1956: Juniata, PA. CE1 w. "Cold wind".
. Blue Book "unidentified".

lying Saucer?

Weird, Whirling Light Frightens Juniata Woman

A Juniata Woman, just outside Altoona, is convinced today that flying saucers are real.

The woman, who requested her name be withheld, told the Altoona newspapers and television station of seeing a disc-like object that gave off a brilliant light last night.

She inquired of other persons had reported seeing the strange object, but was told that hers was the first and only report.

According to the woman, she stepped out on her back porch at 9:15 o'clock and a bright light immediately attracted her attention. She described it this way:

"In the center of my neighbor's yard, I saw a disc-like object about 3 or 4 feet in diameter [illegible] above the ground. It was twirling like a top. Almost at the instant I looked at it, it started to rise rapidly.

"As it arose, it looked as though it had a plastic dome, but it rose so rapidly I couldn't be sure. A cold wind seemed to come from it and I felt as though I was freezing.

"The object rose to a height of about 20 feet. Both my yard and my neighbor's yard were as bright as day. I could see each blade of grass, the flowers, the trees(and the fence palings. I never saw such a brilliant light. It wasn't white like a flourescent light. More like a bright light globe.

"As is rose, the roof top hid it momentarily, then I saw it for a distance of about three blocks. As it went higher, it appeared to get smaller but it continued bright."

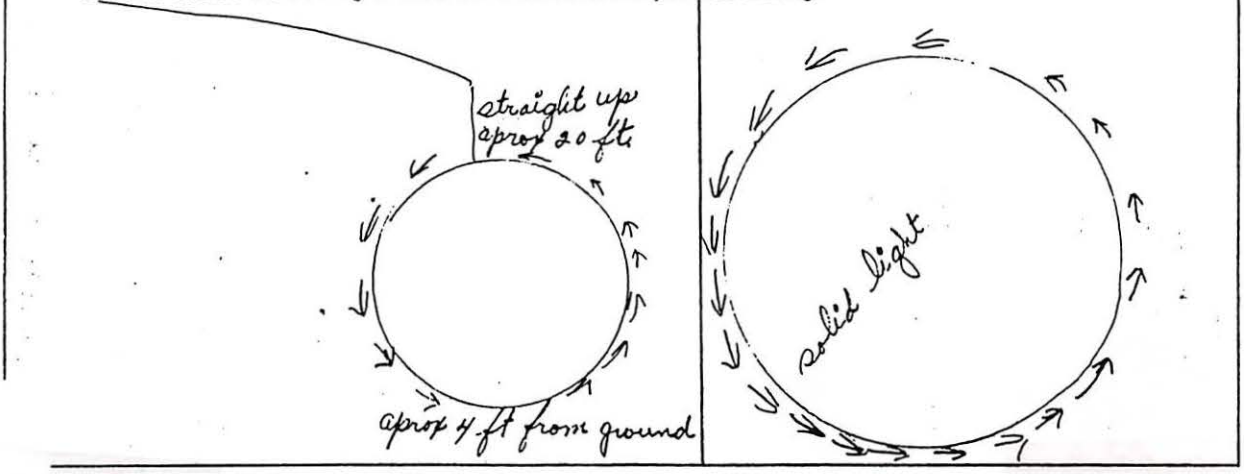
Newspapermen asked if she might have become cold from fright but she replied that although she was frightened that the chill she felt was more like a cold wind blowing on her than cold from fear.

The woman and her husband hooked up a long extension cord and used a 75 watt bulb to examine the yard but found no marks of any kind on the grass. The electric light did not show up the blades of grass, the colors of the flowers, or the fence 100 feet away as did the twirling light seen a short time before.

⇦ Philipsburg PA Journal Aug 28 '56.

from Blue Book.
⇩

17. 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.



Dr. James McDonald's comments on the incident at Juniata:

"This particular case is an Air Force Unidentified, meaning that Project Bluebook did not attach to it any of the many types of conventional explanations used (sometimes reasonably) to account for UFOs reported to them. I first learned of it in T.M. Olsen's *Reference for Outstanding UFO Sighting Reports* (UFOIRC, Box 57, Riderwood. Md., 1966), and Olsen secured copies of the Bluebook file on this case. I located the witness by that means, and interviewed her by telephone on 2/28/68. She asked that I not use her name publicly, so I shall here only employ her initials, Mrs. R.S.P.

"She was 40 at the time of this 1956 incident. Stepping out into her backyard at 9:55 PM EST on 8/27/56 to get husband's overalls off the clothesline, she saw a brilliantly glowing object hovering only an estimated 15-20 feet away, and only a few feet off the ground. She admitted that her ability at distance and size estimates is not too good, but felt that the object was quite small, not over a few yards in diameter, and her preferred estimate was about one yard. It glowed with a blinding bluish light, illuminating the yard and hurting her eyes, Mrs. P. stated.

"She asserted that she was too stunned to move for perhaps a minute or so, and then as she moved to change her viewing point, the object rose rapidly to about 20 feet above the backyard and shot off at high speed. Its only sound was a humming noise. She described a cold draft of air that seemed to blow out from its position though her admitted fright might suggest psychological explanations for this sensation. On its upper surface was something resembling a transparent dome, and the lower part she described as disc-like [Her drawing hasn't a disc appearance unless its supposed to be a top view].

"She inquired in the neighborhood as to whether anyone else observed it. The closest neighbor did not. Another party, she heard indirectly, had seen a lighted object at about that same time, but would not discuss it openly. Mrs. P. reported it to a local radio station, which passed it on to a local paper, and the paper contacted a nearby Air Force radar unit at Claysburg. Investigators came from the latter unit, interviewed Mrs. P., and filed a routine report to Project Bluebook at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, where it was classified as Unidentified.

"Remarks: Single-witness cases of this type hinge entirely on the character and reliability of the one witness. Evidently the Air Force investigators who interrogated Mrs. P. shortly after the incident were favorably impressed. My feeling was that Mrs. P.'s ability to estimate distances were most uncertain; but on all of the more qualitative features she gave quite clear and quite straight-forward comment.

"This case was one of just over a hundred that I suggested the Condon Project check. Mrs. P. said that they sent her a form, but on mailing it to them she heard no more from them. This is in accord with a general neglect of past unexplained cases which various outsiders like myself urged the Condon Project to check; they actually checked very few. The point of concern in a case like this seems to be the casual failure of the Air Force to respond to such reports. Most are given some contrived explanation; others like this are conceded (on what appears almost a random basis) to be Unidentified but are forgotten like the rest. My question would be: Does the Air Force feel that objects answering to the description of this Unidentified phenomenon are readily explainable 'in terms of present-day science and technology?'" (xx.)

Note poor quality of work by Colorado Project.

McDonald's files / U. of Az. ? or a JSM talk ....