

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 27 Jul 49	2. LOCATION Jackson, Michigan
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Other (FLARE)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION N/A	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS An object fell on the ground and burnt a hole. The object glowed without a flame for about three minutes. Residue was analyzed and it was determined to have been from a flare.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground- ^V isual	
7. COURSE N/A	
8. PHOTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	See: Specimen 7-3745-462
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes IN FILE <input type="checkbox"/> No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

CONFIDENTIAL
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

UNCLASSIFIED

5D-OSI/JEM/vz

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL, USAF
5TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, DAYTON, OHIO

REPLY REFER TO: 5D 24-21-M

14 September 1949

SUBJECT: PROJECT GRUDGE - INCIDENT, LUDINGTON, MICHIGAN
AND HOMER, MICHIGAN
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: MCIAKS

1. Reference is made to letter, this office, subject and file as above, dated 15 June 1949.
2. Enclosed for your information and necessary action is report of investigation of Special Agent JACK L. HECKELMAN, District Office #25, dated 9 September 1949.
3. With the submission of this report all logical leads have been developed and the files of this office are being closed in instant investigation.

1 Inci
R/I dtd 9 Sep 49 (in dup)
w/incis

Jerome M. Braun
JEROME M. BRAUN
Acting District Commander

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

O-5 OCT 48 15M

7-3712-2

UNCLASSIFIED

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS REPORT OF INVESTIGATION	FILE NO.	DATE
	REPORT MADE BY	
	REPORT MADE AT	
	PERIOD	
	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	
STATUS		

[REDACTED] Michigan, U.S.A.
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] 15.
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

7 July

**DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10**

O-208

Replaces AFOSI Form 4, 23 Jul 48, which is superseded.

ENCLOSURE - 72 GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

PROBLEMS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED

1. [REDACTED]

named as the residence of [REDACTED] and circled the field [REDACTED]

On 20 April 1949 at 1100 - 1200 hours, [REDACTED] was at the City Dump, Ludington, Michigan. Located approximately 3 1/2 blocks north and 7 blocks east of [REDACTED] residence. They stated they saw a trail of either smoke or clouds going straight up at about the same rate of speed as a jet fighter. They looked at one of this smoke streamer and saw an object approximately 10' in diameter which seemed to be the cause of this smoke. This object moved up and appeared to give off a reflection in the sun. The streamer of smoke was described as being a long tail approximately 6-7,000 ft. long, white and fluffy like a cloud. The object was seen to travel 10 minutes during which time [REDACTED] stopped at the dump and headed for the Ludington City Newspaper to notify them of the instance. After traveling about 7-8 blocks, toward the downtown area of Ludington, TINM stated he looked around and the object was out of sight, and that he just saw a trail of the white fluffy tail disappear in a cliced bush. [REDACTED] stated that the day was clear, sun bright, and quite hot, clouds very high in the sky. [REDACTED] judged the distance and height of the object to be approximately 4 miles away and 5,000 ft. high. TINM stated that the fluffy tail like cloud seemed to come from the object and was quite small in diameter at first, and gradually increased in size until approximately the diameter of the round object. No further information was given by either [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] stated that approximately one week from the date of the newspaper item concerning the instance, he received a post card from an unknown woman in Eastern Michigan, near Port Huron, Michigan, who had seen several of these objects go over her house and would like him to write her and describe what he had seen. Efforts to obtain an identification of this unknown woman were negative although [REDACTED] feels he can find the post card, and will forward same to this agency.

AT VANDERCOOK LAKE, MICHIGAN

This phase of the investigation was conducted by Special Agent GENE P. MINTZ:

3. A newspaper item in the Detroit News, page 1, column 4, dated 27 July 1949, stated that an object fell in the road in front of the home of Mrs. [REDACTED], Vandercock Lake, Michigan, burning a hole in the pavement.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED

2. *RK*
AMERICAN

DO #25 File 24-5

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED

Case File in 27 July 49

On 20 July 1949, Mrs. [REDACTED] was driving her car along [REDACTED] Michigan Ave., Jackson, Michigan. She stated that she was with a group of girls at a dance hall. At approximately 10:30 P.M. she saw a bright light drop from the sky. This light was followed by a roar and a burst of fire. She noted that the fire was very bright and lasted three minutes. [REDACTED] later went out to [REDACTED] and gathered up the remains of the object on a sidewalk. On examination, [REDACTED] stated that she had not seen the object fall. Later [REDACTED] stated that she first saw it in the burning in the road.

5. Mrs. [REDACTED] apparently was enjoying the dance when interrupted by her daughter's story and attempted to get her son [REDACTED] to deny that she had seen the object fall as had been reported previously. [REDACTED] would not do this.

6. [REDACTED] then showed this writer the hole burned in the asphalt. The spot was about twenty-five feet from the front door of the [REDACTED] home. The burned area was about four inches in diameter. There was no visible sign of impact, such as surface cracking. The area was burned regularly to a depth of approximately 1/4 inch in the tar covered road. The burned area was photographed by this writer with a G3 camera, f 1.1, speed 100, small flash at a distance of 5 3/4 feet. Print is attached hereto as Inclosure #1.

7. This writer noted during the interview that many heavy trucks passed the [REDACTED] home. Both Mrs. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] stated that they had never seen any of the trucks use a flare light, and [REDACTED] did not recall any vehicles being on scene while flares were burning.

8. Sample of residue was obtained which is attached hereto as Inclosure #2.

9. Jackson Citizen Patriot, 27 July 1949, p. 5, Col. 4, cited an article which stated that the Clark Equipment Co. Laboratory had no tests of the material, concluding that it was probably residue from an emergency flare. This article is attached hereto as Inclosure #3.

INCLOUSES

FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, AIR MATERIAL COMMAND:

1. Photo of burned area.
2. Residue from unknown burning material.
3. Article from Jackson Citizen Patriot, 27 July 1949.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

UNCLASSIFIED

DO 125 FILE 24-6

~~CONFIDENTIAL RPL~~



Citizen Patriot Photograph

MYSTERY SOLVED—Laboratory tests of a fragment of the object found burning on the pavement at Vandercook Lake Monday evening indicate it was a truck flare, commonly used as a warning signal. Mrs. Leroy Drinkwine, 509 McDevitt, holding the fragment, points to the burned pavement where it was found.

Laboratory Tested
**Flaming Object
At Vandercook
Warning Flare**

"That was no meteor—that was a fusee!"

The mysterious flaming object which burned a hole in the pavement Monday night in front of the house of Mrs. Leroy Drinkwine, 509 McDevitt, Vandercook Lake, probably was an emergency flare. That is the report of the Clark Equipment Co. laboratory which analyzed a sample of the object.

The alinity of the railroad fusee and the sample are identical, the laboratory reports. Probably this object was a truck flare, used by highway trucks for the same purpose as an emergency signal on the railroad.

The object, which smelled faintly of phosphorous, was retrieved by Mrs. Drinkwine's

Case contains 1, 8x10"
photo.

