

JETS CHASE D.C. SKY GHOSTS

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State Probers Sift City Funds

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SAUCERS WASHINGTON

HARRY G. BARNES, SENIOR AIR ROUTE TRAFFIC CONTROLLER FOR THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY IN CHARGE OF THE NATIONAL AIRPORT, WASHINGTON, D.C., A.R.T. CONTROL CENTER, STATED "BRIEFLY," HE STATES IN A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE, "...OUR JOB IS TO CONSTANTLY WATCH THE NATION'S CAPITOL WITH THE ELECTRONIC EYE OF RADAR..." SHORTLY AFTER 10:30 P.M. ON JULY 28, AN UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT APPEARED SUDDENLY ON THE CONTROL CENTER'S SCOPE. ED NUGENT, JIM COLEMAN AND OTHER EXPERIENCED RADAR CONTROLLERS, CHECKED THE OBSERVATIONS. THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY INVESTIGATED THE SAME SIGHTING. THEY WERE OVER "THE RESTRICTED AREA" BETWEEN THE WHITE HOUSE AND THE CAPITOL...



1
00:00:00,860 --> 00:00:07,670

[Music]

2
00:00:13,190 --> 00:00:09,629

washington dc sightings

3
00:00:21,029 --> 00:00:17,830

chief facility operations branch 1-547

4
00:00:22,150 --> 00:00:21,039

chief washington center-9 unidentified

5
00:00:26,230 --> 00:00:22,160

targets

6
00:00:27,910 --> 00:00:26,240

july 20th 1952 attached is a copy of the

7
00:00:29,990 --> 00:00:27,920

report written by the senior controller

8
00:00:33,750 --> 00:00:30,000

on duty from approximately

9
00:00:34,069 --> 00:00:33,760

23 30 east july 19th to 0-800 eastern

10
00:00:38,470 --> 00:00:34,079

time

11
00:00:40,229 --> 00:00:38,480

july 20th 1952.

12
00:00:42,150 --> 00:00:40,239

parts of this report have been given to

13
00:00:45,350 --> 00:00:42,160

major williams or air force

14

00:00:47,990 --> 00:00:45,360

intelligence lieutenant colonel searles

15

00:00:48,950 --> 00:00:48,000

office of public information department

16

00:00:52,590 --> 00:00:48,960

of defense

17

00:00:55,990 --> 00:00:52,600

into mr blank

18

00:00:59,450 --> 00:00:56,000

w-41 signed blank

19

00:01:03,670 --> 00:00:59,460

united states air force headquarters

20

00:01:09,109 --> 00:01:07,190

at 23 405 19 controller nuget called my

21

00:01:12,710 --> 00:01:09,119

attention to several targets observed on

22

00:01:15,590 --> 00:01:12,720

the vc2 scope sight of them

23

00:01:16,630 --> 00:01:15,600

were counted and although an occasional

24

00:01:18,630 --> 00:01:16,640

strong return

25

00:01:21,429 --> 00:01:18,640

was noted most of the targets would be

26

00:01:22,950 --> 00:01:21,439

classified as fair to weak

27

00:01:25,190 --> 00:01:22,960

after we had checked carefully on the

28

00:01:26,310 --> 00:01:25,200

movement about 100 to 130 miles per

29

00:01:28,550 --> 00:01:26,320

hours

30

00:01:30,789 --> 00:01:28,560

and confirmed our findings with what the

31

00:01:33,910 --> 00:01:30,799

tower saw in asr

32

00:01:37,030 --> 00:01:33,920

i called hfs and reported it

33

00:01:39,350 --> 00:01:37,040

this was about midnight eastern time

34

00:01:41,030 --> 00:01:39,360

mfs later advised that the nearest

35

00:01:42,230 --> 00:01:41,040

military base was supposed to handle

36

00:01:44,389 --> 00:01:42,240

these matters

37

00:01:45,830 --> 00:01:44,399

and to call the intelligence officer or

38

00:01:47,429 --> 00:01:45,840

ao

39

00:01:49,190 --> 00:01:47,439

there was some confusion for a while as

40

00:01:50,469 --> 00:01:49,200

to whether andrews or bullying was going

41

00:01:53,510 --> 00:01:50,479

to make the report

42

00:01:54,069 --> 00:01:53,520

but it was finally determined that

43

00:01:57,350 --> 00:01:54,079

andrews

44

00:02:00,550 --> 00:01:59,030

i called blank and asked if they could

45

00:02:03,030 --> 00:02:00,560

see

46

00:02:03,990 --> 00:02:03,040

what i saw and was advised they saw

47

00:02:06,469 --> 00:02:04,000

nothing

48

00:02:07,990 --> 00:02:06,479

our hsw maintenance then checked the

49

00:02:10,389 --> 00:02:08,000

equipment very carefully and advised

50

00:02:12,630 --> 00:02:10,399

that it was functioning satisfactorily

51
00:02:15,670 --> 00:02:12,640
and confirmed it with a fellow worker

52
00:02:16,949 --> 00:02:15,680
this lad tells me he's been working on

53
00:02:20,830 --> 00:02:16,959
this equipment for five

54
00:02:22,710 --> 00:02:20,840
years so i guess he knows what he's

55
00:02:24,550 --> 00:02:22,720
doing

56
00:02:26,710 --> 00:02:24,560
the targets were noticed east and south

57
00:02:29,190 --> 00:02:26,720
of adw so he asked the adw

58
00:02:30,229 --> 00:02:29,200
tower to look and see if they saw

59
00:02:33,110 --> 00:02:30,239
anything

60
00:02:35,110 --> 00:02:33,120
also asked adw approach control to check

61
00:02:37,589 --> 00:02:35,120
scopes

62
00:02:39,350 --> 00:02:37,599
adw had a lad on the roof with glasses

63
00:02:40,550 --> 00:02:39,360

who spotted an object that looked to be

64

00:02:42,229 --> 00:02:40,560

orange in color

65

00:02:45,030 --> 00:02:42,239

and appeared to be just hovering in the

66

00:02:46,869 --> 00:02:45,040

vicinity of adw

67

00:02:48,630 --> 00:02:46,879

they saw others as time went on with

68

00:02:51,910 --> 00:02:48,640

varying descriptions

69

00:02:55,589 --> 00:02:51,920

most of this information was given

70

00:02:58,790 --> 00:02:55,599

to blank and

71

00:02:59,509 --> 00:02:58,800

nfs with the expectation that they would

72

00:03:06,790 --> 00:02:59,519

run

73

00:03:13,350 --> 00:03:10,550

the impression received from blank

74

00:03:16,390 --> 00:03:13,360

was to the effect that more information

75

00:03:18,869 --> 00:03:16,400

was needed to order an intercept

76

00:03:20,710 --> 00:03:18,879

i told them our equipment was giving us

77

00:03:22,790 --> 00:03:20,720

good reading so we would be able to do

78

00:03:24,789 --> 00:03:22,800

any vectoring

79

00:03:27,670 --> 00:03:24,799

that might be necessary but they seem to

80

00:03:31,350 --> 00:03:27,680

be leaving it all up to the smoke ring

81

00:03:35,509 --> 00:03:33,750

pilot reports were received b807 saw

82

00:03:38,229 --> 00:03:35,519

seven of the objects between

83

00:03:40,149 --> 00:03:38,239

washington and martinsburg variously

84

00:03:41,509 --> 00:03:40,159

described as lights that move very

85

00:03:43,830 --> 00:03:41,519

rapidly

86

00:03:46,070 --> 00:03:43,840

up and down horizontally as well as

87

00:03:50,229 --> 00:03:46,080

hovering in one position

88

00:03:53,350 --> 00:03:50,239

and sp 610 saw one come in

89

00:03:54,070 --> 00:03:53,360

with him from around herndon and follow

90

00:03:56,949 --> 00:03:54,080

him within

91

00:03:58,149 --> 00:03:56,959

four miles of touchdown this was

92

00:04:02,180 --> 00:03:58,159

substantiated

93

00:04:04,309 --> 00:04:02,190

by tower and center radar

94

00:04:07,350 --> 00:04:04,319

[Music]

95

00:04:09,350 --> 00:04:07,360

in my conversation with mfs adw and the

96

00:04:11,030 --> 00:04:09,360

man on duty we reached the point where

97

00:04:11,670 --> 00:04:11,040

we wondered just how much of this could

98

00:04:14,390 --> 00:04:11,680

go on

99

00:04:15,110 --> 00:04:14,400

and for how long before something could

100

00:04:18,789 --> 00:04:15,120

be done

101
00:04:19,349 --> 00:04:18,799
about it i contacted smoke ring finally

102
00:04:21,830 --> 00:04:19,359
about

103
00:04:23,909 --> 00:04:21,840
300 eastern time they were doing nothing

104
00:04:25,430 --> 00:04:23,919
about it so i asked if it was possible

105
00:04:26,310 --> 00:04:25,440
for something like this to happen even

106
00:04:29,350 --> 00:04:26,320
though we gave them

107
00:04:31,990 --> 00:04:29,360
all the information without anything

108
00:04:33,909 --> 00:04:32,000
being done about it

109
00:04:35,030 --> 00:04:33,919
the man who was supposed to be in charge

110
00:04:39,270 --> 00:04:35,040
and

111
00:04:39,280 --> 00:04:47,270
he guessed so

112
00:04:51,189 --> 00:04:49,909
then another voice came on who i

113
00:04:53,270 --> 00:04:51,199

identified himself

114

00:04:55,430 --> 00:04:53,280

as the combat officer and said that all

115

00:04:57,909 --> 00:04:55,440

the information was being forwarded to

116

00:05:00,950 --> 00:04:57,919

higher authority and would not discuss

117

00:05:06,230 --> 00:05:02,790

i insisted i wanted to know if it was

118

00:05:09,590 --> 00:05:06,240

being forwarded tonight and he said yes

119

00:05:11,830 --> 00:05:09,600

but would not give me any hint

120

00:05:15,270 --> 00:05:11,840

as to what was being done about all

121

00:05:17,270 --> 00:05:15,280

these things flying around washington

122

00:05:21,189 --> 00:05:17,280

he tried to assure me that something was

123

00:05:25,510 --> 00:05:23,830

and i did ask too how he was getting his

124

00:05:30,420 --> 00:05:25,520

information he said they would

125

00:05:35,110 --> 00:05:32,070

[Music]

126
00:05:37,110 --> 00:05:35,120
he was then told by 8.7 that they had no

127
00:05:38,640 --> 00:05:37,120
way of forwarding it to them smoking

128
00:05:42,629 --> 00:05:38,650
then said that they were really not

129
00:05:48,710 --> 00:05:42,639
[Music]

130
00:05:53,590 --> 00:05:51,189
that somebody else was supposed to

131
00:05:55,830 --> 00:05:53,600
handle it

132
00:05:56,629 --> 00:05:55,840
mfs then said that adw was supposed to

133
00:06:00,590 --> 00:05:56,639
have forwarded it

134
00:06:03,749 --> 00:06:00,600
to intelligence but when i checked with

135
00:06:07,110 --> 00:06:03,759
adw05053 they said to the ao

136
00:06:09,430 --> 00:06:07,120
had gone back to bed and the report will

137
00:06:12,710 --> 00:06:09,440
go in later

138
00:06:17,270 --> 00:06:12,720

they confirm the above by saying that

139

00:06:20,790 --> 00:06:19,430

it would be extremely difficult to write

140

00:06:23,430 --> 00:06:20,800

this

141

00:06:25,430 --> 00:06:23,440

so that it is in logical sequence due to

142

00:06:27,830 --> 00:06:25,440

the confusion that seems to have existed

143

00:06:29,990 --> 00:06:27,840

throughout this whole affair

144

00:06:31,110 --> 00:06:30,000

for example adw called us and asked what

145

00:06:33,029 --> 00:06:31,120

we wanted them

146

00:06:34,710 --> 00:06:33,039

to do with the information we had given

147

00:06:39,510 --> 00:06:34,720

them

148

00:06:39,520 --> 00:06:43,270

8.

149

00:06:48,710 --> 00:06:46,629

at about 0.530 east controller

150

00:06:49,909 --> 00:06:48,720

richie reported seeing 10 targets in the

151
00:06:52,309 --> 00:06:49,919
vicinity counted

152
00:06:55,670 --> 00:06:52,319
seven or eight in scattered positions

153
00:06:58,230 --> 00:06:55,680
which indicated a very rapid movement

154
00:07:00,469 --> 00:06:58,240
and if they were the same one seen near

155
00:07:02,550 --> 00:07:00,479
adw this report was forwarded to both

156
00:07:05,749 --> 00:07:02,560
adw and mfs

157
00:07:08,950 --> 00:07:07,909
15 that mfs advised that they had

158
00:07:10,710 --> 00:07:08,960
determined

159
00:07:12,629 --> 00:07:10,720
that none of the information we had been

160
00:07:19,029 --> 00:07:12,639
giving to a dw was

161
00:07:22,390 --> 00:07:21,430
mfs advised however that they were

162
00:07:23,860 --> 00:07:22,400
following up

163
00:07:25,589 --> 00:07:23,870

with their own

164

00:07:29,110 --> 00:07:25,599

[Music]

165

00:07:49,760 --> 00:07:33,510

at 5407 targets