

UFO SIGHTING
 MANCHESTER, VERMONT
 5 February, 1965

On 5 February a man was returning from a basketball game with his three teenage children who he observed an object that resembled an aircraft streaking over a field in front of his house. The party jumped out of the car to get a better look at the object. The object was described as round, about 30 ft in diameter, with two red lights opposite each other and two blue lights opposite each other spaced at equal intervals along the circumference. They judged the object to be about 200 ft in altitude, hanging in the air. Almost immediately the object began to move and it changed its position by tilting until it was vertical with the earth's surface, whereas it had been horizontal previously. The altitude was assumed to be very low since the object could be observed through the trees on a hillside to the west of the observers' location. After the object began to move only the red lights were visible. Sound that accompanied the object began to move and the speed was tremendous. Total duration of the sighting was about 30 seconds.

The sighting was reported to the FBI on 17 Feb 65 in the form of a letter. This information was then forwarded to the Air Force for investigation. A team from Wright-Patterson investigated the sighting since the object presented characteristics that did not conform with known aircraft capabilities.

Subsequent investigation revealed that the sighting had indeed taken place and that the reported information was extremely accurate as to time, description, and other related information. It was determined that the initial phase of the sighting which presented the appearance of hovering could have been created as an illusion by an approaching aircraft. This was considered since sound of an aircraft had accompanied the object. The speed, as indicated by the duration of the sighting, meant that the object must have been greater than conventional aircraft. A check with related aircraft information revealed that an SR-71 (Boeing SR-71B Boeing) also used in SAC tracking missions was located near Lexington, Kentucky and that the flight path of a station could have passed over Manchester. A call to the 944 Air Force confirmed that this site was being used on the night of 5 February by units from westward AFB, Massachusetts, on low level missions. Their altitude was 2,000 ft and standard aircraft lighting was used. Witnesses were notified of the Air Force findings in the case, evaluated as an aircraft sighting.

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