

## U.S. AIR FORCE TECHNICAL INFORMATION

This questionnaire has been prepared so that you can give the U.S. Air Force as much information as possible concerning the unidentified aerial phenomenon that you have observed. Please try to answer as many questions as you possibly can. The information that you give will be used for research purposes. Your name will not be used in connection with any statements, conclusions, or publications without your permission. We request this personal information so that if it is deemed necessary, we may contact you for further details.

1. When did you see the object?

27 June 66

Day Month Year

2. Time of day: 4 AM

Hour Minutes

(Circle One): A.M. or P.M.

3. Time Zone:

(Circle One): a. Eastern  
b. Central  
c. Mountain  
d. Pacific  
e. Other

(Circle One): a. Daylight Saving  
b. Standard

Just West of Intl dateline

4. Where were you when you saw the object?

Aboard S/S Mount Vernon Victory (U S Reg 284178), great circle  
Guam-Hawaii, roughly 19N 172E.

Nearest Postal Address

City or Town

State or County

5. How long was object in sight? (Total Duration)

20

Hours Minutes Seconds

a. Certain

c. Not very sure

b. Fairly certain

d. Just a guess

5.1 How was time in sight determined?

\*Exact time may be obtained from Navigation  
Officer, Mr Rominger.

5.2 Was object in sight continuously?

Yes ~~22~~ No

\*\*\*Yes, either "object"  
or related phenom.

6. What was the condition of the sky?

DAY

a. Bright  
b. Cloudy

NIGHT

a. Bright  
\*\*\* b. Cloudy

\*\*\*Scattered clouds, but  
stars beautifully clear.

7. IF you saw the object during DAYLIGHT, where was the SUN located as you looked at the object?

(Circle One): a. In front of you  
b. In back of you  
c. To your right

d. To your left  
e. Overhead  
f. Don't remember

FORM

FTD OCT 62 164

This form supersedes FTD 164, Jul 61, which is obsolete.



8. IF you saw the object at NIGHT, what did you notice concerning the STARS and MOON?

8.1 STARS (Circle One):

- a. None
- b. A few
- c. Many
- d. Don't remember

8.2 MOON (Circle One):

- a. Bright moonlight
- b. Dull moonlight
- c. No moonlight - pitch dark
- d. Don't remember

9. What were the weather conditions at the time you saw the object?

CLOUDS (Circle One):

- a. Clear sky
- b. Hazy
- c. Scattered clouds
- d. Thick or heavy clouds

WEATHER (Circle One):

- \* a. Dry ended.
- \* b. Fog, mist, or light rain \*\*\*\*\*
- c. Moderate or heavy rain
- d. Snow
- e. Don't remember

10. The object appeared: (Circle One):

- a. Solid
- b. Transparent
- c. Vapor
- d. As a light
- e. Don't remember \*With exceptions as noted.

11. If it appeared as a light, was it brighter than the brightest stars? (Circle One):

- a. Brighter
  - b. Dimmer
  - c. About the same
  - d. Don't know
- first thought to be Venus (due to size about then), though brilliance thought to be unusual.*

11.1 Compare brightness to some common object:

*Difficult. Perhaps as a carbon arc lamp might appear at a distance.*

12. The edges of the object were:

- (Circle One):
- a. Fuzzy or blurred
  - b. Like a bright star
  - c. Sharply outlined
  - d. Don't remember
  - e. Other Pinpoint light surrounded by sharply defined ~~clouds~~ and expanding cloud.

13. Did the object:

(Circle One for each question)

- |   |   |  |            |                            |
|---|---|--|------------|----------------------------|
| a. Appear to stand still at any time?           | Yes                                     | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Don't know | <i>*5 - See P 18, last</i> |
| b. Suddenly speed up and rush away at any time? | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Don't know | <i>Para.</i>               |
| c. Break up into parts or explode?              | Yes                                     | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Don't know |                            |
| d. Give off smoke?                              | Yes                                     | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Don't know | <i>*6 - See</i>            |
| e. Change brightness?                           | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Don't know | <i>P 19, 4th</i>           |
| f. Change shape?                                | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No                                     | Don't know | <i>Para.</i>               |
| g. Flash or flicker?                            | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No                                     | Don't know |                            |
| h. Disappear and reappear?                      | Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No                                     | Don't know | <i>*7 - See P 10.</i>      |

14. Did the object disappear while you were watching it? If so, how?  
 Unaccountably lost sight of it ~~shortly~~ shortly after its "departure"  
 from the peculiar "cloud" described on pages 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16

15. Did the object move behind something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): \*Yes No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what  
 it moved behind: \*Behind a cloud for 2 or 3 minutes toward the end of  
 the sighting. See page 10.

16. Did the object move in front of something at any time, particularly a cloud?

(Circle One): Yes  No Don't Know. IF you answered YES, then tell what  
 in front of:

17. Tell in a few words the following things about the object:

a. Sound No sound heard.

b. Color Para 11.1

18. We wish to know the angular size. Hold a match stick or arm's length in line with a known object and note how much of the object is covered by the head of the match. If you had performed this experiment at the time of the sighting, how much of the object would have been covered by the match head?

While sizes given for the 10-minute and 20-minute points, page , were compared to a golf ball and a 6-inch ball, I recall that during the minutes following the sighting I had considered a tennis ball and a basketball - but had revised this downward, perhaps as a

19. Draw a picture that will show the shape of the object or objects. Label and include in your sketch any details of the object that you saw such as wings, protrusions, etc., and especially exhaust trails or vapor trails. Place an arrow beside the drawing to show the direction the object was moving.

18. cont.:

strained attempt not to exaggerate. After writing my NICAP report, a conversation with Mr Rominger revealed his estimate to approximate my original (larger) impression.

19. See pages 15, 16. Also notes on pages 18, 19.



20. Do you think you can estimate the speed of the object?

(Circle One) Yes  No

IF you answered YES, then what speed would you estimate? \_\_\_\_\_

21. Do you think you can estimate how far away from you the object was?

(Circle One) Yes  No

IF you answered YES, then how far away would you say it was? \_\_\_\_\_

22. Where were you located when you saw the object?  
(Circle One):

- a. Inside a building
- b. In a car
- c. Outdoors
- d. In an airplane (type)
- e. At sea
- f. Other \_\_\_\_\_

23. Were you (Circle One)

- a. In the business section of a city?
- b. In the residential section of a city?
- c. In open countryside?
- d. Near an airfield?
- e. Flying over a city?
- f. Flying over open country?
- g. Other Mid-Pacific, about 19N 172E

24. IF you were MOVING IN AN AUTOMOBILE or other vehicle at the time, then complete the following questions:

24.1 What direction were you moving? (Circle One)

- a. North
- b. Northeast
- c. East
- d. Southeast
- e. South
- f. Southwest
- g. West
- h. Northwest

24.2 How fast were you moving? abt 16 kts miles per hour.

\*Approx. See Mr R's NICAP report.

24.3 Did you stop at any time while you were looking at the object?

(Circle One) Yes  No

25. Did you observe the object through any of the following?

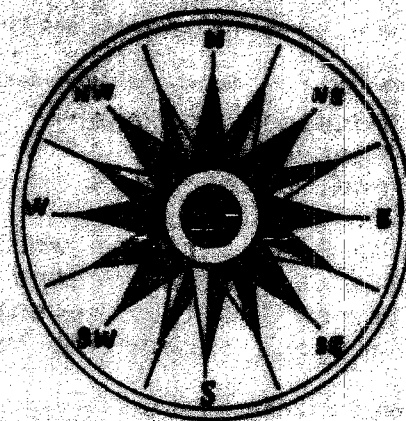
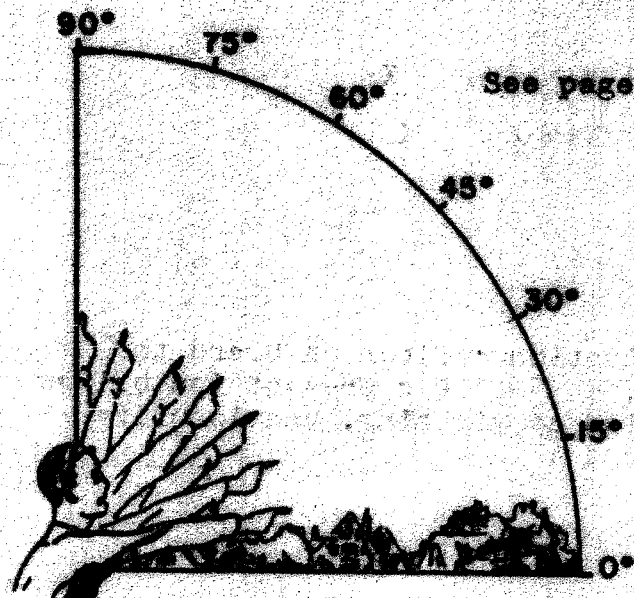
- |                 |     |    |               |   |    |
|-----------------|-----|----|---------------|---|----|
| a. Eyeglasses   | Yes | No | e. Binoculars | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes | No |
| b. Sun glasses  | Yes | No | f. Telescope  | Yes                                     | No |
| c. Windshield   | Yes | No | g. Theodolite | Yes                                     | No |
| d. Window glass | Yes | No | h. Other      | <u>#B X 30</u>                          |    |

26. In order that you can give as clear a picture as possible of what you saw, describe in your own words a common object or objects which, when placed up in the sky, would give the same appearance as the object which you saw.

See page 7, under para 35.



27. In the following sketch, imagine that you are at the point shown. Place an "A" on the curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you first saw it. Place a "B" on the same curved line to show how high the object was above the horizon (skyline) when you last saw it. Place an "A" on the compass when you first saw it. Place a "B" on the compass where you last saw the object.



28. Draw a picture that will show the motion that the object or objects made. Place an "A" at the beginning of the path, a "B" at the end of the path, and show any changes in direction during the course.

See pages 10, 16

29. IF there was MORE THAN ONE object, then how many were there? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Draw a picture of how they were arranged, and put an arrow to show the direction that they were traveling.

Clearly ONE object during first 18 minutes or so of sighting. The possibility of a second object may account for a very considerable discrepancy, during the final 1 or 2 minutes, between Mr Rominger's report and my own. See page 18, last para.

30. Have you ever seen this, or a similar object before. If so give date or dates and location.

No.

31. Was anyone else with you at the time you saw the object? (Circle One)  Yes  No

31.1 IF you answered YES, did they see the object too? (Circle One)  Yes  No

31.2 Please list their names and addresses:

Mr Donald L Rominger\*  
55 Heatherbrae Dr  
Poland, Ohio, 44514

\*Mr Rominger, who was the navigation officer on board the S/S Mount Vernon ~~Victory~~ Victory, and who was present (on bridge watch) during the entire period of sighting, can identify several others who were present.

32. Please give the following information about yourself:

NAME Sorensen, Steffen  
Last Name First Name Middle Name

ADDRESS 10118 63rd Ave North, Seminole, Florida, 33540  
Street City Zone State

TELEPHONE NUMBER Unlisted AGE 43 SEX M

Indicate any additional information about yourself, including any special experience, which might be pertinent.

At time of sighting, serving as radio officer aboard S/S Mount Vernon Victory.

No special qualifications beyond any which may be inferred from an unhurried reading of this report.

33. When and to whom did you report that you had seen the object?

On arrival USA 7/1/66, pages 10, 11, 12, 13 mailed to NICAP with cc

Day Month Year  
Blue Book. On 7/14/66 duplicates were mailed to both addressees as no acknowledgements had been received.



34. Pages 10 & 11, 6/27/66. Pages 12 & 13, 6/28/66. Pages 15 & 16,  
 34. Date you completed this questionnaire: \_\_\_\_\_  
 6/28/66 or 6/29/66. All other pages, 8/10/66. Month Year

35. Information which you feel pertinent and which is not adequately covered in the specific points of the questionnaire or a narrative explanation of your sighting. (see page 8)

Cont. from page 4, para 26:

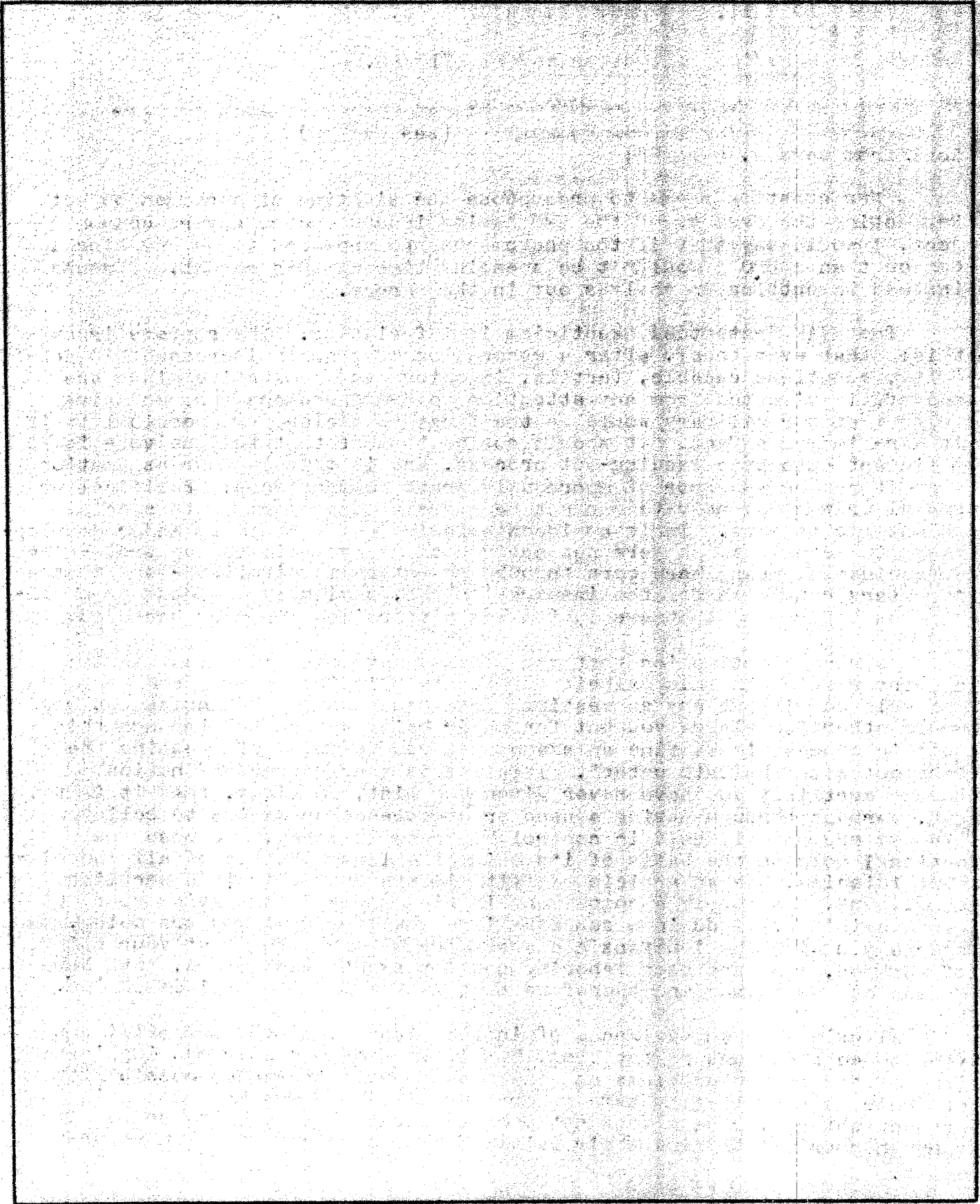
Your question seems to presuppose the sighting of a common object. Neglecting the fact ~~of~~ of the UFO having indeed become a very common object, I would say that if the phenomenon had appeared to be anything less common than a UFO I wouldn't be spending time on this report. I would instead be putting up shelves out in the garage.

The USAF Pretended Skepticism is infuriating. The supreme irony of this: that even today, after a generation of sharply increased UFO activity, countless capable, fertile, ingenious and productive minds are wastefully diverted from any attention to UFO phenomena through naive faith that our military would be the first to declare UFO possibility if it were indeed a fact. It should not be thought that this naivete is an efficient automatic weeding-out process, and if this is your assumption then it can be an error of enormously grave consequences. Political or social or worldly naivete can not be correlated properly with special scientific talents. It is an incontestable fact that those major developments in science which were not arrived at by evolutionary or brute-force or accidental means were born through momentary inspiration - and that a necessary condition for the inspiration was, obviously, freedom from conviction beforehand that a solution was either impossible or unneeded.

Your apparent notion that you already have the best heads in the country working on this (albeit for twenty uninspired years) and that you can well do without any suggestions from those dunderhead nuisances who would otherwise plague you but for their being weeded out through this idiotic process is as fine an example as can be found of "tossing the baby out with the bath water". I call this your "apparent" notion, though certainly you have never given any hint, publicly, that it is so. But, perhaps through having a need or preference or desire to believe that we are not all held in control by Brass Children, I choose the notion I hold on the basis of its being the least idiotic of all conceivable idiocies. As an article of faith in the USAF this is a peculiar compliment, but surely a compliment in view of my disbelieving your publicized opinions: I do in a sense believe you know what you are doing, but charge you with the indefensible arrogance of presuming that your clique of workmen, who have been laboring now for twenty long years, have been chosen by yourselves and therefore must be the ~~the~~ best possible choice.

Allowing for an avalanche of invalid ideas and some \$50 million a year to consider and reject them, but in view of the enormous implications of the solved problems and the tremendously increased possibility of their being solved by some of our many millions who may not be in your present coterie, reason does not permit your exclusion of those people through your maintaining their faith that no problems of a UFO nature exist.

CONTINUED on page 17





Page 9

10118 63rd Ave North,  
Seminole, Florida 33540  
10 Aug 66

PTD (TDER)  
Project Blue Book  
Wright-Patterson AFB  
Ohio 45433

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed herewith is information solicited by  
you in your letter of 8/1/66 (see page 14).

This reply, complete in 19 pages, is presented  
in Thermofax.

Yours truly,



Steffen Sorensen

Registered mail;  
Seminole, Fla, 8/11/66

10118 63RD AVE NORTH  
SEMINOLE FLORIDA 33540

S/S MOUNT VERNON VICTORY  
AT SEA, 19 NORTH 172 EAST  
27 JUNE 66

NICAP  
WASHDC

DEAR SIRs:

AT ABOUT 0400 THIS MORNING I WAS AWAKENED BY WATCH OFFICER DONALD ROMINGER, ALERTING ME TO A UFO SIGHTING. MR ROMINGER HAD PREVIOUSLY NOTICED A COPY OF THE UFO INVESTIGATOR IN THE RADIROOM AND HAD INFERRED FROM THAT MY INTEREST IN UFO'S.

ABOUT FIVE HOURS EARLIER I HAD COMPLETED RE-READING THE LAST THREE ISSUES OF THE UFO INVESTIGATOR, INCLUDING THE ACCOUNT OF THE 16 DEC 65 SIGHTING BY THE BRITISH S/S CARL SCHNEDEMAN. HAVING THUS GONE TO SLEEP WITH THE SCHNEDEMAN INCIDENT REFRESHED IN MY MIND AND HAVING BEEN AWAKENED TO WITNESS A SIMILAR SIGHTING A SHORT TIME LATER, I BELIEVE I MAY FOR THAT REASON HAVE NOTICED A CERTAIN CHARACTERISTIC OF THE "SCHNEDELMAN CLOUD" WHICH I MIGHT NOT OTHERWISE HAVE NOTICED IN THE EXCITEMENT OF THIS FIRST SIGHTING.

BY THE TIME OF MY ARRIVAL ON THE BRIDGE, THE CLOUD HAD GROWN TO THE APPARENT SIZE OF A GOLF BALL HELD AT ARM'S LENGTH AND WAS MOVING EITHER UPWARD OR TOWARD THE SHIP OR BOTH. ITS POSITION AT THAT TIME WAS APPROXIMATELY DEAD AHEAD (SHIP HEADED ABOUT DUE EAST) WITH AN ELEVATION OF PERHAPS TEN DEGREES. FROM THAT TIME UNTIL THE CLOUD BECAME TEMPORARILY OBSCURED BY A "REAL" CLOUD SOME FEW MINUTES LATER, BY WHICH TIME IT HAD REACHED AN ELEVATION OF PERHAPS 40 DEGREES AND WAS ABOUT 20 DEGREES TO STARBOARD, I DID NOT NOTICE ANY OUTSTANDING CHARACTERISTICS BEYOND ITS LUMINESCENCE, GROWTH, AND MOVEMENT, AND OF COURSE THE FLASHING LIGHT AT ITS CENTER. ON COMING BACK INTO VIEW TWO OR THREE MINUTES LATER, IT HAD BY THAT TIME ASSUMED THE RELATIVE SIZE OF A SIX-INCH BALL AT ARM'S LENGTH, HAD THINNED OUT AND PERMITTED STARS TO BE SEEN THROUGH IT. THE WHITE FLASHING LIGHT WAS AT THIS TIME STILL LOCATED WITHIN THE EXPANDING CLOUD.



IT WAS AT THIS TIME THAT AN INTERESTING FACT BECAME APPARENT. MOST OF THE PERIMETER OF THE LOWER RIGHT-HAND QUADRANT OF THE CLOUD WAS VISIBLE. VIEWING THROUGH 8X30 GLASSES, I WAS STRUCK BY THE PERFECT ROUNDNESS OF THIS SHARPLY DEFINED LINE, AND THOUGHT IMMEDIATELY HOW THIS MIGHT RESEMBLE A SHOCK WAVE RADIATING FROM A POINT SOURCE. (THIS IS BY NO MEANS A SPECULATION ON THE NATURE OF THE BEAST: I AM SIMPLY CROPPING FOR A WAY OF MOST ACCURATELY CONVEYING WHAT I SAW). RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS IMPRESSION WAS THE FACT OF ROUNDNESS, THE FACT OF HIGH CONTRAST ALONG THE LEADING EDGE OF THE EXPANDING CLOUD, AND THE FACT OF VERY RAPIDLY DIMINISHING INTENSITY FROM THE BACK EDGE TOWARD THE EPICENTER.

I BELIEVE AN X-RAY PROJECTION OF A 6-INCH HOLLOW SPHERE WITH AN 1/8-INCH SURFACE THICKNESS WOULD REPRODUCE A PICTURE OF WHAT I AM TRYING TO DESCRIBE. THIS WOULD BE QUITE DIFFERENT FROM AN X-RAY OF A SOLID HOMOGENEOUS BALL, WHOSE PROJECTION WOULD SHOW INCREASING DENSITY TOWARD THE CENTER, AND IT IS THIS DIFFERENCE WHICH I WISH TO CONVEY.

I WISH I COULD SAY THAT ALL QUADRANTS NEATLY FITTED THIS DESCRIPTION, BUT THIS IS NOT SO. MOST OF THE UPPER SEMICIRCLE WAS UNOBSERVED AT THIS TIME, AND SEEMED MERELY TO BLEND GRADUALLY INTO THE DARK BACKGROUND. AT ABOUT THIS TIME THE FLASHING LIGHT, WHICH I SAW ONLY AS A FLASHING LIGHT AND WITHOUT FORM, ACCELERATED SOUTHWARD FROM ITS CLOUD AND WAS LOST FROM MY VIEW SHORTLY AFTERWARD.

I HAVE AVOIDED DISCUSSING THIS SIGHTING WITH ANYONE UNTIL AFTER WRITING THIS LETTER IN ORDER THAT MY ORIGINAL IMPRESSIONS WOULD NOT BE CHANGED, BEING AWARE THAT IMPRESSIONS CAN BE ALTERED RETROACTIVELY, UNCONSCIOUSLY, WITHOUT EFFORT OR INTENT.

I THINK MR ROMINGER WILL WANT TO WRITE YOU. IF NOT, I WILL URGE HIM TO DO SO AS THIS LETTER HAS HAD TO DO MAINLY WITH ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THE SIGHTING.

YOURS TRULY,

STEFFEN SORENSEN,  
RADIO OFFICER,  
S/S MOUNT VERNON VICTORY,  
U.S. REG. #284178

12  
S/S MOUNT VERNON VICTORY  
AT SEA, 28 JUNE 66

NICAP  
WASHDC

SIRS:

WITH REFERENCE TO MY ENCLOSED SIGHTING REPORT AND ALSO THE  
16 DEC 65 S/S SCHNEIDEMAN REPORT (VOL III, NO 6):

I FEEL SOMEWHAT FOOLISH OFFERING THE FOLLOWING TO NICAP IN  
VIEW OF THE EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE YOU MUST HAVE IN THIS FIELD,  
BUT YOUR SCHNEIDEMAN ACCOUNT DOES HINT OF YOUR NEGLECT TO CONSIDER  
SOME OF WHAT FOLLOWS.

IF A BODY ENTERS THE ATMOSPHERE AT A SUFFICIENTLY SHALLOW  
ANGLE, AND

IF IT CONTINUES LOSING ALTITUDE, AND

IF THE OBSERVER IS AT A SUFFICIENTLY LOW ALTITUDE, AND

IF THE SIGHTING IS DISCONTINUED PRIOR TO THE ARRIVAL OF THE  
BODY AT AN OVERHEAD POSITION, AND

IF THE TRAJECTORY, WHEN EXTENDED, FALLS BEHIND THE OBSERVER,

THEN THIS CONTINUALLY FALLING BODY WILL APPEAR TO THE  
OBSERVER AS A CONTINUALLY RISING BODY.

YOU STATE (REF S/S SCHNEIDEMAN) "POSSIBLY THE INITIAL 'CLOUD'  
EFFECT WAS INCIDENTAL TO THE LAUNCHING, BUT THE EXPANSION INTO  
A LARGER, GLOWING MASS IS A PUZZLING FACTOR." I OFFER THIS: THAT  
THE S/S SCHNEIDEMAN AND S/S MOUNT VERNON VICTORY CLOUDS WERE NOT  
THE EXPANDING CLOUDS THEY APPEARED TO BE, BUT RATHER INCREASED IN  
APPARENT SIZE WITH INCREASING PROXIMITY. AT FIRST SIGHTING THE  
6/27 UFO WAS ON THE HORIZON AND, I SPECULATE, MANY MILES HIGH AND  
MANY MILES BEHIND THE EIGHT-MILE HORIZON, WHILE AT TERMINATION THE  
CLOUD WAS PERHAPS A VERY FEW MILES AWAY AT MOST. THIS IS A CONSIDER-  
ABLE RANGE RATIO, AND THE APPARENT EXPANSION WOULD NECESSARILY FOLLOW THE  
SAME RATIO. RATHER THAN VIEW THE CLOUD AS EXPANDING AND  
"INCIDENTAL TO THE LAUNCHING", THE FOREGOING WOULD PERMIT IT TO BE  
CONSIDERED IN STRAIGHTFORWARD FASHION AS A SHOCK FRONT, LUMINOUS  
THROUGH IONIZATION.

BEARING IN MIND THAT THE MID-AIR TERMINATION OF THE 6/27  
TRAJECTORY WAS SEEN AT AN ANGLE CONSIDERABLY REMOVED FROM THAT OF  
THE TRAJECTORY ITSELF, THE SHOCK-WAVE VIEW WOULD THEN ALSO SERVE  
TO EXPLAIN THE LACK OF SYMMETRY NOTED IN MY REPORT. I SHOULD NOTE  
HERE THAT THE HIGH CONTRAST LINE SEEN AT THIS TIME WAS NOT SEEN AT  
ANY POINT WITH RESPECT TO THE UFO (UNTIL AFTER "SEPARATION") THAT  
SUGGESTED IT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN A SHOCK LINE.



MR ROMINGER HAS OFFERED TWO SUGGESTIONS: THAT THE VERTICAL PORTION OF THE DISSYMMETRY MIGHT BE ACCOUNTED FOR BY THE HIGHER MOISTURE OR OTHER CONTENT OF THE LOWER AIR (AS A CONSIDERABLE VERTICAL SPAN SEEMED LIKELY) AND THAT A CLUE TO THE SPACING BETWEEN THE UFO AND THE SHOCK FRONT MIGHT BE FOUND IN A RECENT RELEASE IN THE SCIENCE JOURNAL (LONDON), MAY '66, P. 9, "MAGNETIC CONTROL FOR RE-ENTRY". NOT TOO MUCH IMAGINATION WOULD SUGGEST THAT  $\nabla$  WITH HIGH FIELDS (EVEN ENORMOUSLY GREATER THAN THE 500 KILOGAUSS MOMENTARY FIELDS DESCRIBED ELSEWHERE IN THE SAME ISSUE) MIGHT PROVIDE A MEANS FOR KEEPING A SHOCK WAVE A VERY CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE AHEAD OF THE BODY PRODUCING IT. THIS, IF APPLIED TO THE 6/27 SIGHTING, WOULD PERMIT THE ROUNDED LINE TO BE SEEN AS THE EXPECTED PHENOMENON RATHER THAN, IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH INFLUENCE, A V WITH ITS APEX IN CONTACT  $\nabla$  WITH THE GENERATING BODY.

THIS LEAVES THE QUESTION OF THE LINGERING AND DRIFTING LUMINESCENT CLOUD FOLLOWING "SEPARATION". IN THIS CONNECTION IT MIGHT BE NOTED THAT UPPER-ATMOSPHERE IONIZATION, AS TAKES PLACE DAILY THROUGH SOLAR RADIATION, IS NOT EXTINGUISHED IMMEDIATELY AT SUNDOWN BUT TENDS TO LINGER, DIMINISHING GRADUALLY OVER A PERIOD OF HOURS.

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THESE VARIOUS THINGS, A UFO EMERGING FROM A GLOWING, EXPANDING CLOUD SEEMS VERY MUCH LESS THAN ABSURD.

YOURS TRULY,

STEFFEN SORENSEN

FTD (TDETR)  
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433  
1 August 1966

Steffen Sorensen  
10118 63rd Avenue, North  
Sevinole, Florida 33540

Dear Mr. Sorensen,

Thank you for the information which you have submitted to Project Blue Book on your observation. Indeed your observation is interesting and unique. I would appreciate it if you would fill out the attached FTD Form 164 and return to me for further evaluation.

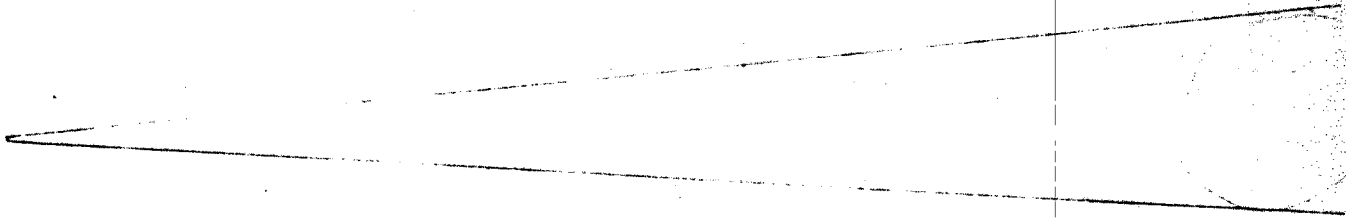
I intend to turn your information over to the meteorological experts for their study.

Sincerely,

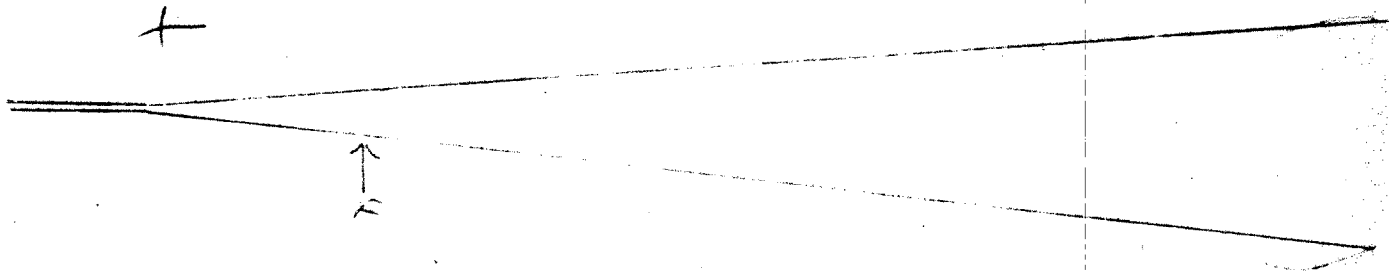
HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Major, USAF  
Chief, Project Blue Book



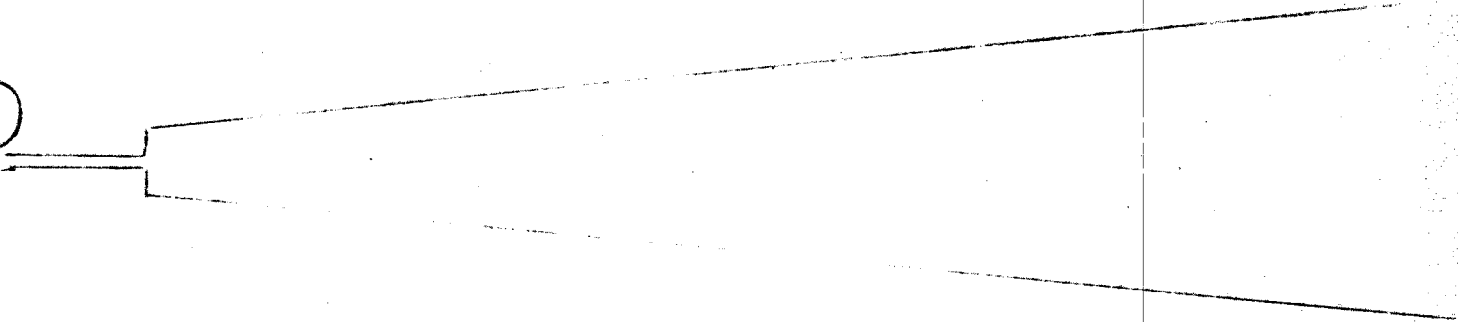
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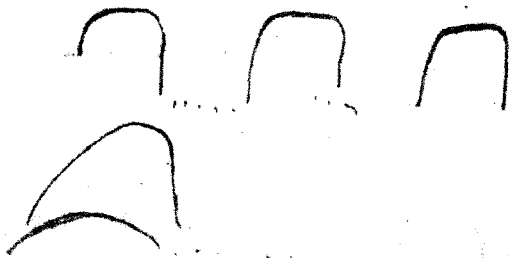
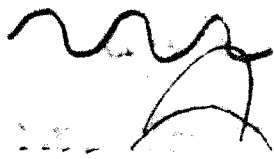
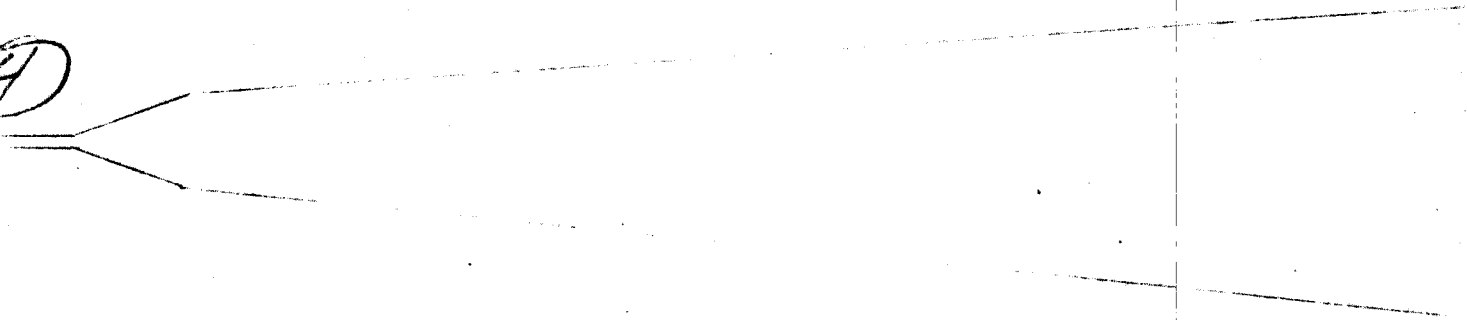
②



③



④







Continued from p. 7:

There is extremely little public knowledge of the interest and work being conducted in gravity and anti-gravity research, and that laboratory demonstrations have shown considerable manipulation of gravity possible by a number of methods. Even less is known publicly that mass  $g$  inertia exists solely within its gravitic reference zone - a fact which when not recognized makes it very easy for the most capable and ingenious minds to be misled by USAF pronouncements that UFOs are other than what they truly are.

I predict that unless the truth of this interest in UFOs is made public, we will be faced in the not distant future not only with increasing popular preoccupation with UFOs but with the ridiculous spectacle of its becoming a prime political consideration. I would suggest you consider the implications of this, and the unlikelyhood of such a movement not gaining momentum once started - in view of five million Americans now having seen UFOs (by Gallup poll) and about half the US adult population (Gallup) no longer subscribing to the hallucination or hoax explanations. These five million first-hand witnesses and rapidly increasing number of people who do not consider a UFO to be a planet (usually Venus) surrounded by a cloud of warh gas while refuelling operations are taking place in an area of unusually intense weather balloon activity, etc., - these are the people who would give the necessary support to those who would declare intent to end the secrecy through elementary political means.

Ridiculous or irrational? Not when viewed from the other side of the Brass Curtain, and that is where most of us are, and there is little in history to support the irrational notion that Human beings are Rational beings.



## RANDOM COMMENTS, pertinent to preceding pages:

On perhaps the day following the sighting - or on the second day - I sketched out a few pictorial graphs (Page 15) showing relative object size plotted against time. Afterwards, presenting the completed sheet to Mr R, he indicated within seconds that #2 represented what he had seen.

At bottom of same sheet (p 15) we discussed the nature of the brilliantly flashing light and agreed that it could best be described as a symmetrical square wave with some rounding-off of the corners.

Page 16 (Thermofax of original scratch paper, as is p 15): During the first ten minutes of sighting, immediately prior to Mr R's having called me, the UFO had a much different characteristic than was ~~observed~~ observed later.

1. When first sighted, was thought to be Venus, though exceptionally bright.
2. At point "p", p 15, the on-off flashing was noted to have begun, and it was no longer thought likely that this might be Venus.
3. At this time it was noted that the light had grown very considerably in apparent size, and that the flashing light was surrounded by a bright halo.
4. This halo is shown in a negative sense - light being dark and dark being light - at the top of page 16. All lines were sharply outstanding, crisp, contrasty, with the lower semicircle of the halo being at all times much wider than the upper semicircle. While the uppermost figure in Mr R's sketch would not seem to agree, perhaps through carelessness in drawing, he did tell me that the flashing light was at all times at the center of the outer halo edge rather than at the center of the inner one.
5. Center of the page (16) shows a disagreement Mr R and I had concerning the direction taken by the flashing light following its "separation" from the halo. Ref para 29, p 5. My contention: acceleration and sharp change of course to southward. Mr R: Continuation on same course, and with apparent acceleration due to change in viewing angle with UFO approach, with illusion of acceleration increased through the UFO having spent perhaps as long as two minutes behind a dark cloud toward the end of the sighting.



As Mr R has had a 20-year history of earning his livelihood with a sextant, plus the even more important fact of his enjoying his work, I hesitate to say that he was wrong and I was right (ref again para 29), can only say that at the moment this apparent course change became apparent to me I put down my glasses for a few moments in order to orient myself properly with the foremast and starboard beam.

6. After about ten minutes of sighting, the halo, previously having been very sharp along both inner and outer perimeters, diffused ~~it~~ along its inner edge until, at about the ten minute point, the halo was then for several minutes ~~it~~ seen simply as a glowing ball - with sharp outer edge - having at its center a brilliant, flashing white light.
7. This condition existed, with the ball expanding, until changes were noted as covered in the NICAP report (pages 10 thru 13).

My impression now, after several weeks, is that the flashing light may have been considerably less intense during the last minute or two of sighting than earlier, based on the memory of ~~the~~ the difficulty of locating it (after it had begun leaving its glowing cloud) amid the brilliant stars in the background. (This is answer to your para 13 e.)

Two days ago I received a letter from an organization which heroically pretends to be an independent agency saying, in part, "..., a prominent scientist, checked on some facts for us and discovered that there was a rocket fired from Bikini Atoll within minutes of your sighting. Could you tell us whether you were anywhere near this island at the time or whether this is what you may have seen. I realize that some of your descriptions may not fit in with the rocket launching, but we would still like to know if it is possible that this is what you saw..." As your own organization may have been the source of this weatherballooning technique, I quote to you my answer that "At the time of the 27 June sighting, Bikini Atoll was roughly 110 degrees removed from the point at which the UFO first appeared on the horizon." This fact could have been established by means of a two minute expenditure of energy over a chart plot - yet my opinion of the fact was solicited by mail.

With reference to your 8/1/66 letter (page 14), I am pleased that you regard this sighting as being interesting and unique, but question your wisdom in engaging meteorologists to study a phenomena which you know not to be primarily of a meteorological interest.