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1. On the afternoon of 17 April 1952 the undersigned took a group of Enlisted Weather Observers on a field familiarization hike from Yuma Test Station. All men were members of the 9575th TSU on duty at this Station.

2. Between 1505 and 1510 hours MST one of the men, CPL Weiss, who has a degree in science and a strong background in meteorology, called attention of the group to an object directly overhead. At this time the group was seated on the east side, and in the shade of a tree, between the canal bank and the Colorado River, approximately three (3) miles south of Yuma Test Station on the Arizona side of the River. The object was seen immediately by the entire group without any difficulty in focusing the eyes or locating it overhead. It appeared flat-white, with no sheen, circular in shape, and while on a regular course of approximately 60° azimuth, it did not exhibit a completely smooth trajectory. It was accompanied intermittently by an apparent vapor trail, non-persistent, thin, and not any longer than one or two object diameters. This trail or tail disappeared immediately within the above dimensions as it accompanied the object.

3. This object was first sighted by the group almost directly overhead at an elevation angle in excess of 80°. Due to the position of the group in relation to the canal bank, the horizon to the east was obstructed to a height of approximately six or eight degrees elevation. The total time the object was visible between the first sighting overhead and the disappearance over the horizon, was very close to, and not more than seven seconds. In apparent size, the object subtended a circle of approximately 1/4 inch when held at arm's length.

4. The group was instructed that if any subsequent sightings are made while they are occupied in their assigned weather duties, that they should attempt to take bearings on the object from two or more theodolite positions and report their findings to the Unit Commander. In this instance the apparent motion of the object was so fast that it would have been impossible to obtain angular readings on its trajectory with the theodolite even with the gears disengaged and sighting over the open gunights.

5. Of the attached list of men, PFC Slater is a graduate Engineer with laboratory experience; CPL McDowell, a graduate Engineer with propeller design experience; and M/EST Lowell, a University graduate and was previously rated a flight engineer in U.S. Air Force. All of the men are presently training as weather observers and have had some experience tracking meteorological balloons with optical equipment. All of the men commented that the object sighted was unlike any natural object or a phenomena which they had ever seen previously, and that they did not believe it could be mistakenly identified as a weather balloon. The group was told, pending further instructions, not to discuss this sighting. Attached is a list of the men in this group.

6. On the following day CPL McDowell and PFC Slater reported another sighting while practicing with a theodolite. The duration of the sighting was between five and ten seconds and the apparent motion so erratic that they were unable to obtain a sighting on the course of the object with a theodolite. The general appearance of the object was reported to be the same as that seen on the preceding day, except that no vapor trail was observed. The general course of the object was in an easterly direction.

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