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PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 7 January 50 08/0415Z	2. LOCATION Corona, New Mexico
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION Astro (METEOR)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Evaluated as a Meteor observation.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10 Seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS When first sighted it was at 45 deg. Object descended at approximately 60 deg angle from horizon to a position just above horizon caused by the mountain range where it leveled out and traveled approximately 10 deg East, at which time it dropped behind the mountain range out of sight. First appearance of obj was yellowish white. Object appeared to be more orange than originally with a trail of flame projecting out to its rear on opposite the direction it was traveling. When it reached position where it leveled out it became a bright blue-green in color and remained that color until it passed out of sight. Round ball shaped.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Descending to East	
8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON

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THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF  
17th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS  
KITLAND AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

DR/REB/pc

19 January 1950

FILE NO: (24-8) 14

SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA  
Sighted by Capt ROBERT E. RISLEY,  
AO-404183, Holloman AFB, at 2215  
Hours, 7 January 1950.  
SPECIAL INQUIRY - Unconventional Aircraft

To: Commanding General  
Air Materiel Command  
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base  
Dayton, Ohio  
ATTN: COLIAK *AP*

1. Reference is made to previous reports of sightings of unidentified aerial objects in the West Texas-New Mexico-Arizona area.
2. Attached are two (2) copies of a Report of Investigation by Special Agent Russell O. Womack, this office, dated 19 January 1950, subject as above.
3. Investigation of incidents of this nature is continuing in this district and copies of future reports will be forwarded to your headquarters.

1 Incl:  
Rpt of Inv (dup)

DOYLE REES  
Lt Col, USAF  
District Commander

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Ar Fireballs  
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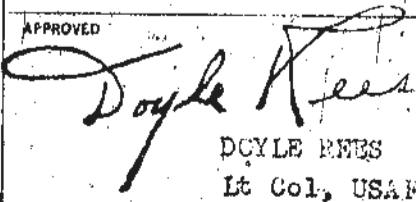
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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS <b>REPORT OF INVESTIGATION</b>		UNCLASSIFIED (24-8) - 14	DATE 19 January 1950
TITLE UNKNOWN AERIAL PHENOMENON Sighted by Captain ROBERT L. R. RISLEY, AO-404163, Holloman Air Force Base at 2215 hours, 7 January 1950.		REPORT MADE BY RUSSELL C. MOYACK, JR.	REPORT MADE AT 17th D, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico
CHARACTER Special - Unconventional Aircraft.		PERIOD 10 January 1950	OFFICE OF ORIGIN 17th D, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico
REFERENCE AFOSI Letter No. 85, dated 12 August 1949.		STATUS CLOSED	
SYNOPSIS <p>This investigation is submitted in compliance with AFOSI Letter No. 85, dated 12 August 1949, to report all sightings of unidentified flying objects. Captain ROBERT L. R. RISLEY, AO-404163, Assistant Motor Maintenance Officer, Holloman Air Force Base, observed an unusual aerial phenomenon, at 2215 hours, 7 January 1950. RISLEY was interviewed and all pertinent information was obtained.</p>			
DISTRIBUTION		ACTION COPY FORWARDED TO	FILE STAMP
HQ, AFM 2 HQ, OSI 2 CC, HOLLAMAN AFB (Info copy) 1 FBI, ALBUQUERQUE (Info copy) 1 FILE 2	Commanding General Air Materiel Command Wright-Patterson AFB Dayton, Ohio ATTN: MCIA XO-3		UNCLASSIFIED
APPROVED  DOYLE REES Lt Col, USAF District Commander			

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DETAILS:

1. This investigation predicated upon a directive (AFCSI Letter No. 85) dated 12 August 1949, to report all sightings of unidentified flying objects.

AT HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

2. Captain ROBERT H. RUSLEY, AO-404163, Assistant Motor Maintenance Officer, Holloman Air Force Base, was interviewed on 10 January 1950 concerning his sighting of an unusual aerial phenomenon and the following information was obtained:

- a. Date of sighting: 7 January 1950
- b. Time of sighting: 2215 hours.
- c. Where sighted: From ground, traveling in automobile, south of Corona, New Mexico.  
34° 13' North Longitude  
105° 35' West Latitude
- d. Number of objects: One
- e. Observable celestial phenomena or planets that may account for the sighting: None
- f. Distance of object from observer:
  - (1) Laterally or horizontally: Undeterminable.
  - (2) Angle of elevation from horizon:  
When first sighted - 45°.  
Object descended at approximately 60° angle from horizontal to a position just above horizon caused by the mountain range where it leveled out and traveled approximately 10° East, at which time it dropped behind the mountain range out of sight.
  - (3) Altitude: Undeterminable.
- g. Time in sight: Approximately 10 seconds.
- h. Appearance of object:
  - (1) Color: First appearance was yellowish white. During its travel downward at 60° angle, object appeared to be more orange than originally with a trail of flame projecting out to its rear or opposite the direction it was traveling. When it reached position where it leveled out it became a bright blue-green in color and remained that color until it passed out of sight.
  - (2) Shape: Round - ball shaped.
  - (3) Apparent construction: Unable to determine.
  - (4) Size: It appeared to be the same size as a cup 6" in diameter at arm's length.

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- i. Direction of flight: Was traveling from Southwest to Southeast.
- j. Tactics or maneuvers: None, other than the ones described above.
- k. Evidence of exhaust: None
- l. Effect on clouds: No clouds in sight.
- m. Lights: The object itself was a light.
- n. Support: None visible.
- o. Propulsion: Object's tail of fire could possibly be the result of its mode of propulsion.
- p. Control and stability: Good
- q. Air ducts: None visible.
- r. Speed: Object descended at approximately the same speed as a fast jet fighter. However, it seemed to slow down upon leveling off over the crest of the mountain.
- s. Sound: No sound audible.
- t. Manner of disappearance: Disappeared behind a mountain range.
- u. Notes relative to observer:
  - (1) Name: Captain ROBERT H.R. RISLEY, AO-404163
  - (2) Address: Officers Quarters, Holloman AFB
  - (3) Occupation: Assistant Motor Maintenance Officer, Holloman AFB.
  - (4) Place of business: Holloman AFB
  - (5) Pertinent hobbies: None
  - (6) Ability to determine: Average
  - (7) Reliability of observer: Reliable
  - (8) Former sightings: Observer has noticed objects prior to this instance but had assumed that they were some natural phenomenon and of no significance.
  - (9) Witnesses:
    - Mr. Warren Ratliff, Manager of Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Co., at Carrizozo, N.M.
    - Reliable.

3. Check of the Electronics and Atmosphere Research Branch, Holloman AFB, revealed that they had no radar in operation at the time of this sighting. Further check with the Base Weather Station revealed

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that there were no unusual weather conditions at the time of the sighting. Check with the Operations and Projects Division, Holloman Air Force Base, and the Research Section of White Sands Proving Ground revealed that no testing devices had been sent aloft in this vicinity at the time of the sighting.

- CLOSED -

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