuDocks			OP41			H3L								4-3-3
		SecNav			Com2NDFlt			BuMed			OP50			H3M								ER.
		SecDef			Com6THFlt			BuOrd			OP55			H3T								5034949
					ComServ6Flt			BuPers			OP60			N1								[redacted]
					[illegible]			[illegible]			OP61			N2								

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE LAWS, TITLE 18, U.S.C., SECTIONS 793 AND 794. THE TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS MATERIAL IN ANY FORM, BY OTHER THAN DEFENSE ACTIVITIES IS NOT AUTHORIZED EXCEPT BY SPECIFIC APPROVAL OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (ONI).

information in enclosure (1))is a former jet pilot with considerable experience in identifying strange objects, and who at one time had been stationed at the Pentagon with the War Planning Division; and that two others in the group had been trained "observers" in the armed services. VEETER further advised that he and his companions felt that this object was definitely a controlled vehicle. [redacted] stated that he had made report of this sighting to authorities at Otis Air Force Base, Falmouth, Mass. at 2000 on 12 October 1957.

4. Mr. George D. MAX, chief, Technical Information and Intelligence Office, Air Force Cambridge Research Center, Hanscom Field, Bedford, Mass., stated that although reports of all U.F.O.'s sighted in the New England area should be directed to his office, no such report was received from Otis Air Force Base concerning SUBJECT sighting, nor were any such reports received concerning similar sightings on 12 October 1957.

5. Records of the Operations Office, NAS, Quonset Point, R.I. reflect that no aircraft from that station were in the Marthas Vineyard area at the time of SUBJECT sighting.

6. Records of the Operations Office, NAS, South Weymouth, Mass. reflect that between the hours of 1500 - 1700 (local time) 12 October 1957 approximately 34 planes, piloted by Reservists were in operation; approximately 20 of these aircraft were jets. The Operations officer advised that no record of the areas in which these planes had operated were kept, and that since no restriction are placed on the areas in which these planes may operate any of these craft might have been in the Marthas Vineyard area at the time of SUBJECT sighting. He advised that maximum height at which any of these planes would have operated is 25,000 feet. He further indicated that none of these planes would have been involved in any special operations such as air-to-air gunnery exercises, and that no lighter-than-air craft based at that station were in the air on 12 October 1957.

7. Mr. John C. DUNBAR, engineering pilot, Massachusetts Institute of Technology Instrumentation Laboratory, Flight Facility, Concord, Mass., advised that a dive-bombing test conducted by that facility was underway at the time of SUBJECT sighting in an area approximately 35 miles to the northeast of Marthas Vineyard. DUNBAR stated that he, himself, piloted the F-94 involved in this test, but indicated that on no occasion had he come closer to Marthas Vineyard than to pass twenty miles to the north of it. He noted that the speed of his F-94 would approach 500 mph during a dive, and that each dive would last from 10 to 15 seconds. He further noted that since the plane used in the test was silver in color it could very easily have been reflecting sunlight to any observer to the west at that time of day.

8. Records of the Aerology Office, NAS, South Weymouth, Mass. reflect the following surface weather conditions for 12 October 1957: skies clear, visibility 15 miles or greater all day; surface winds of 10 kts. from west northwest, with maximum gusts of 28 kts.; temperature - minimum 37 degrees, maximum 59 degrees, average 47.6 degrees; relative humidity at 1300 51 per cent, at 1900 38 per cent. Records further reflect clear skies at 20,000 ft. with average 35 kt. winds from 310 degrees; temperature - 2 degrees. Good flying conditions prevailed throughout the entire 24 hour period.

[redacted]

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1957—428909

INFORMATION REPORT

OPNAV FORM 3820-2 (C) (REV. 6-55)

CLASSIFICATION	FROM	REPORT NO.	DATE
C[redacted]	District Intelligence Officer, 1ND	43-57	14 November 1957

Preparing Officer's Comment: This report is forwarded as a possible aid in evaluating SUBJECT sighting as originally reported in enclosure (1). Considering the backgrounds of ONUFER and VEETER, it appears that this sighting may be more reliably reported than might at first be deemed. Furthermore, it is noted that this reported sighting appears to contain certain details not altogether inconsistent with the reports of more recent and highly publicized sightings in Texas, New Mexico and other areas.

DIO-6ND has been requested to reinterview Michael R. ONUFER in order to obtain a sketch of the object sighted to be forwarded direct to ONI.

Prepared:
J. V. McCartin
J. V. McCARTIN
ENS, USNR

Forwarding Officer's Comment: If a jet were at extreme altitude, there most likely would have been a vapor trail, even though this incident occurred before severe cold fronts were frequent in New England. Also, any possible jet in the area appears to be those piloted by Reservists who would likely not have flown above 25,000 ft. Any jet diving and pulling out, would have become of longer and more identifiable size to an observer with binoculars, therefore it appears that the unidentified object was possibly/probably not a jet aircraft.

Forwarded:
P. T. Haughey, Jr.
P. T. HAUGHEY, JR.
CDR, USNR
ACTING

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

AG [illegible] ACCEPT PRIOR TO CATEGORY [illegible] CALLY REMOVE ALL INTERN[illegible] E-TIME GROUP PRIOR TO DECLA[illegible] UNCLASSIFIED REFERENCE IF THE DATE-TIME GROUP IS QUOTED

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION PRIORITY	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE X	AF	ORIGINAL	
INFO						

FROM: COMDR ATIC

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

TO: CMDR, AF CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH CENTER, LAURENCE G. HANSCOM FIELD, BEDFORD, MASS.

JEPBF

FROM: AFCIN-4E4

Ic 40026

REQUEST INFORMATION IMMEDIATELY IF YOUR CENTER HAS KNOWLEDGE OF ANY PROTOTYPES OR NEW DESIGNS OF RADAR GCR CORNER REFLECTORS OF TYPES USUALLY SUSPENDED BELOW BALLOONS. INFORMED THAT AFCRC HAS DONE OR IS ENGAGED IN THIS TYPE PROJECT. UNUSUAL OBJECT IN AIR REPORTED OFF MARTHA'S VINEYARD, BY WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE, US NAVY, AND OTHER RELIABLE SOURCES. OBJECT FIRST OBSERVED 12 OCTOBER. APPEARED SPHERICAL, OTHERS REPORTED IT AS CYLINDRICAL - BUT WITH PROTUDANCES RESEMBLING SPIKES OR ANTENNA. ORIGINAL REPORT STATES OBJECT STATIONARY, THEN MOVED, GIVING CREDENCE TO CONNECTION WITH BALLOON MOVEMENTS, AS HAS BEEN THE CASE OF REPORTS LATER FOUND TO HAVE BEEN CORNER REFLECTORS SUSPENDED BELOW BALLOONS. ANY COMMENTS, LEADS OR CLUES WOULD BE APPRECIATED. REQUIREMENT FROM HIGHER LEVELS REQUIRES EXPEDIENT

Page 1 of 2 Pages

Cy 1 of 4 Cys

Initials RK
Time 0845
Checked by

[redacted]

DATE 08 | TIME 1030

MONTH JAN | YEAR 1958

WRITER

SYMBOL AFCIN-4E4

TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required) Capt G.T. Gregory

PHONE 69216 | PAGE NR. 1 | NR. OF PAGES 2

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASER

SIGNATURE Robert E. O'Connor

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE

ROBERT E. O'CONNOR
Captain, USAF
Assistant Adjutant

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS.
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

JOINT MESSAGEFORM - CONTINUATION SHEET

SECURITY CL[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM:

COMDR ATIC

ACTION. IN REPLY REFER TO AFCIN-4E4.

COORDINATION:

AFCIN-4E4 H.A. Miley DATE 8 Jan. 58
Dr. H. A. Miley

AFCIN-4E HK Gilbert DATE 8 Jan 58
Col H.K. Gilbert

AFCIN-4X1 A Francis Arcier DATE 8 Jan 58
Mr. A. F. Arcier

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

Page 2 of 2 Pages
Cy 1 of 4 Cys

[redacted]

SYMBOL	PAGE NR	NR OF PAGES	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	INITIALS
AFCIN-4E[redacted]	2	2	[redacted]	

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173-1

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1956—332238

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

14 February 1958

Major General James H. Walsh
Deputy, Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence
Headquarters, USAF
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear General Walsh,

I promised to send you the report on the sightings in Long Island Sound which you brought to my attention during your last and very welcome visit to this Center. The delay in doing this is due to the fact that you had mentioned "Buffalo" and "2000 MPH" as having been involved. I told you that I remembered "High Speed" which might have inferred the latter and that I thought I remembered hearing "Buffalo". In this case, I must have been mistaken; we can find no sighting involving it. Maybe, I had better give you the synopsis which I had in mind and which did involve the United States Navy and "Martha's Vineyard" around 14 October 1957.

1. This Center received three separate reports of the incident with a "Blitz Evaluation" request from the Office of Naval Intelligence the first in three years.

2. A careful study, based on the data available (some which was inconsistent), and check of activities and operations in the area indicates that the object was undoubtedly a balloon with a radar reflector of the "corner type". A detailed evaluation with supporting material was sent to the Navy on 16 January 1958.

UNCLASSIFIED

Letter to General Walsh dtd 14 Feb 58

3. This report contained the following significant points:

a. No report of anything unusual in the air at that time was received from any of some 34 aircraft known to be near the area of the sighting at that time.

b. No report of UFOs from radar units which scan the area 24 hours a day.

c. Information from Cambridge Air Force Research Center discloses that area used for tests of aerially launched radar-reflector balloons.

d. The fact that the object was seen, from a small moving boat, by a former GHQ staff officer, a jet pilot, and "trained" military observer, respectively, does not rule out the possibility of failure to recognize a conventional object under the particular circumstances existing at the time. There are many such cases on record in the UFO program. (Reference is made to suggested letter from General Lewis to General Partridge, copy of which is inclosed.)

e. The object was described, by the various reports, as varying from cylindrical to round and from "hovering" to "High Speed". All statements agreed that the object appeared to have protuberances of some sort.

4. I hope this will give you the information you needed.

Sincerely,

A. FRANCIS ARCIER
AFCIN-4X1

2 Incls
1. Examples of UFO Mis-identification
2. Proposed letter to Gen. Partridge

Check on the "SAC-ADC" alert of last September (?), when SAC was practically on way to target. Gen. W. wants info. Attach SAC info.

Reply: Spurious targets picked up on 20 Sept 57. Not same as this case. See UFO Case File 20 Sept 57 - MONTAUK N.Y.

General Earle E. Partridge
Commander-in-Chief
North American Air Defense Command
Ent Air Force Base, Colorado

Dear General Partridge:

I am taking the liberty of informally bringing to your attention a matter which is regarded with some concern by my staff. I refer to the grave consequences that can result from pilots, radar units and other military observers mistaking natural aerial phenomena such as fireballs, bolides, or other meteorites for hostile devices. This concern is shared by scientists participating in the International Geophysical Year, as well as others in the field of meteorics.

In periods of tense international relations or impending hostilities, mistakes of this nature could conceivably set our retaliatory forces into motion prematurely.

Our ten years experience with the UFO Program has demonstrated that training, flight experience and education or status in life do not necessarily preclude such mistakes and the growing concern with satellite, guided missiles and so-called flying saucers has heightened speculation and anxiety on the part of many.

During the last twelve months, a large number of meteorites was reported throughout the country. One large brilliant fireball was observed simultaneously by numerous pilots and ground observers in six Western states, last October. The unfortunate aspect of the incident was the disclosure that a number of pilots were of the opinion that the object was a missile.

Letter to General Partridge

All this is submitted in the interest of the nation's defense system and for whatever action you may consider necessary.

Sincerely,

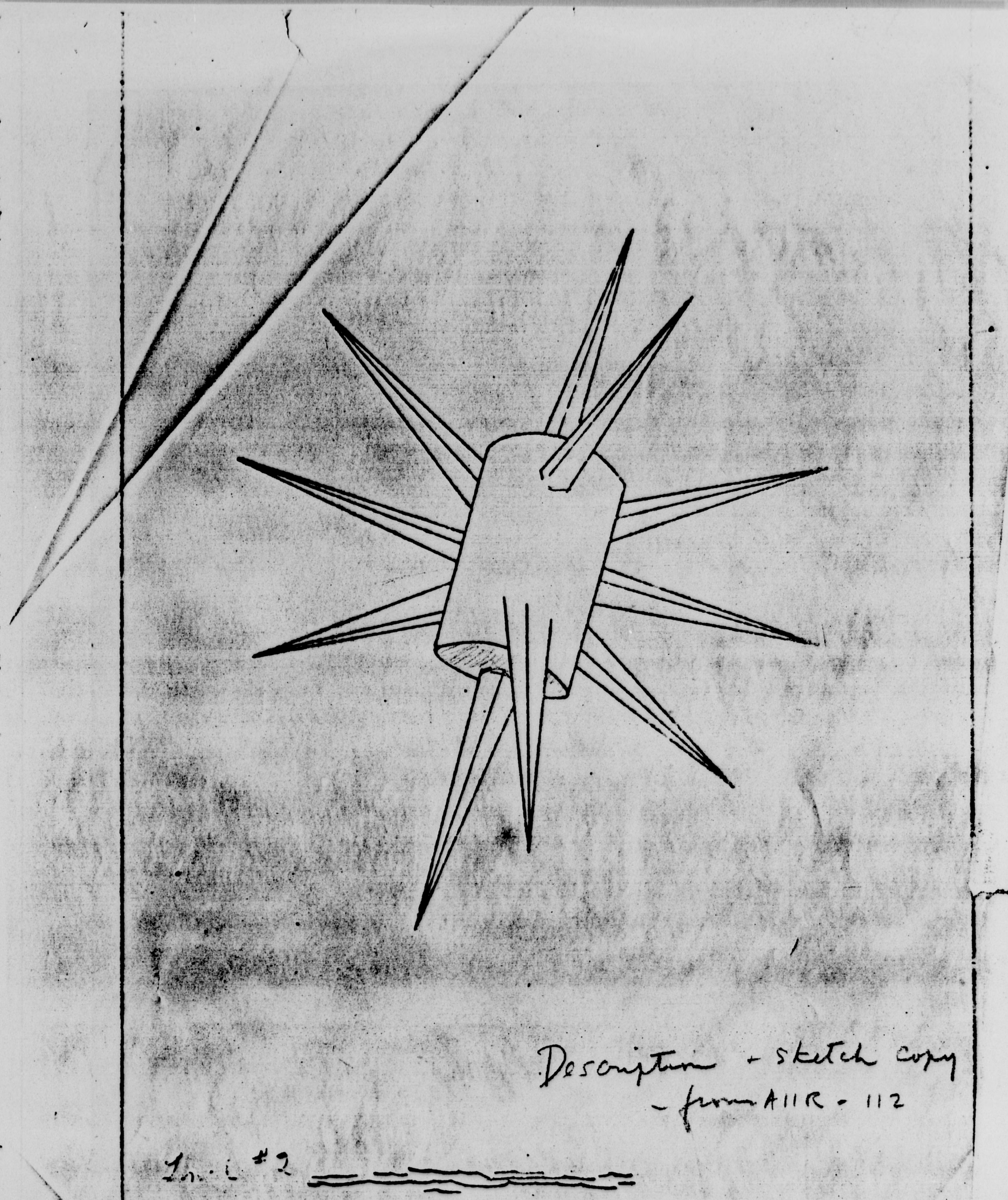
MILLARD LEWIS
Major General, USAF
Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence

This CASE INCLUDES
four 8"x10" photos of
sighting, MARTHA'S VINEYARD
12 OCT 57

An earlier sighting was brought to light by the National Investigations Committee On Aerial Phenomena in Washington, D.C. when it uncovered a 1957 "Hidden UFO Report", which had been reported to Otis Air Force Base on October 12, 1957. At 3:20 P.M. a strange round object, bearing southeast, approached a fishing boats Atlantic and Bear and the Sport Fisherman near Martha's Vineyard, Mass. The sky was clear, wind north, 5 m.p.h. The UFO traveled at a "great rate" of speed.

The object as seen through binoculars, appeared to be a sphere with sensing elements or spikes protruding from it. The tips of the "spikes" were red. Several weeks later on November 4 an object described as a "sphere with fins surrounding it" was sighted from Cathedral City, California.

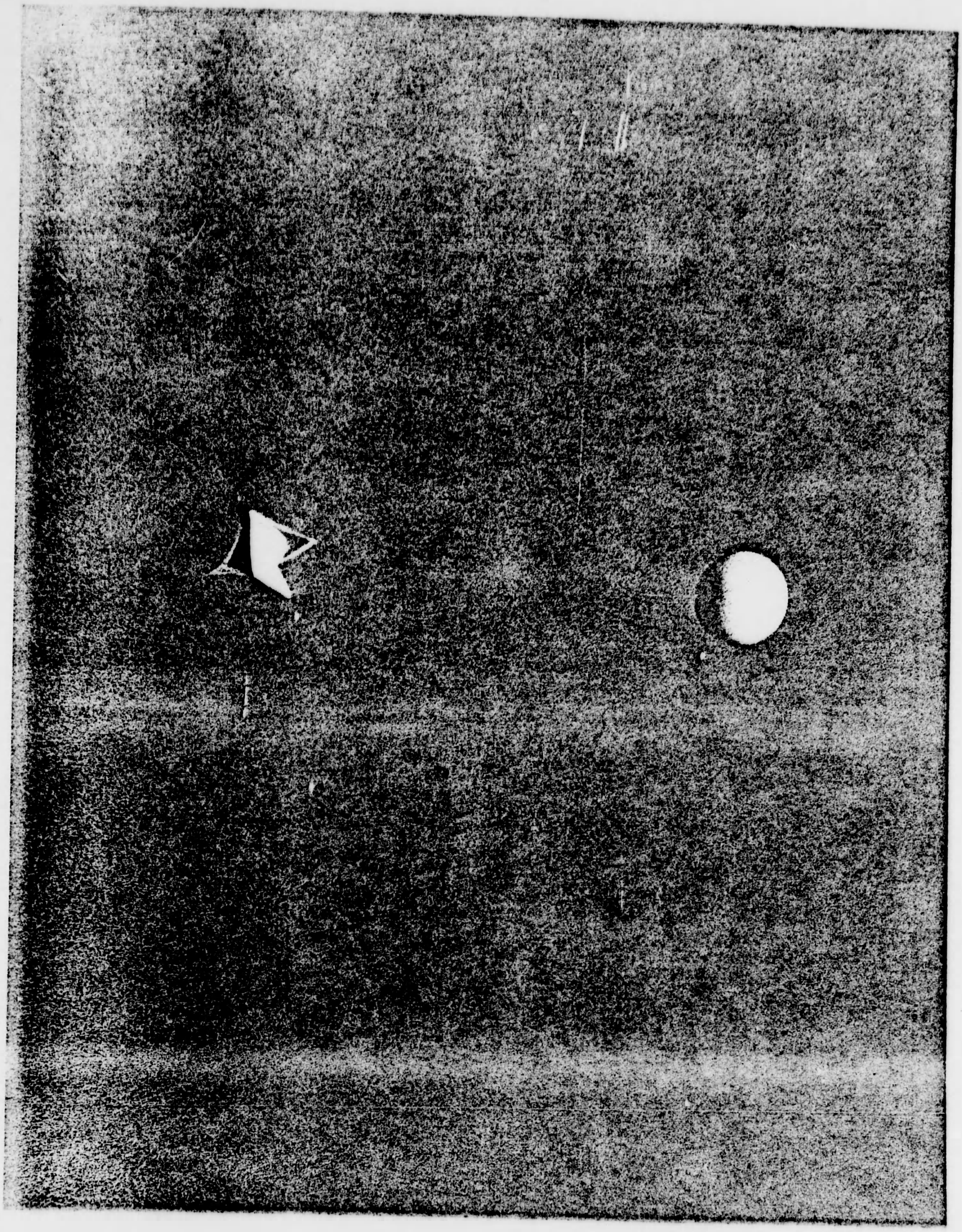
The Massachusetts sighting was turned in by three members of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution-R[redacted]r, Captain S[redacted] of the fishing boat '[redacted] and Captain [redacted]a of the [redacted]. With these were two fliers from Charleston, South Carolina, one an Air Force jet pilot. All five men were aboard [redacted] boat, the Sports Fisherman.

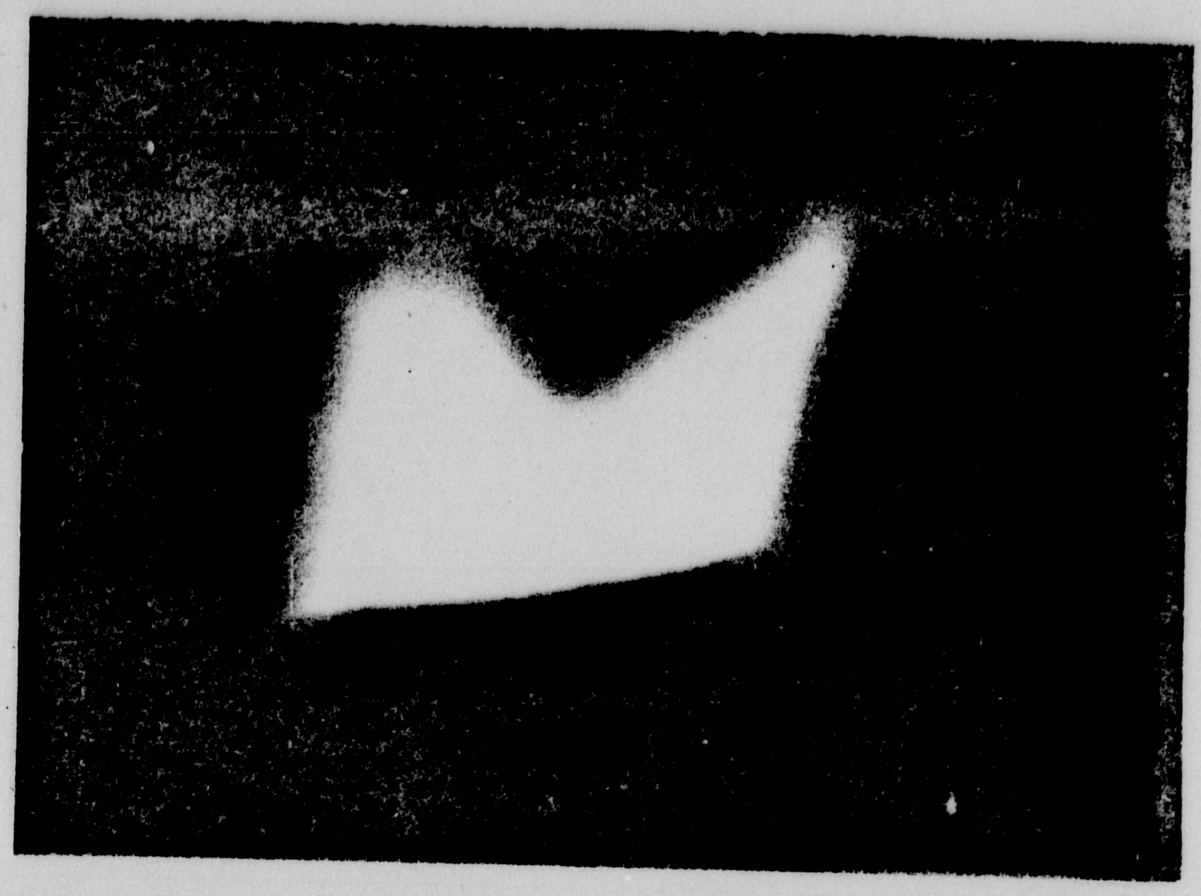


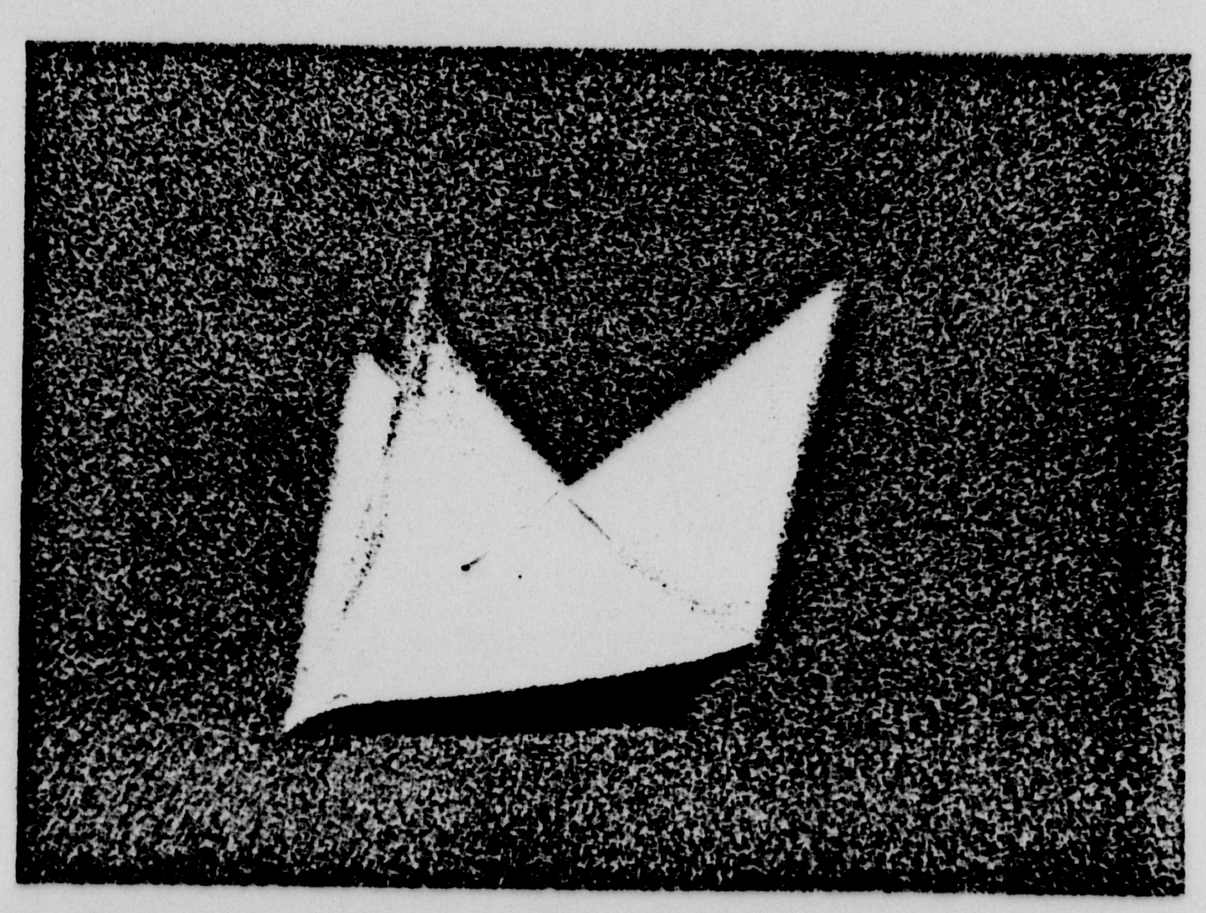
Description + sketch copy
- from AIIR - 112

Ex. # 2

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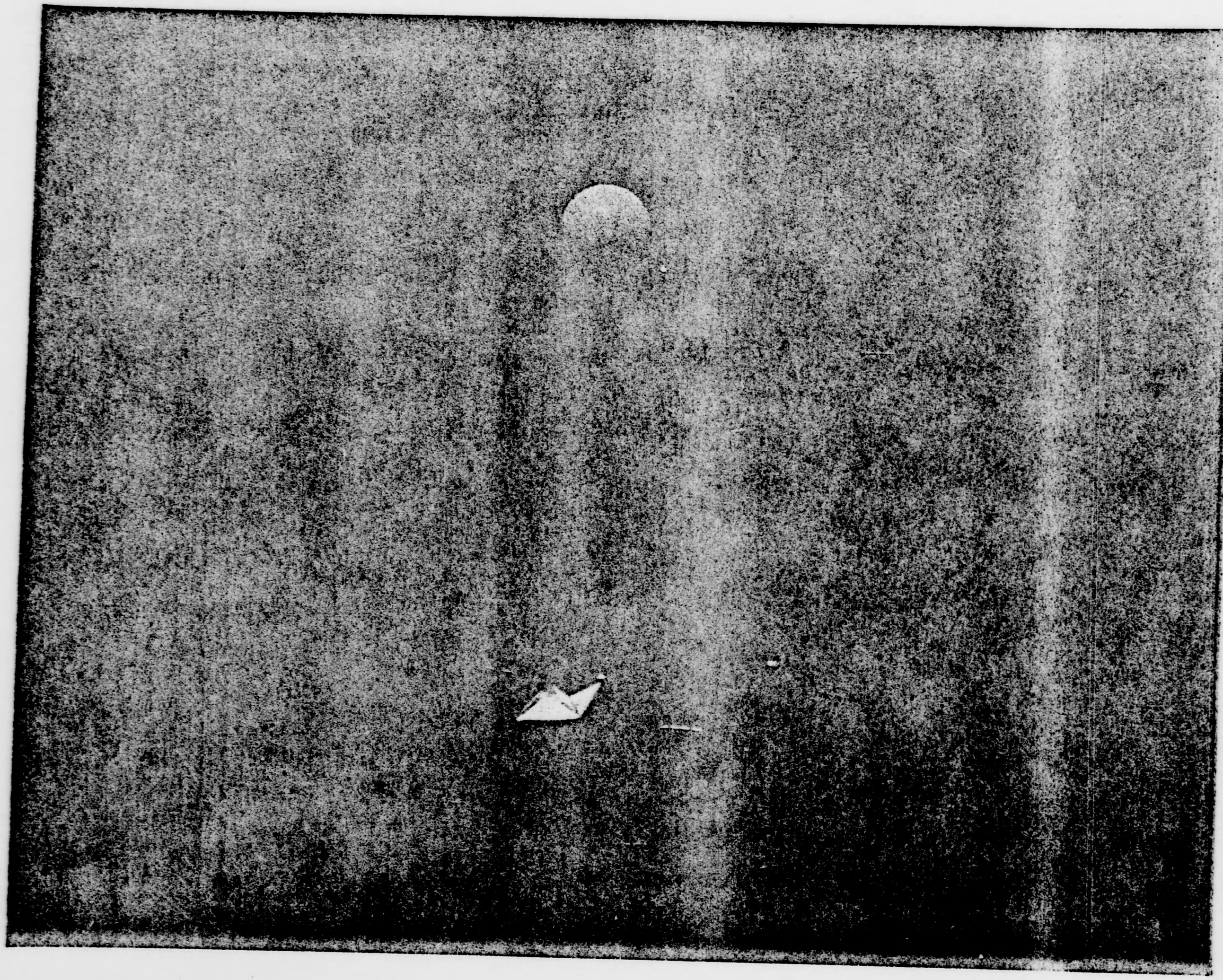


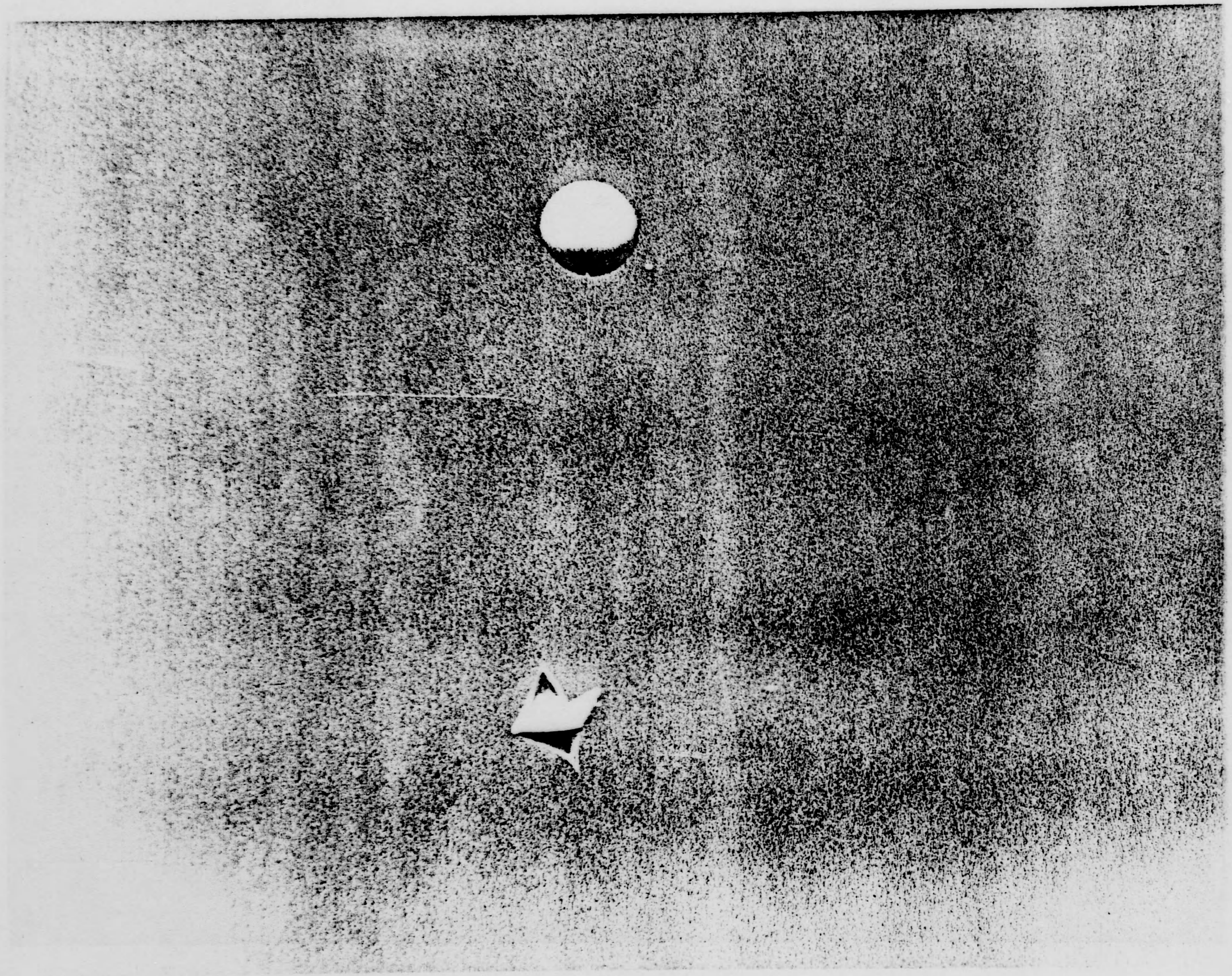




(See over)

Below Photograph





"HIDDEN" UFO REPORTS GIVEN NICAP

Dozens of earlier UFO reports, withheld by witnesses or unpublicized for other reasons, have now been released to NICAP, mainly as a result of our appeal published in the June issue of Argosy Magazine. Among the sightings reported by trained observers was a case certified by former AF Maj. Donald A. Veeder; a low altitude UFO operation seen by pilots and Ground Observer Corps observers; and a report by a member of the British Astronomical Association.

The report from Mr. Veeder was obtained for NICAP by Walter N. Webb, lecturer in astronomy for the Charles Hayden Planetarium in Boston. (Mr. Webb has recently become a NICAP special adviser. See separate story.)

[redacted], AFB, occurred on Oct. 17, 1957. Witnesses included three members of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution—Ronald A. Veeder, Capt. Scott Brey of the fishing-boat Atlantic, and Capt. Eugene Nysens of the [redacted]. With these three were two fliers from Charleston, S.C., one an AF jet pilot. All five men were aboard Veeder's boat, the Sport Fisherman, near Martha's Vineyard, Mass. The sky was clear, wind north, 5 m.p.h.

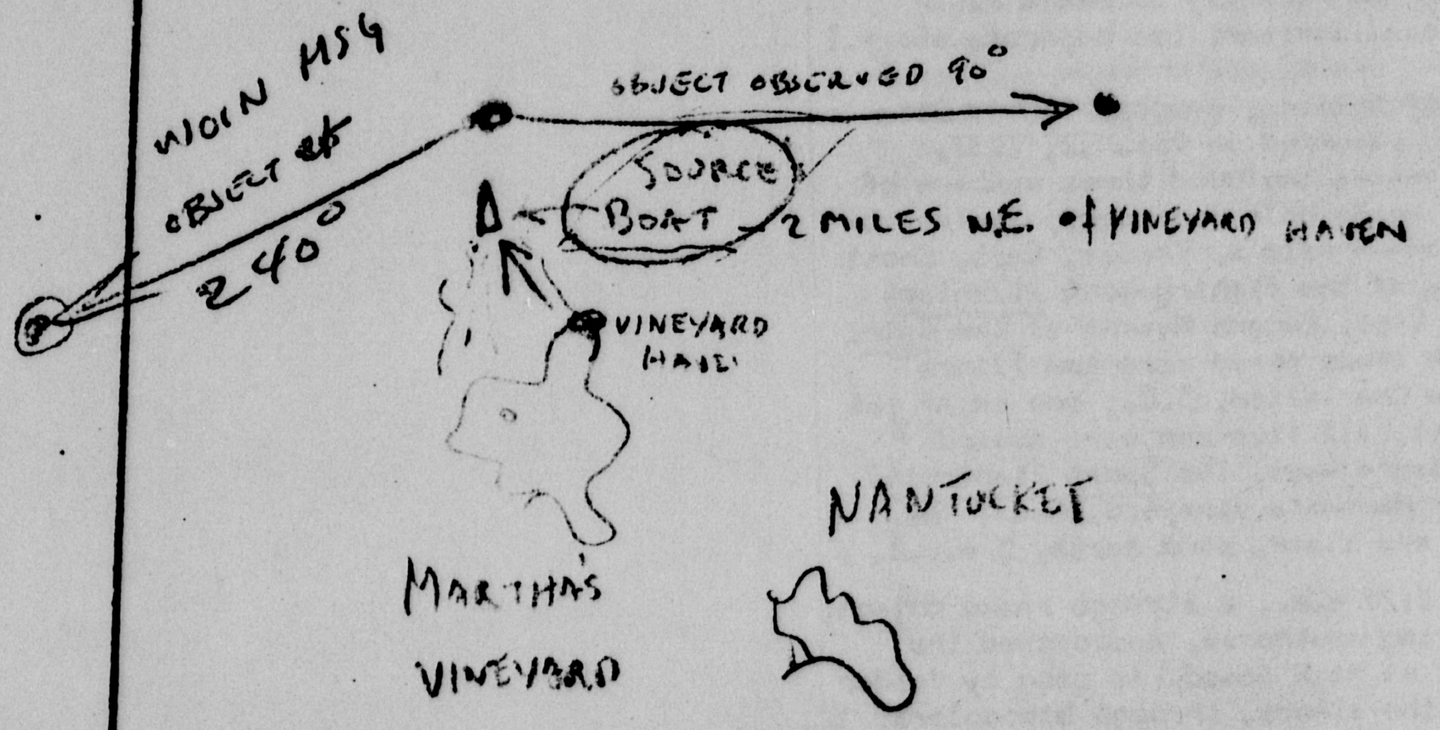
At 3:20 p.m., a strange round object, bearing southeast, approached the boat at high speed. As seen by Veeder and the others, through binoculars, the UFO appeared to be a sphere with sensing elements or spikes protruding from it. The tips of the "spikes" were red.

The unknown object hovered for about two minutes, then took off to the southwest. Because the witnesses had no way of evaluating the size or distance of the UFO, they could not determine its velocity. But the five men, all excellent observers, agreed on the objective reality.

"We do know," Veeder reported, "that it came at an exceptionally fast rate of speed and went at a speed greater than any object we had ever seen. This was a case in which an individual is embarrassed as it seems so improbable...however, we do know that this was real and was reported to the AF without hesitation."

MEMO ROUTING SLIP	NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS		
1 NAME OR TITLE	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE

REMARKS



FROM NAME OR TITLE	DATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	TELEPHONE

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

☆ GPO : 1956—O-403481

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

1 NAME OR TITLE Ms. Arcia	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION 4x1	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE

REMARKS

Attached here are portions of two of the Martha Vineyard Reports
a. Flash TWX and description (sketch)
b. USAF Rept - description (sketch)
also, actual photographs of a corner reflector.

Believe these will help clarify the proposed report to Gen. Wood.

FROM NAME OR TITLE Capt. Gregory	DATE 13 Feb 58
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION AFOIN-4E4	TELEPHONE 6744

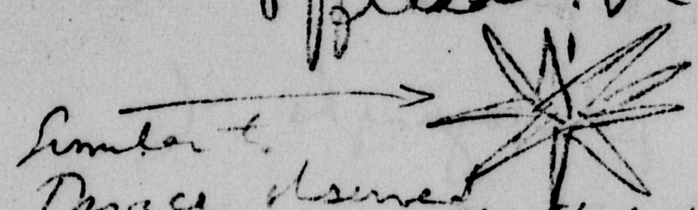
DD FORM 1 FEB 50 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

☆ GPO : 1956—O-403461

Lincoln Labs in Boston
& Cambridge, Mass

have been doing some
testing of Radar reflector
devices for target identification
projects

Suggest contact security
officer on project Lincoln



W. Maxim

P.S. Suggest having the
TI + IO Officer of AFCRC Mr. May
do the contacting at Lincoln Labs
for you

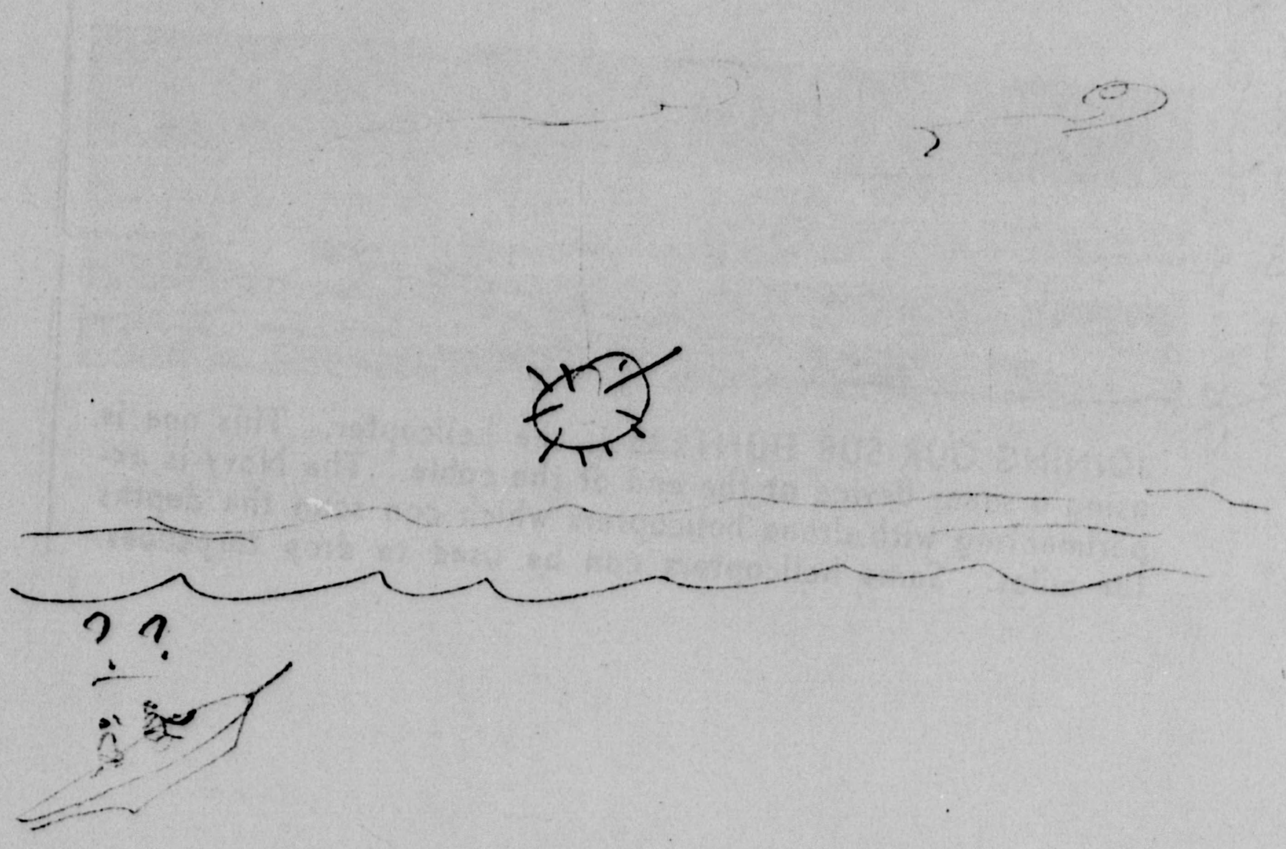
Tom

HELICOPTER



Plane laying smoke
by helicopter
by press secretary. This
says - Navy
Research conducted -
but has no data of
any interests
in area. JRD

CLOUDS





JOINING OUR SUB HUNTERS is the helicopter. This one is using a sonar device at the end of the cable. The Navy is experimenting with drone helicopters which can scan the depths for miles. Some helicopters can be used to drop torpedoes.