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Report on Local "Flying Disc"

D333.5 ID (8 Jul 47)

2nd Ind

HQ., AIR DEFENSE COMMAND, Mitchel Field, New York, 25 July 1947.

TO: Commanding General, Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D. C.
ATTN: AC/AS-2

Forwarded for your information.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

3 Incls:
n/c

R. H. Smith
R. H. SMITH
Colonel, GSC
Asst Chief of Staff-Intell.

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From detailed study of reports select 1 for their impression of veracity and reliability. Several conclusions have been formed:

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(a) This "flying saucer" situation is not all imaginary or seeing too much in some natural phenomenon. Something is really flying around.

(b) Lack of topside inquiries, when compared to the prompt and demanding inquiries that have originated topside upon former events, give more than ordinary weight to the possibility that this is a domestic project, about which the President, etc. know.

(c) Whatever the objects are, this much can be said of their physical appearance:

1. The surface of these objects is metallic, indicating a metallic skin, at least.

2. When a trail is observed, it is lightly colored, a Blue-Brown haze, that is similar to a rocket engine's exhaust. Contrary to a rocket of the solid type, one observation indicates that the fuel may be throttled which would indicate a liquid rocket engine.

3. As to shape, all observations state that the object is circular or at least elliptical, flat on the bottom and slightly domed on the top. The size estimates place it somewhere near the size of a C-54 or a Constellation.

4. Some reports describe two tabs, located at the rear and symmetrical about the ~~line~~ axis of flight motion.

5. Flights have been reported, from three to nine of them, flying good formation on each other, with speeds always above 300 knots.

6. The discs oscillate laterally while flying along, which could be snaking.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO
SUBJECT: REPORTS OF FLYING DISCS

DATE: August 28, 1947

ATTENTION: ASSISTANT DIRECTOR D. M. LADD

On August 27, 1947, Lt. Colonel [redacted] A-2, Fourth Air Force, Hamilton Field, California, advised that the Area Intelligence Requirements Division Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, A-2 Headquarters, requested that one [redacted] of Phoenix, Arizona, be completely interviewed in connection with a report that he had seen on July 7, 1947, what he believed were flying discs. [redacted] is supposed to have taken several pictures of the discs with a 620 Box Camera.

A previous report of this reported sighting of flying discs was forwarded the Bureau on August 8, 1947.

Colonel [redacted] has advised that [redacted], an intelligence agent of A-2 stationed at Long Beach, California, would arrive in Phoenix, Arizona, on or about September 2, 1947, and would be instructed to contact the Phoenix Field Division Office.

In accordance with Bureau Bulletin No. 42, Series 1947, it is felt that an agent from the Phoenix Field Division should interview [redacted] Phoenix, if [redacted] has not already been interviewed. Colonel [redacted] indicated that Mr. [redacted] should, if possible, sit in on this interview.

A copy of the report from A-2 dated August 4, 1947, along with three photographic prints of the pictures allegedly taken by Mr. [redacted], is being enclosed for the Phoenix Field Division.

WNR/jo
62-2938
2 cc Phoenix (Encl.) (AMSD)

AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

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HEADQUARTERS
AIR DEFENSE COMMAND
Mitchel Field, New York

In reply
refer to:

D 333.5EX

3 September 1947

SUBJECT: Cooperation of FBI with AAF on Investigations of "Flying Disc" Incidents.

TO: Commanding Generals, First, Second, Fourth, Tenth, Eleventh
and Fourteenth Air Forces
ATTENTION: Assistant Chief of Staff, A-2

1. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has agreed to assist Air Force Intelligence personnel in the investigation of "flying disc" incidents in order to quickly and effectively rule out what are pranks and to concentrate on what appears to be a genuine incident.

2. It was the original intent of the AC/AS-2, Headquarters, Army Air Forces that whereas the ADC Air Forces would interview responsible observers whose names would be furnished by AAF, the FBI would investigate incidents of so called "discs" being found on the ground. The services of the FBI were enlisted in order to relieve the numbered Air Forces of the task of tracking down all the many instances which turned out to be ash can covers, toilet seats and whatnot.

3. It is requested that each A-2 informally coordinate and cooperate with the FBI, generally keeping the FBI informed of any proposed calls that intelligence personnel will make on this subject. Very shortly, with the separation of the AAF from the War Department, a firm policy will be established to clarify the liaison arrangements between A-2's and FBI Special Agents. Presently, it is considered inadvisable to promulgate a formal interim policy -- only to have it replaced in a month or so by another.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL STRATHEMEYER:

/s/ R. H. SMITH
R. H. SMITH
Colonel, GSC
Asst. Chief of Staff-Intell.