

SUNlite

Shedding some light on UFOlogy and UFOs

It is not our objective to judge the behavior, ethics, motivation, or intention of UFO witnesses. We are just trying to assess the value of testimonies of weird tales when these do not harmonize with palpable evidence.

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Introduction to "The reliability of UFO witness testimony"

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Cover: I took this image using my I-phone of the planets Mars and Jupiter in conjunction on August 14th. Both are sometimes reported as UFOs. This issue's Best Evidence case appears to have been the planet Jupiter.

Left: Vicente-Juan Ballester Olmos noticed that Dr. Sean Kirkpatrick's (the first director of AARO) book shelf contained the book, "The Reliability of UFO Witness Testimony". As I noted in SUNlite 16-5, this should be part of any UFOlogical library. Apparently, Dr. Kirkpatrick agreed.

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The future of SUNlite

Back in 2009, I chose to begin writing SUNlite to comment on current UFO events and publish articles about various UFO sightings. For fifteen years, the newsletter's bi-monthly release has been a passion of mine to complete. However, I have reached a point of saturation on the subject and have been losing my enthusiasm. SUNlite has evolved from something that I enjoyed writing to becoming an obligation. I recently retired and I enjoy my free time. I have no desire to turn SUNlite into a job that stops only when I stop breathing, which should not be for some time. Therefore, I have been contemplating an "endgame" for SUNlite.

To make it clear of my position on the subject, I concede that there are some truly puzzling UFO cases that cannot be explained and one probably will never resolve them satisfactorily. As I have also have stated, labeling something "unknown", "unexplained", or "unidentified" does not prove anything. It just means that what was seen could not be identified for various reasons. That makes me wonder what is the point of continuing to demonstrate that most, if not all, the cases in the UFO files are proof of people seeing natural or man-made events and misinterpreting what was seen. Even if a major case is solved to everyone's satisfaction, UFOlogists replace it with another. It turns into a never ending game of "Whack-a-mole".

When I was in the Navy, I was a Senior Chief Petty Officer, which is a senior non-commissioned officer. Chiefs (there are three different grades: Chief, Senior Chief, and Master Chief) have separate quarters on board the ship/submarine and are the "deckplate" leadership the enlisted men get on a daily basis. When I retired from the Navy, I lamented at my ceremony that I had become one of those "old fossils" in the Chief's quarters that I had disliked when I was a new Chief Petty Officer. I had become grumpy and stuck in my approach towards doing my job as the senior enlisted in the Engineering department. By me retiring, I allowed new leadership to take over, which would make things better for all. The same can be said for my "career" in UFOlogy. I see UFO skepticism has plenty of individuals stepping forward every year to examine the new data so quickly, that they have provided good explanations before I can even gather all the data. Like my time in the Navy, SUNlite has outlived its usefulness.

My present plan is to complete my Blue Book review sometime in early 2025 and then publish a summary in a follow-up issue (or two). I may publish special issues every so often after that, as the need arises (like if I saw my first UFO or the aliens finally revealed themselves) but I will no longer be on a schedule. I have written just about everything I wanted to write about the subject, don't like repeating myself, and don't see much in the way of "new" information surfacing that makes it worth my time and effort. Things could change but, based on the past 70 years of UFOlogy, I don't think so.

[In UFO news, the All-domain Anomaly Resolution Office \(AARO\) \(What I like to call Blue Book 2.0\) analyzed a piece of alien material provided by the To The Stars Academy \(TTSA\).](#) Not surprisingly it was determined to be just an earthly alloy. As always, UFOlogy is good at wasting time and money on wild goose chases. Speaking of AARO, it has a new director. [Dr. Jon T. Kosloski](#) is an expert in "Free space optics".

As for one of the TTSA's founding members, Luis Elizondo published a book on UFOs. [I haven't read it yet but Mick West has posted his critique on it.](#) West pretty much debunked a lot of the erroneous information Elizondo wrote about the videos and this implies the rest of the content was probably erroneous/exaggerated as well. As I have previously noted, Elizondo is a just another opportunist/UFO charlatan, posing as an expert, who is looking to make money or fame from the subject.

WEEDING OUT THE WEINSTEIN CATALOG

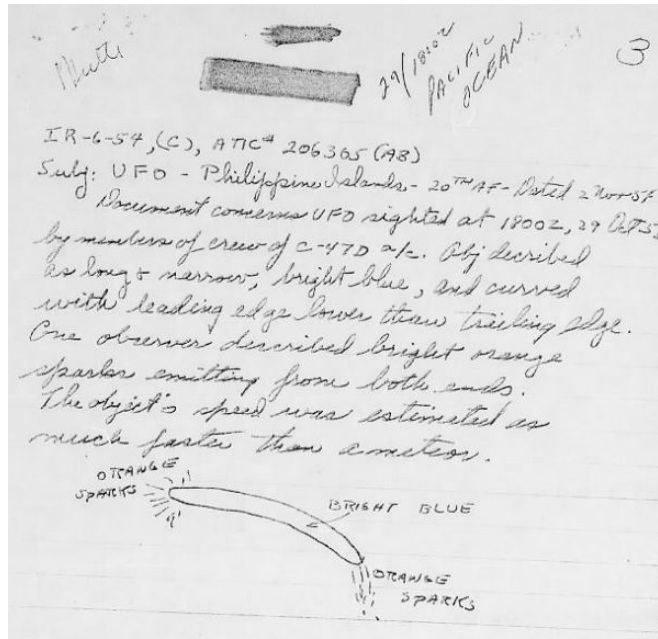
October 29, 1954 - Pacific Ocean¹

54.10.29	18:00	Pacific Ocean	21°50N / 123°30E	M	a USAF C-47D crew	a long and narrow bright blue object, with deep orange sparks from front and rear				03 / 21 401
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The source of this information comes from the Blue Book files and Loren Gross' history on UFOs. Project 1947's files are also listed but those are usually just copies of news clippings and Blue Book files.

The Blue Book file²

The Blue Book file contains a handwritten note about the sighting with a sketch. I have to assume the sketch is based on the verbal description:



It is not a lot of information to work with. Loren Gross' document contains just a copy of this page and mentioning it was a "weird meteor".³

Analysis

We are not given a lot of information. However, the speed was listed as being faster than a meteor. I am not sure what that means. Meteors have varying angular speeds and something too fast to be a meteor would not be visible. The time listed is 1800Z. Philippine time is GMT+8, which is around 4AM local time. This means the sighting was at night. The "sparks" and odd shape are probably perception issues. Bright meteors sometimes fragment giving the impression of "sparks" being emitted. Blue Book classified it as a bright meteor and I see no reason to reject that explanation.

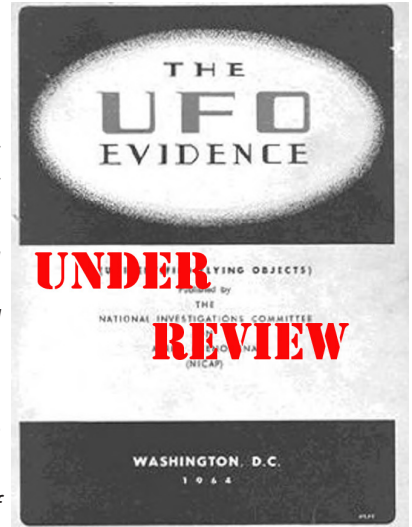
Conclusion

I would classify this as probably a bright meteor. Stating something was moving faster than a meteor is no reason to reject the meteor explanation. There is no reason to classify this as anything but a fireball. The sighting needs to be removed from the Weinstein Catalog.

Notes and references

1. Weinstein, Dominique F. Unidentified Aerial Phenomena: Eighty years of pilot sightings. NARCAP. February 2001. P. 15
2. "Case file -Philippine Islands 29 October 1954". Fold 3 web site. Available WWW: <https://www.fold3.com/image/8728052/philippine-islands-blank-page-1-us-project-blue-book-ufo-investigations-1947-1969>
3. Gross, Loren. UFOS: A history 1954 October. Freemont, California. 1991. P. 93, 95.

September 20-21, 1962 - Hawthorne, New Jersey



Sept 20 -- Early in the morning, a watchman, William Stock, of Hawthorne, reported a saucer-shaped object which hovered and moved from side to side as it shone bright enough to illuminate a huge area.

Sept 21 -- At 3:40 a.m., William Stock and four invited policemen spent a half hour watching a round object with two apparently revolving body lights. At 4 a. m., two policemen, between Hawthorne and North Haledon, watched a bright light revolving and moving up and down and from side to side for about 35 minutes. That night, 4 young persons in Hawthorne reported seeing a bright star-like object with tight beams coming from it.¹

On page 12, there is a table concerning reaction cases. They list the September 20 Hawthorne event as:

Hovered over quarry; watchman approached in jeep to investigate, UFO maneuvered out of headlight beams.²

On page 152, in a table listing "maneuvers" cases, there is this entry for the September 21 Hawthorne sighting:

Circular UFO (apparently a disc) hovered, began moving when spotlight shone at it, sped away rapidly.³

There are no references in the document for these sightings. The entry in the document mentions many sightings. I am only going to address those by Mr. William Stock and his police officers.

Sources

Blue Book had no case for this specific sighting. There is a Newark, New Jersey sighting but it is a general collection of all the UFO reports. NICAP's UFO investigator of October/November 1962 mentions the sightings but does not get into any specifics not mentioned in the UFO evidence document. This led me to look at Gross' UFO history.⁴ He documents the case(s) from some local newspaper clippings. It seems that NICAP simply collected the clippings and used them with little or no investigation.



20 September. Hawthorne, New Jersey.
(early morning)

"Because I thought they would think I was crazy." (See clipping)

to have two big lights on it—like auto lights," he said. As it disappeared slowly over the hill, it was bright. Then it would lose its brilliance and come back bright again, Stock said.

"It was quite dim as it went out of view in the west behind the hill," he said. ^{at 7:50}

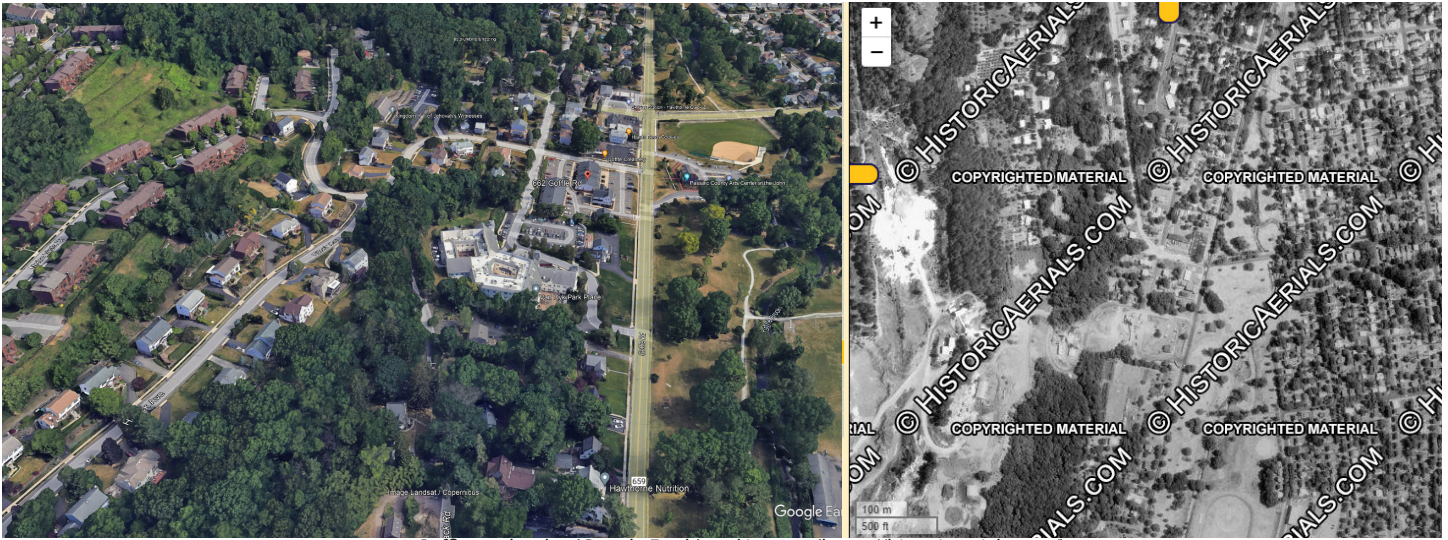
Both appearances were ^{some} between 3 and 5 a.m.

Two policemen in Neptune City reported seeing "two gigantic lights" in the sky early Tuesday similar to the object Stock saw yesterday and today. Also on Tuesday, a Towaco resident said that he saw the same sort of object in the sky.

Newark, New Jersey.
Evening News.
21 September 62.

Analysis

The newspaper clipping does not give us a lot of information for analysis. However, it does provide an address and a description to where the witnesses were looking based on topography. They state the object appeared over a hill near the property. If one looks at Google Earth, the high ground is to the west of the business. This implies that they probably were looking in a westward direction.



662 Goffle road today (Google Earth) and in 1966 (<https://historicaerials.com/>)

Another important point is the witnesses saw the same UFO around the same time in that direction on both mornings. That makes me wonder if there wasn't an astronomical source for the UFO. Using Stellarium, I found a good candidate for the UFO.

The planet Jupiter had just past a close oppositions and was shining at magnitude -2.8 in the Southwestern sky at 3 AM EDT. It set around 4:50 AM on the 21st.



Jupiter is bright in the sky and can take on the appearance described by the witness. The key factor is that it was in the direction described and it was visible on both mornings around the same time.

Conclusion

Like much of what is in the UFO evidence, the information about the sighting is based solely on a news clipping and no detailed investigation. The information about the sighting is limited because of this but there is enough to suggest that what was seen was the planet Jupiter. It should be labeled "probably Jupiter" and be removed from the "UFO evidence" category.

Notes and references

1. Hall, Richard M. (Ed.) The UFO evidence. The National Committee on Aerial Phenomena (NICAP). New York: Barnes and Noble. 1997. P. 140
2. *ibid.* P. 12
3. *ibid.* P. 152
4. Gross, Loren. UFOS: A history 1962 July- December. Freemont, California. 2005. P. 51.

THE 701 CLUB: CASE 807 SEPTEMBER 20, 1950 KIT CARSON, COLORADO

Don Berliner describes the case as follows:

Sept. 20, 1950; Kit Carson, Colorado. 10:49 a.m. Witness identified only as a "reliable source". Two large, round, glowing objects and three smaller, internally lit objects. Two hovered for 1 minute, moved, and three smaller ones came from behind or within the two larger objects, and all sped upward and away.¹

Sparks' entry is very interesting. He documents various sightings around 10:45 PM MST and gives an identification as a probable meteor.²

The Blue Book file

The Kit Carson sighting is 12 hours off from the other sightings that were documented in a separate case mentioned by Sparks. The 10:45 PM fireball was well documented in the Denver, Colorado folder.³ The general consensus in the sightings was that the meteor was heading south and southeastward towards the direction of New Mexico. Multiple aircraft saw the fireball. The fireball was reported as fragmenting into multiple pieces. The number varied between two and five .

As for the details regarding Kit Carson⁴, it is a simple memo from the Headquarters of fifth army on 26 September 1950:

1. Time of the sighting is listed as 1049 local time. No identifier as to PM or AM is given. While it does not mention if it was at night or day, the impression is that it was a night sighting and not during daytime.
2. The source is anonymous. They are only referred to as "a reliable source". A note at the bottom mentions that the witness was a "trained observer" and referenced the US News and World report of 29 September 1950.
3. Witness was driving Kit Carson to Cheyenne Wells, which was an eastward direction.
4. He observed five objects, which were described as fireballs or flying saucers. They were described as having the appearance of "glowing molten metal".
5. The objects proceeded "across the road" the witness was driving upon. One can only assume this means and north to south or south to north trajectory.
6. They were seen below the cloud ceiling.
7. The objects seemed to hover for one minute and then disappeared. The observer felt that their either extinguished their lights or the objects moved out of sight.
8. There were two large objects followed by three smaller ones. The three smaller ones aligned with the two larger ones.
9. A truck driver also saw the event.

Analysis

The object reported could have been the bright fireball seen on the same date. Many of the characteristics are consistent with a fireball sighting and there was a fireball reported. However, the time was 12 hours off. This could have been an error since no designation of AM or PM was given. It is not unreasonable to suggest the actual time of the sighting was 10:49 PM.

Flying fireball. Last week United Press carried the following story:

DENVER, Sept. 21—A new version of the flying saucer—the flying fireball—was reported today to have zoomed across the Western sky last night while hundreds of Colorado and Wyoming residents looked on.

Reports of the phenomena varied from "two blazing objects" to one big one with a squadron of smaller ones behind it.

Denver witnesses described the objects as "tear shaped" and spewing red and yellow or orange-colored flame. One Denverite said the fireballs gave off a "cracking, hissing sound," and a pilot reported hearing a low, humming noise.

Observers in the CAA control tower at the Pueblo, Colo., airport called the objects "rockets" and estimated their speed at 1,000 miles an hour.

One could also argue that it was not a meteor. Even if the time was in error, the description had some details that were not characteristic of a meteor. It supposedly hovered for one minute before accelerating away. Another is that it was reported below the cloud deck. Both of these could have been problems with perception. Bright fireballs can appear to be slow when they flash into brilliance and might even appear to hover. In respect to the cloud deck argument, I have seen fireballs being visible through thin clouds because they were so bright. The amount of cloud cover is not mentioned and it may have not been that significant. A check of weather history for Colorado Springs⁵, Pueblo⁶ and Garden City, Kansas⁷ indicates only a hint of clouds. There is no indication that the area had a thick overcast even at 10:49 AM. Therefore, the witness probably saw it pass by a few clouds and appear to be below them.

It is important to note that the hand written note on the memo mentions the US News and World Report account of the sighting. The article is only a few paragraphs and does not describe the Kit Carson event. Instead it describes the fireball seen at 10:45 PM.⁸ This implies that the person, who wrote the note, felt the time was PM and not AM.

Conclusion

This event can be classified as possibly a meteor. There is a lot of circumstantial evidence that suggests this was the same fireball reported at 10:45 PM all over the region from various witnesses and pilots. The HQ memo even references the US News and World report that describes this very meteor. The only significant reason to reject the explanation is the time was listed as 10:45 AM on the record card, which is roughly 12 hours earlier. This is the reason I give it a possible rating instead of a probable one. With a possible explanation offered, that even Brad Sparks seems to accept, this sighting can be removed from the list of Blue Book unknowns.

Notes and references

1. Berliner, Don. "The Bluebook Unknowns". NICAP Available WWW: <http://www.nicap.org/bluebook/unknowns.htm>
2. Sparks, Brad. Comprehensive Catalog of 1,700 Project Blue Book UFO Unknowns: Database Catalog Not a Best Evidence List -NEW: List of Projects & Blue Book Chiefs Work in Progress Version 1.30. Jan. 26, 2020. P. 165
3. "Case file - Denver, Colorado. September 20, 1950". Fold 3 web site. Available WWW: <https://www.fold3.com/image/9616708/denver-colo-blank-page-1-us-project-blue-book-ufo-investigations-1947-1969>
4. "Case file - Kit Carson, Colorado. September 20, 1950". Fold 3 web site. Available WWW: <https://www.fold3.com/image/9616696/kit-carson-colo-blank-page-1-us-project-blue-book-ufo-investigations-1947-1969>
5. Colorado Springs weather history. Weather underground. Available WWW: <https://www.wunderground.com/history/daily/us/co/colorado-springs/KCOS/date/1950-9-20>
6. Pueblo weather history. Weather underground. Available WWW: <https://www.wunderground.com/history/daily/us/co/pueblo/KPUB/date/1950-9-20>
7. Garden City weather history. Weather underground. Available WWW: <https://www.wunderground.com/history/daily/us/ks/garden-city/KGCK/date/1950-9-20>
8. The March of the news: Flying Fireball. The United States News and World report. Washington D.C. 29 September 1950. P. 4.

Project Blue Book case review: January - June 1952

This is the latest edition of the Project Blue Book case review covering the year 1952. Like the previous evaluations, I tried to examine each case to see if the conclusion had merit. I added comments to help clarify the explanation or if I felt it was not correct or adequate. Items marked with red highlighting had photographs in the case file.

January 1952

Date	Location	BB explanation	My evaluation
1	Korea	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
4	Watsonville, CA	Meteor	Agreed
4	Travis AFB, CA	Meteor	Agreed
7	Palmer, AK	Stars/Planets	Agreed. Possible observation of Jupiter.
7	Vienna, VA	Contrails	Agreed
16	Artesia, NM	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
17	E. Long Island, NY	Meteor	Agreed
19	Cedar Key, FL	Meteor	Agreed
20	Fairchild AFB, WA	Meteor	Agreed
21	Mitchell AFB, NY	Balloon	Agreed (see SUNlite 15-1)
22	Nenana, AK	Atmospheric return	Agreed (see SUNlite 16-1)
22	Norwalk, CT	Psychological	Agreed
29	North Korea	Balloon	Possible observation of Canopus low on the southern horizon. Both aircraft flying westward and observers appear to have seen the object towards the port side (top gunner, port gunner, and tail gunner were observers on both aircraft), which is south or southeast.
29	PA, VA area	Meteor	Agreed

February 1952

Date	Location	BB explanation	My evaluation
Feb	Gonzales, TX	Saucer Fan	No specific date given. Possible Moby Dick balloon from Holloman AFB.
2	Pacific	Meteor	Agreed
6	Dobbins AFB, GA	Balloon	Agreed
10	Bander Abbas, Iran	Insufficient data	Possible daylight meteor
11	Kansas City, MO	Balloon	Agreed
11	Pittsburgh, PA	UNIDENTIFIED	Possible meteor (see SUNlite 8-1)
12	Washington DC	Aircraft	Agreed
13	Granite City, IL	1. Radar Malfunction 2. Insufficient data	1. Agreed (ATIC evaluated that some of the radar data indicated malfunction while tracking the target). Radiosonde data indicates a temperature inversion near the surface. 2. Possible aircraft (no visual sighting just radar contact)
14	Pacific	Aircraft	Agreed
16	Korea	1. Insufficient data 2. Aircraft	1. Aircraft 2. Agreed
17	Roswell, NM	Meteor	Agreed
18	VA, NC	Meteor	Agreed
20	Mt. Diablo, CA	Balloon	Agreed

22	El Paso, TX	Flaw in Negative	Agreed
23	Sinuiju, North Korea	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
23	Atlantic	Insufficient data	Agreed. Pilot reported three bright flashes spaced minutes apart during flight from Morocco to Lisbon. No other details.
26	Near Albany, NY	Meteor	Agreed
28	Cambells Creek, Newfoundland	Insufficient data	Agreed. Record card simply states that Aircraft noises were heard but no aircraft were missing.

March 1952

Date	Location	BB explanation	My evaluation
1	Goose AFB, Labrador	Vapor trails	Agreed
2	National City, CA	Meteor	Agreed
3	Atlantic	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
4	Sea of Japan	Meteor	Agreed. Duration reported as 1-1/2 to 2 minutes but speed listed as terrific. Pilot mentioned a trail, which could mean the entire event (meteor and ion trail) lasted two minutes.
7	Tulsa, Claremore, OK	Aircraft	Agreed
8	Pacific	Meteor	Insufficient data. Crew reported seeing three puffs of smoke. BB determined it might have been caused by meteor but no meteor observed.
13	Keflavik, Iceland	Radar Ghosts	Agreed. Random targets reported by radar operators. C-54 sent to identify could not visually see any targets.
13	Columbus, OH	Contrail	Agreed
15	Albuquerque, NM	Balloon	Agreed
20	Clovis, NM	Balloon	Agreed
20	Queen Annes County/Centre-ville, MD	UNIDENTIFIED	Meteor (See SUNlite 16-2)
22 or 29	Colmar Manor, MD	Insufficient data	Possible bird formation sighting
22	Yakima, WA	R: Balloon V: UNIDENTIFIED	R: Agreed V: Insufficient data. Pilot of intercepting aircraft reported seeing flashes of light that lasted 45 seconds but no radar contact was observed by radar operator.
24	Point Conception, CA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
25	Gambell, St. Lawrence Island, AK	Aircraft	Agreed
26	Ft. Stockton, Pecos, TX	Aircraft	Agreed. Photographs are of radar scope
26	AZ	Aircraft	Agreed
27	San Diego, CA	Aircraft	Agreed
29	Misawa AFB, Japan	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
29	Belgian Congo	Insufficient data	Agreed. Story about fiery disks near Uranium mines. Aircraft attempted to intercept but could not. No time or durations.
29	Baltimore, MD	Hoax	Agreed
30	Japan, Korea	Insufficient data	No case file
31 or 4/1	Contra Costa, CA	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness gave no positional data and only mentioned a bright streak of light that moved fast and could perform maneuvers no aircraft could.

April 1952

Date	Location	BB Explanation	My evaluation
Apr	Moody AFB, GA	Old report	Agreed. Unreliable. Reported in 1959.
1	Washington, IN	Contrails	Agreed
2	Lake Meade, NV	Balloon	Agreed
2	TX	Meteor	Agreed
2	Washington DC	Lens Flare	Agreed. Written on card as lens flare but analysis suspected the problem was with the development. DC skyline night photograph with internal lens reflections.
3	Benson, AZ	Balloon	Agreed
3	Cayuga Lake, NY	Meteor	Agreed
5	Duncanville, TX	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
5	Phoenix, AZ	Aircraft	Agreed
5	Miami, FL	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
6	Okinawa	Aircraft	No case file
6	Temple, TX	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
7	Memphis, TN, Walnut, MS, Macon, MO	Meteor	Agreed
7	St. Louis, MO	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
9	Shreveport, LA	Balloon	Agreed
9	Fort Lauderdale, FL	Meteor	Agreed
9	Medford, MA	Meteor	Aircraft. Time listed as 1.5-2 minutes.
9	Lackland AFB, TX	Meteor	Agreed
10	Ada, MN	Meteor	Agreed
12	Point Hope, AK	Aircraft	Agreed
12	North Bay, Ontario, Canada	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
13	Moriarty, NM	Balloon	Possible aircraft
13	Biloxi, MS	Meteor	Agreed
13	Waco, TX	Birds	Agreed
14	LaCrosse, WI	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
14	Memphis, TN	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
15	Battiest, OK	Meteor	Insufficient data. Seen during daytime falling into pond. Nothing was found in pond.
15	Santa Cruz, CA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
15	Wichita, KS	Meteor	Agreed
16	Madison, WI	Aircraft	Agreed
16	Shreveport, LA	Balloon	Possible aircraft
16	Dallas, TX	Aircraft	Agreed
16	Vallejo, CA	Meteor	Agreed
17	Bethesda, MD	Aircraft	No case file
17	Sault Saint Marie, MI	Balloon	Agreed
17	Longmeadow, MA	UNIDENTIFIED	Mars (See SUNlite 6-2)
17	Fort Eustis, VA	Meteor	Agreed
17	Benton, PA	Aircraft	Agreed
17-18	Yuma Test Station, AZ	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
18	Bethesda, MD	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED

18	Corner Brook, Newfoundland	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
18	Japan	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
18	Corner Brook, Newfoundland	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
19	Benton, PA	Aircraft	Agreed
19	Dhahran, Saudi Arabia	Meteor	Agreed
19-22	Jamesville, NY	Stars/Planets	Agreed. Appears to have been Mars, Saturn and Sirius.
20	Solano County, CA	Meteor	Aircraft (Visible 1-2 minutes)
20	Hallingdal, Norway	Sun/Moon	Possible Aurora.
20	Wright-Patterson AFB, OH	Meteor	Agreed
20	Flint, MI	Birds	Agreed
20	Griffin Park, Los Angeles, CA	Water on negative	Agreed
20	McClellan AFB, CA	Insufficient data	Agreed. Witness reported seeing 7-10 lights following aircraft that was landing. Visible only 3-5 seconds.
21	Almansa, Spain	Insufficient data	Agreed. Teletype story about four fireballs transiting across the sky. No other details. It is possible this was a daylight meteor observation.
21	La Cross, WI	Insufficient data	Possible meteor seen through broken clouds
21	Walla Walla, WA	Insufficient data	Agreed. No duration listed (possibly birds).
22	Okinawa	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
22	Condon, OR	Insufficient data	Possible birds
23	Hinkle, OR	Meteor	Agreed
24	Bellevue Hill, VT	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
24	Milton, MA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
24	Oak Forest, TX	Psychological	Agreed. Interviews with associates indicated there was reason to question their reliability.
24	Fairchild AFB, WA	Balloon	Agreed
24	Clovis, NM	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
24	Waco, TX	Birds	Agreed
24	Colorado Springs, CO	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
24	Dallas, TX	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft (witness same as 16 April sighting)
25	Thule AFB, Greenland	Vapor Trails	Agreed
25	Darmstadt, Germany	Aircraft	Agreed
25	Fargo, ND	Ducks	Agreed
27	Grand Rapids, MI	Aircraft	Agreed
27	Royal Oak, MI	Insufficient data	Possible balloon
27	Roseville, MI	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
27	Selfridge AFB, MI	Meteor	Agreed
27	Waskish, MN	Meteor	Aircraft
27	Yuma, AZ	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
27	Pontiac, MI	Insufficient data	Moon (See SUNlite 7-2)
28	Homewood, IL	Insufficient data	Possible balloon
29	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possible balloon
29	Marshall, TX	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
29	North of Goodland, KS	UNIDENTIFIED	Meteor (see SUNlite 8-2)
29	Topeka, KS	Searchlight	Agreed
29	Holloman AFB, NM	Balloon	Insufficient data. Case file just has record card with no specifics.
29	Coldwater, OH	Balloon	Agreed

30	Moriarity, NM	Radar Jamming	Agreed (although I am more of the opinion that it could have been interference of some kind). A radar target was seen for 4-6 sweeps before fading. Speed determined to be 3700 mph based on the data. Temperature inversions were at 12,000 and 15,000 meters which could be involved. No visual sighting or report of rapidly moving object.
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May 1952

Date	Location	BB explanation	My evaluation
1	Moses Lake, WA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
1	Davis Monthan AFB, AZ	Aircraft	Possible birds that were closer to observer than aircraft. Ground observer saw two objects appear to approach a B-36 aircraft. B-36 crew did not seem to know that there were UFOs interacting with them and reported they did not interfere with their aircraft's performance.
1	George AFB, CA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
1	San Francisco, CA	Birds	No case file
2	Wichita Falls, TX	Meteor	Agreed. Possible daylight meteor.
2	Olmstead AFB, PA	Insufficient data	Possible daylight meteor
3	Melbourne, Australia	Meteor	Agreed
3	Phoenix, AZ	Meteor	Agreed
4	Richmond, TX	Meteor	Agreed. Possible Eta Aquarid meteor.
5	Tenafly, NJ	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
5	Phoenix, AZ	Meteor	Agreed
7	Keesler AFB, MS	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
7	Nashville, TN	Balloon	Agreed
7	Rio De Janerio, Brazil	Hoax	Agreed
8	Atlantic	Meteor	Agreed
8	Misawa, Japan	Meteor	Agreed
8	Misawa, Japan	Insufficient data	Agreed. Airmen reported seeing flashes in the sky that appeared to be flares.
8	Mishawake, IN	Insufficient data	Possibly Betelgeuse. Witness saw red object in SW for about 30 seconds and it then rose and disappeared into cloud.
9	Sao Paulo, Brazil	Meteor	Agreed. Possible daylight meteor.
9-20	George AFB, CA	Balloon	Agreed (Multiple sightings. Most appear to be of balloons)
9	George AFB, CA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
9	San Diego, CA	Meteor	Agreed
10	Cyprus	Insufficient data	Agreed. No duration or positional data.
10	Albuquerque, NM	Balloon	Agreed
10	Ellenton, SC	UNIDENTIFIED	Birds (See SUNlite 15-3)
10	Portland, OR	Searchlights	No case file
10	Korea	Balloons	Agreed
11	Seattle, WA	Meteor	Agreed
11	George AFB, CA	Insufficient data	Agreed. Very little information but witness had reported UFOs previously.
11	Deephaven, MN	Meteor	Agreed
12	Kenton, OH	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
12	Roswell, NM	Venus	Procyon. Venus was a morning object.
13	El Centro, CA	Meteor	Agreed

13	Niland, CA	Aircraft	Agreed. Probably related to Imperial CA sighting.
13	Imperial, CA	Aircraft	Agreed. Four F9F jets flying in formation.
13	Yuma, AZ	Ground lights	Agreed
13	Portugal	Aircraft	Agreed
13	Greenville, SC	Birds	Agreed
13	National City, CA	Meteor	Agreed
14	Yellow Springs, OH	Meteor	Agreed
14	Malung Sawan, Sweden	Meteor	Agreed
14	Puerto Rico	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
15	North Korea	Balloon with flare	Agreed
15	Washington DC	Meteor	Agreed
16	North Korea	Balloon with flare	Agreed
16	Rio De Janerio, Brazil	Insufficient data	Agreed. Short telex describing object seen for 10 minutes. No other amplifying information.
19	San Angelo, TX	Balloon	Vapor trail (witness in aircraft identified objects as contrail from aircraft)
20	Houston, TX	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
21	National City, CA	Meteor	Agreed
21	Lombard, IL	PS: Marble	Agreed. Object hit mailbox.
22	Alexandria, VA	Insufficient data	Possibly Mars (Mars at opposition at magnitude -1.4)
22	Stockton, CA	Balloon	Agreed
23	Kirtland AFB, NM	Debris in wind	Balloon
24	Santa Rosa, NM	Balloon	Agreed
24	Zuni, NM	Meteor	Agreed
25	Tierra Amarillo AFB, NM	ECM/Jamming	Agreed (although I am more of the opinion that it could have been interference of some kind). A radar target was seen for 3 sweeps before fading. Speed determined to be 1800 mph based on the data. No visual sighting or report of rapidly moving object. Temperature inversions were at 13,000 and 16,000 meters which could be involved. Comparable to Moriarity sighting on April 29 120 miles to the SSE.
25	Walnut Lake, MI	UNIDENTIFIED	Moon (See SUNlite 7-2)
25	Randolph AFB, TX	Birds	Agreed (hand written note states date was 21 May record card lists 12 June)
26	North Korea	Balloon with flare	Agreed. Aircraft made several passes on light when radar operator reported another contact that they could not close on. There was no visual sighting. Possible radar malfunction.
27	French Morocco	Submarine periscope	Agreed. Witness reported seeing what appears to be periscope sticking out of water as viewed from beach. Could have been some other tube-like object as well.
27	Baltimore, MD	Aircraft	Agreed
28	Saigon, Indo China	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
28	Albuquerque, NM	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
28	NM, OK	Meteor Shower	Agreed
29	Edwards AFB, CA	Insufficient data	Aircraft
29	San Antonio, TX	UNIDENTIFIED	Contrail/Sun Dog (See SUNlite 9-3)
29	Tipp City, OH	Aircraft	Agreed
30	Sea of Japan	Cloud	Agreed

30	Port Townsend, WA	Meteor	Agreed
30	Fresno, CA	Meteor	Agreed
31	Korea	Balloon with flare	Agreed

June 1952

Date	Location	BB Explanation	My evaluation
1	Rapid City, SD	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
1	Indianapolis, IN	Insufficient data	No case file
1	Korea	Fireball	Agreed
1	Walla Walla, WA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
1	Soap Lake, WA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
1	Africa	Meteor	Agreed
2	Hoquiam, WA	Stars/Planets	Balloon
2	Bayview, WA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
2	Fulda, Germany	UNIDENTIFIED	Balloon (See SUNlite 8-3)
3	Chicago, IL	Radar Malfunction	Agreed. Temperature inversion formed around 2000m. Fighters sent to intercept found nothing.
4	Walla Walla, WA	Balloon	Insufficient data. No course, duration, or positional data other than it passed in front of the moon.
4	Stuttgart, Germany	Aircraft	Agreed
5	North Korea	Balloon	Agreed
5	Lubbock, TX	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
5	Albuquerque, NM	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
5	Offutt AFB, NE	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
6	Kimpo AB, Korea	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
6	Boca Chica NAS, FL	Insufficient data	Agreed. Newspaper report about sighting but Navy replied to query by ATIC that it had no information about this sighting.
6	5 miles NNE of Minneapolis, MN	Tracers	UNIDENTIFIED. The 50 caliber tracers that were being fired could not reach the altitude of the aircraft to produce the report. Duration too long to be bright fragmenting fireball.
7	Albuquerque, NM	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
7	Murray, UT	Meteor	Agreed
7	Seoul, Korea	Balloon	Agreed
8	Austin, TX	Sun Dogs	No case file
8	Albuquerque, NM	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
9	Minneapolis, MN	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
9	Walla Walla, WA	Balloon	No case file
10	Elyria, OH	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
11	NW Atlantic	Meteor	Agreed
11	La Crosse, WI	Balloon	Agreed
11	Chicago, IL	Aircraft	Agreed
12	Fort Smith, AR	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
12	Marrekech, Morocco	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
12	Wichita, KS	Balloon	Agreed
12	Randolph AFB, TX	Birds	Agreed
13	Middletown, PA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
13	Kenton, OH	Aircraft	Agreed

13	March AFB, CA	Balloon	Agreed
13	Fox Hill, VA	Aircraft	Agreed
13	Linda Vista, CA	Balloon	Contrails. B-36 in area producing "unusual contrails". Description sounds like contrail observation. Images are of location where sighting occurred.
14	National City, CA	Meteor	Agreed
14	Dallas, TX	Aircraft	Agreed
14	Oklahoma City, OK	Meteor	Agreed
14	Moeglingen, Germany	Insufficient data	Agreed. Duration missing. Directions are limited.
15	Port Huron, MI	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
15	Louisville, KY	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
15	Honshu, Japan	Searchlight	Agreed
15	Virginia Area	Balloon	Agreed
15	Port AuPort, Newfoundland	Unreliable report	No case file
15	North Kedona, OH	Insufficient data	No case file
15	Pacific	Insufficient data	Possibly Jupiter rising and then disappearing into distant cloud bank. Jupiter rose at azimuth 73 degrees. Estimated location at 55 degrees magnetic (magnetic declination approximately +10 degrees giving 65 degrees azimuth).
15	Zora, PA	Balloon	Agreed
16	Jamestown, ND	Insufficient data	No case file
16	Brownsville, KY	Balloon	Agreed
16	Denver, CO	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
16	Walker AFB, NM	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
17	Lansing, MI	Aircraft	No case file
17	Wright-Patterson AFB, OH	Balloon	Agreed
17	McChord AFB, WA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
17	Cape Cod, MA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
18	Spokane, WA	Balloon	Agreed. Probably a skyhook balloon based on description. Other objects reported as streaking objects viewed for seconds could have been insects or birds reflecting the sun.
18	100mi E of March AFB, CA	Aircraft	Agreed
18	Columbus, WI	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
18	Wright-Patterson AFB, OH	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
18	Mt. Lebanon, PA	Balloon	Agreed
18	Pontiac, MI	UNIDENTIFIED	Possible stars (See SUNlite 7-2)
19	Tacoma, WA	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
19	Lynchburg, VA	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
19	Goose AFB, Labrador	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
19	Waterville, PA	Insufficient data	Possible Balloon
19	Yuma, AZ	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
20	New York area	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft. Multiple sightings unrelated to each other reported by NY times. Nocturnal lights that sounded like aircraft.
20	Benedict, MD	Meteor	Agreed
20	Korea	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
20	Brandenville, PA	Circus lights	Insufficient data. Witness reported red lights. Circus 14 miles away used to explain. Witness did not provide specifics.
20	Macon, MS	Meteor	Agreed

21	Erding, Germany	Balloon	Agreed
21	Maryville, TN	Balloon	Agreed
21	Cheyenne, WY	Meteor	Agreed
21	Kelly AFB, TX	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
22	Stillwater, OK	Meteor	Agreed
22	Millbrae, CA	Aircraft	Agreed
22	Boise, ID	Insufficient data	Possible balloon
22	Korea	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
23	George AFB, CA	Balloon	Agreed
23	Pacific	Meteor	Agreed
23	Spokane, WA	Meteor	Agreed
23	Broadview, IL	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
23	South Korea	Fuel tank	Possible daylight meteor
23	Spokane, WA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
23	McChord AFB, WA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
23	Kirksville, MO	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
23	Chicago, IL	Aircraft	Agreed
23	Oak Ridge, TN	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
23	Near Owensboro, KY	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
24-27	Michigan	Weather conditions	No case file
24	Labrador	Aircraft	Agreed
24	Los Alamos, NM	Meteor	Agreed
24	Huntington, Alexandria, VA	Balloon	Possibly Mars. Object was seen in direction of Mars.
25	Santa Catalina, CA	Insufficient data	Agreed. Seen by three boy scouts on a hike. No positional data or duration.
25	Tokyo, Japan	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
25	Charlottesville, VA	Aircraft	No case file
25	Meade, KS	Meteor	Agreed
25	Los Gatos, CA	Searchlight	Agreed
25	Chicago, IL	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
25	Cisco, TX	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
25	Eustis, FL	Aircraft	Agreed
25	Japan, Korea	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
26	Terra Haute, IN	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
26	Spokane, WA	Aircraft	No case file
26	Baffin Island, Canada	Insufficient data	No case file
26	Pottstown, PA	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
26	Kissimee, FL	Aircraft	Agreed
27	Urbana, MD	Meteor	Agreed
27	Mitchell AFB, NY	Balloon	Agreed
27	Topeka, KS	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
27	Orlando, FL	Aircraft	Agreed
27	Bronx, NY	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
27	Lemoyne, PA	Meteor	Agreed
28	Pacific	Meteor	Agreed
28	Kirtland AFB, NM		No case file

28	Milwaukee, WI	Meteor	Agreed. Duration listed as 1-1/2 to 2 minutes. However, object described as moving at terrific speed. Wisconsin media reported bright meteor at time of sighting.
28	Lake Kishkonoug, WI	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
28	Platteville, WI	Meteor	Agreed
28	Nagoya, Honshu, Japan	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
29	O'Hare Airport, Chicago, IL	UNIDENTIFIED	UNIDENTIFIED
30	Columbia, MO	Stars/Planets	Agreed. Probably Capella.
30	Phoenix, AZ		Possible meteor
30	Santa Monica/Maywood, CA		Possible meteor
30	Seaside Park, NJ		Possible balloon

Reclassification

I evaluated 322 cases in the Blue Book files from January 1952 through June 1952. In my opinion, 63 of these were improperly classified (19.7%). 32 (9.9% of the total number of cases/50.7% of the reclassifications) of these were listed as "insufficient data". This table describes these cases and how I felt they should have been classified.

Date	Location	Reclassification	Reason
1/1	Korea	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
29	North Korea	Balloon	Possible observation of Canopus low on the southern horizon. Both aircraft flying westward and observers appear to have seen the object towards the port side (top gunner, port gunner, and tail gunner were observers on both aircraft), which is south or southeast.
Feb	Gonzales, TX	Saucer Fan	No specific date given. Possible Moby Dick balloon from Holloman AFB.
2/10	Bander Abbas, Iran	Insufficient data	Possible daylight meteor
2/11	Pittsburgh, PA	UNIDENTIFIED	Possible meteor (see SUNlite 8-1)
2/13	Granite City, IL	1. Radar Malfunction 2. Insufficient data	1. Agreed (ATIC evaluated that some of the radar data indicated malfunction while tracking the target). Radiosonde data indicates a temperature inversion near the surface. 2. Possible aircraft (no visual sighting just radar contact)
2/16	Korea	1. Insufficient data 2. Aircraft	1. Aircraft 2. Agreed
3/3	Atlantic	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
3/8	Pacific	Meteor	Insufficient data. Crew reported seeing three puffs of smoke. BB determined it might have been caused by meteor but no meteor observed.
3/20	Queen Annes County/Centre-ville, MD	UNIDENTIFIED	Meteor (See SUNlite 16-2)
3/22 or 29	Colmar Manor, MD	Insufficient data	Possible bird formation sighting
3/22	Yakima, WA	R: Balloon V: UNIDENTIFIED	R: Agreed V: Insufficient data. Pilot of intercepting aircraft reported seeing flashes of light that lasted 45 seconds but no radar contact was observed by radar operator.
4/7	St. Louis, MO	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
4/9	Medford, MA	Meteor	Aircraft. Time listed as 1.5-2 minutes.
4/13	Moriarty, NM	Balloon	Possible aircraft

4/15	Battiest, OK	Meteor	Insufficient data. Seen during daytime falling into pond. Nothing was found in pond.
4/16	Shreveport, LA	Balloon	Possible aircraft
4/17	Longmeadow, MA	UNIDENTIFIED	Mars (See SUNlite 6-2)
4/20	Solano County, CA	Meteor	Aircraft (Visible 1-2 minutes)
4/20	Hallingdal, Norway	Sun/Moon	Possible Aurora.
4/21	La Cross, WI	Insufficient data	Possible meteor seen through broken clouds
4/22	Condon, OR	Insufficient data	Possible birds
4/24	Colorado Springs, CO	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
4/24	Dallas, TX	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft (witness same as 16 April sighting)
4/27	Royal Oak, MI	Insufficient data	Possible balloon
4/27	Waskish, MN	Meteor	Aircraft
4/27	Pontiac, MI	Insufficient data	Moon (See SUNlite 7-2)
4/28	Homewood, IL	Insufficient data	Possible balloon
4/29	Dayton, OH	Insufficient data	Possible balloon
4/29	North of Goodland, KS	UNIDENTIFIED	Meteor (see SUNlite 8-2)
4/29	Holloman AFB, NM	Balloon	Insufficient data. Case file just has record card with no specifics.
5/1	Davis Monthan AFB, AZ	Aircraft	Possible birds that were closer to observer than aircraft. Ground observer saw two objects appear to approach a B-36 aircraft. B-36 crew did not seem to know that there were UFOs interacting with them and reported they did not interfere with their aircraft's performance.
5/2	Olmstead AFB, PA	Insufficient data	Possible daylight meteor
5/8	Mishawake, IN	Insufficient data	Possibly Betelgeuse. Witness saw red object in SW for about 30 seconds and it then rose and disappeared into cloud.
5/10	Ellenton, SC	UNIDENTIFIED	Birds (See SUNlite 15-3)
5/12	Kenton, OH	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
5/12	Roswell, NM	Venus	Procyon. Venus was a morning object.
5/19	San Angelo, TX	Balloon	Vapor trail (witness in aircraft identified objects as contrail from aircraft)
5/22	Alexandria, VA	Insufficient data	Possibly Mars (Mars at opposition at magnitude -1.4)
5/23	Kirtland AFB, NM	Debris in wind	Balloon
5/25	Walnut Lake, MI	UNIDENTIFIED	Moon (See SUNlite 7-2)
5/29	Edwards AFB, CA	Insufficient data	Aircraft
5/29	San Antonio, TX	UNIDENTIFIED	Contrail/Sun Dog (See SUNlite 9-3)
6/2	Hoquiam, WA	Stars/Planets	Balloon
6/2	Fulda, Germany	UNIDENTIFIED	Balloon (See SUNlite 8-3)
6/4	Walla Walla, WA	Balloon	Insufficient data. No course, duration, or positional data other than it passed in front of the moon.
6/6	5 miles NNE of Minneapolis, MN	Tracers	UNIDENTIFIED. The 50 caliber tracers that were being fired could not reach the altitude of the aircraft to produce the report. Duration too long to be bright fragmenting fireball.
6/10	Elyria, OH	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
6/13	Linda Vista, CA	Balloon	Contrails. B-36 in area producing "unusual contrails". Description sounds like contrail observation. Images are of location where sighting occurred.
6/15	Port Huron, MI	Insufficient data	Possible meteor

6/15	Pacific	Insufficient data	Possibly Jupiter rising and then disappearing into distant cloud bank. Jupiter rose at azimuth 73 degrees. Estimated location at 55 degrees magnetic (magnetic declination approximately +10 degrees giving 65 degrees azimuth).
6/16	Denver, CO	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
6/18	Wright-Patterson AFB, OH	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
6/18	Pontiac, MI	UNIDENTIFIED	Possible stars (See SUNlite 7-2)
6/19	Tacoma, WA	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
6/19	Lynchburg, VA	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
6/19	Waterville, PA	Insufficient data	Possible Balloon
6/20	New York area	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft. Multiple sightings unrelated to each other reported by NY times. Nocturnal lights that sounded like aircraft.
6/20	Brandenville, PA	Circus lights	Insufficient data. Witness reported red lights. Circus 14 miles away used to explain. Witness did not provide specifics.
6/22	Boise, ID	Insufficient data	Possible balloon
6/23	Broadview, IL	Insufficient data	Possible aircraft
6/23	South Korea	Fuel tank	Possible daylight meteor
6/24	Huntington, Alexandria, VA	Balloon	Possibly Mars. Object was seen in direction of Mars.
6/27	Bronx, NY	Insufficient data	Possible meteor
6/30	Phoenix, AZ		Possible meteor
6/30	Santa Monica/Maywood, CA		Possible meteor
6/30	Seaside Park, NJ		Possible balloon

Summary

The reports from the first half of 1952 were quite extensive and exhausting to review. Some of them were pretty poor and others were missing critical information. Starting in April, just about any object seen in the sky was being reported to ATIC. Some of these were easy to explain. Others were not. There were a lot of unidentified sightings.

Korea had a bunch of sightings that appear to have been balloons and balloons with flares/lighting. It is not surprising that with fighting still going on in the region that balloons and other airborne devices would be employed for various reasons (such as luring heavy weapons to reveal their positions).

I relabeled one sighting as UNIDENTIFIED. [This was the June 6 sighting in the region of Minneapolis, Minnesota.](#) A pilot flying over the region stated he saw red streaking objects ever few seconds, flying to his altitude of 5,000 feet and then descending to 500 feet. Blue Book listed this as tracers because he was flying over an army range that was conducting live fire exercises. However, they were only firing 50 caliber rounds and they stated they were not firing in the sky and the maximum altitude of the rounds would only be 150 feet or so. What the pilot reported did sound like tracers but he implied they were at the altitude, or above, his aircraft. I thought he might have seen a fragmenting meteor but the description implied this happened over several minutes. Unless the pilot erred in his description and the objects were below his aircraft, I could not use the tracer explanation. As a result, I put it under the UNIDENTIFIED category.

There were also some radar cases from New Mexico on April 30 and May 25 that were interesting as well. They indicated an object moving at speeds higher than anything man-made at the time. However, the target was only visible for a few sweeps, nobody saw anything visually, and there were no sonic booms in the region. It makes one suggest that the contacts were radar ghosts of some kind. Blue Book listed it as ECM/Jamming. I don't think that is an accurate description but I agree that what was being recorded was some sort of false targets. On both dates there were temperature inversions at very high altitude between 12,000 meters and 16,000 meters. The temperature inversions were not very significant at that altitude but they could have played a role in producing these false echoes.

Next issue, I will review July of 1952, which had about 400 sightings. Not all have case files and it will be a difficult task to go through all of the sightings, which is why I will only do one month for the next issue.

References

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2. Project Blue Book archive. Available WWW:<http://bluebookarchive.org/> (Note: This website is no longer active but some of my files come from this location. It may become active again in the future.)
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4. "Stratospheric balloons: Chronological lists of launches worldwide since 1947" StratoCat. Available WWW: <http://stratocat.com.ar/globos/indexe.html>
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6. Condon, E. U., et al., eds. Scientific Study of Unidentified Flying Objects. New York: Bantam 1968.