

~~RESTRICTED~~
PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1440130-2

ATTC NO. --- DATE OF INFO 13 Sept 1950
AF NO. --- LOCATION 5 mi. SW Effingham, Ill.
REPORT NO. --- SOURCE Civilian Pilot
DATE OF REPORT --- DATE IN TO ATTC ---
TIME OF SIGHTING 1930-1940 COLOR Dull Red
SHAPE triangle SPEED --- Estimated
SIZE --- ALTITUDE --- Measured
COURSE --- LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED ---
NO. IN GROUP 3 TYPE OF OBSERVATION Aerial
SOUND --- MANEUVERS ---
PICTURES --- SKETCHES ---

REMARKS: A set of three lights was observed but before source could circle same they disappeared.

Temporary ATTC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

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ATC

LAN 2 AMC
MCIAXA-1A
TCB

UNCLASSIFIED

TT-776-AM
19 December 1980
MCIAXA-1A

REFERENCE CSAF ITEM 9 TT 743-AM, 21
OCT 50, ON UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS,
WITH REGARD TO INCIDENT OF 13 SEP
50, -IT WAS POINTED OUT IN CONVERSATION
WITH AMC PERSONNEL THAT THE ORIGINATOR
WAS A CESSNA TEST PILOT. SINCE THIS IS
NOT STATED IN CSAF ITEM 9 TT-658-AM
DATED 3 OCT 50, THE TELECON ITEM IN
QUESTION WAS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH THE
REPORT BY MR [REDACTED] THE INCIDENT REPORTED
BY MR D. D. FRYE WAS REVIEWED BY AMC
WHEN RECEIVED.

THE NATURE OF THE INCIDENT TOGETHER
WITH THE DETAILS FURNISHED WERE SUCH
THAT THEY DID NOT CONSTITUTE A BASIS
FOR A COMPREHENSIVE TECHNICAL INVESTI-
GATION. THIS COMMAND HAS HAD SEVERAL
REPORTS OVER A PERIOD OF YEARS ON WHICH
THE DETAILS WERE SIMILAR TO THIS INCIDENT.
IT IS SIGNIFICANT TO NOTE THAT THERE
WERE NO OTHER REPORTS OF SIMILAR OBSER-
VATIONS FROM PEOPLE IN THE VICINITY
OF EFFINGHAM, ILLINOIS AT THAT TIME.

CHECK OF WEATHER DATA REVEALED
SCATTERED CLOUDS AT 4,000 FT AND VISI-
BILITY OF 15 MILES AT 1930-1940
HOURS. NO ASTRONOMICAL PHENOMENA WERE
REPORTED BY OTHER PILOTS IN THIS AREA.
IT ALSO IS NOTED THAT THE TELECON IN
QUESTION CONTAINS NO ESTIMATE BY
MR FRYE AS TO THE SIZE AND DISTANCE
INVOLVED OTHER THAN THAT THEY WERE
VISIBLE FOR SEVERAL MILES. CONSIDERING
ALL AVAILABLE FACTORS IT IS THE
OPINION OF AMC THAT THE REPORT IN QUES-
TION CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO SEVERAL
POSSIBLE CAUSES. WHILE THE DATA FUR-
NISHED DO NOT PERMIT THE ISOLATION
OF POSSIBILITIES AS TO THE DIRECT
CAUSE, IT APPEARS THAT THE INFORMANT
MAY HAVE SEEN OR IMAGINED HE SAW
SEVERAL LIGHTS, BUT THE CONDITIONS
WERE SUCH /IN FLIGHT AT NIGHT/ THAT
OPTICAL ILLUSIONS ARE COMMON. THIS
COMMAND CAN CARRY THIS INVESTIGATION
TO GREATER LENGTHS IF DESIRED,
CHECKING ON THE POSSIBILITIES OF
OTHER AIRCRAFT BEING IN THE AREA AT
THAT TIME AND WHETHER THERE WAS ANY-
THING ON THE GROUND IN THE BELIEVED
TO BE WARRANTED IN THIS CASE.

INFORMATION COPY

21605
J. J. G. [Signature]

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]
UNCLASSIFIED

96

AMC TT

3 October 50

CSAF ITEM

[REDACTED]

FROM TCB

SUBJ: REPORTING OF INFO ON UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT.

MR. [REDACTED] WAS INTERVIEWED TO SECURE INFORMATION ON AN

UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT SIGHTED BY MR. [REDACTED] AT APPROXIMATELY 1930 - 1940 HOURS, 13 SEP 50. INTERVIEWING OFFICERS WERE LT. COL. M. D. WILLIS AND MAJOR A.J. BOGGS.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS SECURED ABOUT HIS OBSERVATIONS.

TIME - 1930-1940 13 SEP 50

PLACE - (88° 36'W) (39° 03'N)

5 MILES SW OF EFFINGHAM, ILL.

ALTITUDE - 8000 FT.

MR. [REDACTED] AND PASSENGER OBSERVED A SET OF THREE LIGHTS ON A COLLISION COURSE WITH THEIR PRIVATE AIRPLANE. A SHARP TURN WAS MADE TO THE RIGHT AFTER A SLOW CLOSURE. MR. [REDACTED] HAD FLASHED HIS LANDING LIGHT SEVERAL TIMES.

AFTER THE TURN, MR. [REDACTED] SAW THAT THERE WAS PLENTY OF CLEARANCE AND MADE A CLIMBING TURN TO THE LEFT TO SEE WHAT THE OBJECT WAS. AT THIS TIME, THE LIGHTS APPEARED AS A DIM ROSEY RED ARRANGED AS A TRIANGLE. DUE TO THE DARK NIGHT, NOTHING ELSE COULD BE SEEN.


BEFORE THE OBJECT COULD BE CIRCLED, THE LIGHTS DISAPPEARED. MR. [REDACTED] THEN TURNED ON COURSE TO TERRE HAUTE, IND., LANDING THERE AT 2010 CST.

MR. [REDACTED] IS A PILOT WITH APPROXIMATELY 6000 HOURS FLYING. HE HAS FLOWN ABOUT 500 HRS AT NIGHT. HE IS CONSIDERED RELIABLE AND ACCURATE.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
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UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]


UNCLASSIFIED

DESCRIPTION OF LIGHTS:

UNLIKE AIRCRAFT POSITION LIGHTS.

DIM, VAGUE, DULL RED, BUT VISIBLE FOR SEVERAL MILES.

STEADY LIGHTS EVENLY SPACED.

INFORMATION SHOULD BE HANDLED ACCORDING TO AIR FORCE LETTER, "REPORTING
OF INFORMATION ON UNCONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT", DATED 8 SEP 50.

END OF ITEM

UNCLASSIFIED
