

visible at night, aircraft can have appearances ranging from disc to rocket in shape. Single jet bombers having multi-jet pods under their swept-back wings have been reported as UFO's or saucers in "V" formation. Vapor trails will often appear to glow with fiery red or orange streaks when reflecting sunlight. Afterburners are frequently reported as UFO's.

ASTRONOMICAL: This category includes bright stars, planets, nebulas, comets, and other celestial bodies. When observed through haze, light fog, or morning clouds, the planets Venus, Mars, and Jupiter have often been reported as "unconventional, moving things." Attempts to observe astronomical bodies through hand-held binoculars under adverse sky conditions has been a source of many UFO reports.

OTHER: Reflections, searchlights, birds, kites, blimps, clouds, wind-logs, sports radar indicators, lanterns, fireworks displays, flares, fireballs, ice crystals, balloons, etc. - as examples. Large Canadian geese flying low over a city at night, with street lights reflecting off their bodies, searchlights playing on scattered clouds, appearing as moving disc-like shapes.

INSUFFICIENT DATA: Sightings are placed in this category when essential or pertinent items of information are missing, making it impossible to form a valid conclusion. These include descriptions of the size, shape or color of the object; direction and altitude; exact time and location; wind and weather conditions, etc. Example: "observed an unusual object moving at high speed in the sky last night. - signed".
It should be emphasized that this category is not used as a convenient way to get rid of what might be referred to as "unknowns".

When the report shows inconsistency in the data available, or there is a doubt as to the observer's reliability, no attempt is made by the analyst to request more data. In the majority of instances where additional data is requested from the observer, the response is found to be inconsistent or at variance with the original report.