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~~CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMATION~~

100-27-76430

MEMORANDUM

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1. This investigation instituted by Major GEORGE T. ORRINE, Station Commander, 10th District, Travis AFB, California, and based upon receipt of information contained in a letter from L. A. BURGESS, Major, AF Reserve, 7005 Barrows Street, Northridge, California, that Mr. J. WILSON, 2100 Alhambra Avenue, Meridian, California, with six witnesses saw a flying object described as spherical, flash across the sky at 2215 hours, 15 July 1952, and again at 2227 hours, 15 July 1952.

AT MERRILL, CALIFORNIA

2. On 19 August 1952, JAMES S. WILSON, Retiring Contractor, 2505 Alhambra Avenue, Northridge, California, stated that at approximately 2140 hours is the last week of June 1952 (exact date unknown), he visually observed what appeared to be a single, round, bright orange-colored object traveling at a high rate of speed in a southerly direction over his residence. WILSON further stated he did not observe the object when it was low as the northern horizon, and appeared to be four to six inches in diameter, displayed no aerodynamic features, trail or exhaust, radioactive system, sound or other distinguishable features. WILSON said he was standing in the yard of his residence located at 2505 Alhambra Avenue, Northridge, California, when he observed the object, and advised that it passed directly over him, followed a straight course, and disappeared over the southern horizon without changing course a few seconds after initial sighting. Altitude and distance was unknown to WILSON. WILSON described the sight of the occurrence as being exceptionally clear, with no unusual meteorological or potential activity. WILSON further advised that the only air traffic in the area usually occurs in an easterly direction, but he did not recall observing any aircraft in the area on this particular evening.

3. WILSON stated that a few weeks later, he and his wife, Mrs. J. E. WILSON, and their neighbors, Mrs. ELIZABETH BAKER, Miss MARLENE BAKER, 520 York Street, and Mr. WALTER BAKER, 4204 York Street, all of Merrick, California, were standing in the alley adjacent to the WILSONS' residence when they sighted an object traveling overhead similar to the object sighted by WILSON a few nights earlier, progressing at the same rate of speed in a southerly direction. The description and actions of this second object were exactly the same as those of the first object according to WILSON, whose description was verified through statements of Mrs. WILSON and Mrs. BAKER. Miss MARLENE BAKER, however, stated that the object appeared to consist of four or five small round lights in close formation, traveling at a slower rate of speed than that described by the WILSONS and her mother, Mrs. BAKER. Miss Mrs. BAKER and her daughter, KATHLEEN, stated they were under the impression that the object was an airplane, but neither could recall seeing any distinguishing features or hearing any sound of an aircraft.

4. None of the witnesses could recall the exact date of the occurrence, nor could they accurately describe the speed of the object.

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