

Case 4. Red Bluff, California

August 13, 1960

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However, when Carson and Scott went the following day to talk with personnel at the Red Bluff radar base, they were informed that no such radar sighting had been made. Their request to the officer in charge to speak with the radarman on duty at the time of the incident was denied. The Bluebook explanation that came out after a few days attributed this very detailed, close range sighting of a large object, seen by two experienced officers to "refraction of the planet Mars and the two bright stars Aldebaran and Betelgeus".

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temperature and humidity", such that he would have expected many more reports of UFOs. I should like to know what radiosonde data Dr. Menzel is citing, since the data I obtained does not fit that description.

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Source: *Greatest Scientific Problem of Our Time?* (April 22, 1967)

Red Bluff Incident

Red Bluff, California

August 13, 1960

Richard Hall:

California Highway Patrol Officers Charles A. Carson and Stanley Scott were patrolling at 11:50 p.m. when they saw what they took to be an airliner about to crash directly in front of them. Instead, when it descended to about 100 or 200 feet altitude, the object "suddenly reversed completely, at high speed, and gained approximately 500 feet ... (and) stopped ... It was surrounded by a glow making the round or oblong object visible. At each end ... there were definite red lights. As we watched the object moved again and performed feats that were actually unbelievable."

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The UFO moved easterly away from them and they attempted to follow. A second similar object joined it, and both hovered for some time, occasionally emitting the red light beams, finally disappearing over the eastern horizon. Other officers at the Tehama County Sheriff's office also saw the UFO and witnessed its incredible maneuvers.

Sources: *The UFO Evidence* (NICAP 1964) page 61

S.F. Chronicle
Aug 16 - 1960



CLARENCE FRY
Jailer picked up alert



STANLEY SCOTT
'It shot up 500 feet'



1960

AUG. 13

CALIF.

Red Bluff Daily News

Covering All Tehama County

Box 244

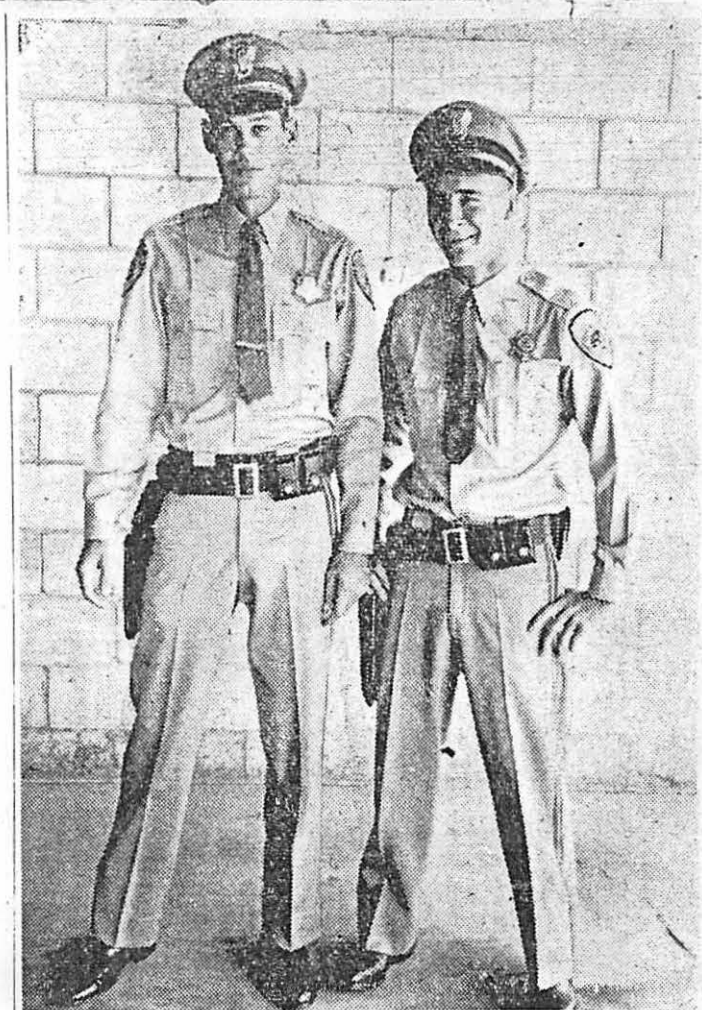
RED BLUFF, CALIFORNIA

— TELEPHONE LA 7-2151

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1960

10 CENTS

ESTABLISHED 1885



Highway Patrolmen Charles A. Carson and Stanley E. Scott (left to right) have been busy fellows the last couple of days giving accounts of their unidentified flying object story to papers, radio and television all over the state. Some of those who in the past chalked off this type of UFO accounts are now looking a little more concerned. The story of the huge object emitting white and red lights at low levels over various parts of the county has been confirmed by eight peace officers plus other citizens. (Daily News photo)

Big Red Object

State Police Chase A 'Flying Saucer'

The Saga of the Flying Thing began about 11:45 p. m. Saturday when Patrolmen Stanley Scott and Charles A. Carson were cruising in their patrol car near Corning, south of Red Bluff.

According to Scott:

The Thing seemed to be about a mile and a half away and was about 200 feet above the valley. It seemed to have a row of horizontal lights and "something on the end of it that made a red beam" appeared to be sweeping the ground.

As they kept looking at it wide-eyed, it shot noiselessly up about 500 feet.

They sent out a radio alert and then were plunged into deep thought.

"We didn't know what to do," Scott said. "So we put our red flashing light on and it swung its red beam."

Then the Thing began to sidle across the sky toward the eastern hills. The patrolmen leaped into their car and gave chase along country roads to keep it in sight.

They pursued for two hours. Above the Sacramento river, the Thing went into "various maneuvers—straight, up and down and sideways."

On it went, leaving the posse farther and farther behind.

Three deputy sheriffs, hearing the radio alert, raced into the hunt. They said they saw it, too. But they too were out-manuevered.

The Thing vanished behind the horizon of the eastern foothills about 2 a. m.

All this time the patrolmen's radio was full of crackles and blackouts—presumably heckled by the Thing.

"I couldn't see a definite outline of it," Scott said. "Instead of an outline there was a glow."

Meanwhile in Red Bluff, the night jailer, Clarence Fry, had picked up the radio alert. About 1 a. m. he marched four prisoners onto the front steps of the jailhouse—and all five men testified to seeing the glowing, mysterious object "about 25 miles to the south."

Patrolman Carson thought he saw a Second Thing approach Thing No. 1 over the river, and steal off with it to the east. Officer Scott wasn't so sure about the partner.

"I'm not sure that one wasn't a forest fire," he said.

Major Malden LeRoy, commanding an Air Force radar station in Red Bluff, reported he had picked up no Thing in his scope. However, he said his equipment would not have caught an object that close to ground.

He said he had made an official report on the reported sighting to his superiors.

A top - secret, saucerlike

S.F. Chronicle
Aug 16 - 1960



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'It shot up 500 feet'



MAJ. MALDEN LeROY
Nothing on the radar

aircraft called the Avrocar has been undergoing wind-tunnel tests at Ames Aeronautical Laboratory at Moffett Field, south of San Francisco. It has been flown successfully at least once in Canada.

The Avrocar never has been flown in California, a laboratory spokesman said last night. Anyway, he added, if it had it would have made a terrific racket.

JAMES McDONALD'S REMARKS ON RED BLUFF:

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THE CABLE-CAR LINE.

Progress of the Work -- Eleven Trains and the Horse-Car

Chicago News.

"We are now running eleven trains of cable cars between Madison and 21st street, and still we haven't taken off a single horse-car. We have two drivers. We can't teach more than two or three men a week how to handle service, and two extra ones in case of accident. The speed, at present, can't be made more than a mile an hour, but when we get rid of the horse-cars we expect to make some rule about stopping-places. We shall probably stop only at crossings. We grumbled at paying 5 cents for riding in the cable-car from Madison to 21st street. The cable which is to be laid from 21st to 39th street, and the shorter one from 21st to Lake street, are both on hand. The cable for the south end is now being laid. The end is three or four thousand feet in length. The laying of both of them may be completed in a few days. The laying of both of them may be completed last night. We do not think of putting an engine on the line yet that doesn't mangle people worse than the car itself. Experience has shown that to fall down in front of the cars increases the number of casualties. Since the opening of the cable-car line passengers on that line has been completely revolutionized. All the fashionable people are riding the cable-car to 21st street.

Go to [top](#) of page.

Chicago -- Third Fatality

From the Sacramento Daily Record-Union / Saturday, November 14, 1890

The Chicago City Railway was the subject of newspaper attention across

THE CHICAGO CABLE-CAR LINE

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Red Bluff

CFS 11:50 PM → "airliner to crash"?

Sudden stop at ~ 100/200'

Sudden reversal at hi speed to ~ 600' / stopped

glow around obj. // metallic looking (JEM) // c. 100' long / football

rd lts each end // silent

(JEM) more fast erratic motions → QUOTE (x2)

radar base confirmed // denied next day (RHM & JEM)

attempts to get closer // obj would move

if they stayed put // it approached somewhat

rd beam of lt → strong radio $\approx \frac{2}{3}$

Moved away // asked for additional cars

Joined by 2nd similar // hovered // rd beams

Disappeared over horizon.

(not allowed to even talk to personnel)

debated whether to fire, & it stopped

AF never comes to interrogate! # of persons witnessed similar from > distances (JEM) (inc. 6 other police)

BB: refraction of planet Mars & 2 bright stars - Alderbaran - Betelgeuse

(none of which were even in the skies at the time)

BB ∇ expt. to Mars & Capella.

(Capella wasn't in the right direction)

(Quote Carson) (Quote Webb) (Quote)

RHM agrees w. BB: Quote.

Sawed off beam (JEM letter)

AF never comes to interrogate! (ex. a non-serious brief thing)

Saw people from Univ. Calif. come out & take samples. (JEM Hrs.)

Bob Boff

"Account of events" ← 11/10/81

100/1000 in to gate number

100/1000 in to gate number

11/10/81

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AUGUST 13, 1960; RED BLUFF,
CALIFORNIA

Features: Police witnesses, vehicle encounter, light beam, E-M effects, extraordinary maneuvers, cat-and-mouse pursuit.

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Sources: *The UFO Evidence* (NICAP, 1964) p. 61; "UFOs: Greatest Scientific Problem of Our Times?" by James E. McDonald, presentation to American Society of Newspaper Editors, Washington, D.C., Apr. 22, 1967; *The Hynek UFO Report*, by J. Allen Hynek (N.Y.; Dell Books, 1977) pp. 92-94.

Red Bluff CA

Case write-up from:

UFOs: GREATEST SCIENTIFIC PROBLEM OF OUR TIMES?
James E. McDonald

(Prepared for presentation before the 1967 annual meeting of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Washington, D. C., April 22, 1967.)
* * *

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1960: CE1

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The northern California valley area was the scene of a number of other very interesting sightings in the period August 13-18, many of which NICAP has documented and cited. In my own checking of the Carson-Scott sighting, I ran onto one additional interesting "hidden UFO report" involving a sighting of a low-altitude hovering disc with red lights, seen by a Red Bluff physician during that same period, but will omit details here.

Red Bluff Sighting.

AFC IN-4E2x

*Susp
18 Nov 60*

**Congressional Request for Summary of UFO Sighting
(Mr Robert Smart, House Armed Services Committee)**

SAFOI-3d (L/Col Tacker)

1. The summaries contained in this correspondence are of the UFO sightings which occurred in the Red Bluff, California area between 12-20 August 1960. These summaries and the associated ATIC analysis are forwarded per telephone requests by L/Col Tacker, SAFOI-3d and L/Col J. Boland, SAFLIL on 16 November 1960. Information concerning these sightings was requested from SAFLIL by Mr Robert Smart, House Armed Services Committee.
2. On 13 August 1960 at 2345 hours PST, two California highway patrolmen, Stanley Scott and Charles A. Carson, observed an unidentified flying object while patrolling 13 miles south of Red Bluff, California. The two officers stated that the object suddenly appeared directly in front of their patrol car and their first impression was that it was an aircraft about to crash. The officers leaped from their car in order to be in a better position to act after the expected crash. When outside of their car both officers were immediately struck by the absence of sound, but assumed the aircraft was without power. As the object approached within 200-300 feet of the ground it suddenly reversed itself, and at high speed gained approximately 500 feet of altitude, where it came to a complete stop. The officers described the object as surrounded by a glow, and at each end of the round or elliptical object there were red lights. At times there were approximately five white lights visible between the red lights. Officer Scott's impression was that the object was sweeping the area with red light beams and estimated that six or seven sweeps were made. He further stated that it appeared to take positive action to avoid his shining the red light of the patrol vehicle upon it. Both officers described the motion as abrupt, but generally toward the east and reported that they followed in their vehicle. As they followed and watched the object, it was approached by a similar object. Finally both objects disappeared below the eastern horizon. Upon return to the Tehama County Sheriff's Office, it was determined that two deputies and the night jailer had also experienced seeing the object and their impressions were the same as the two patrolmen.
3. On 17 August 1960, at 1930 hours PST, Mr Robert Heard of Route #1, Box #658, Red Bluff, California was driving up Belle Hill Road with his wife and son toward what is commonly called Hog Back Road. Mr Heard reported that he and his family sighted a bright metal-like object at approximately tree top level which was flying in a northerly direction. Mr Heard stated that the object was approximately three to

9/25/60

four miles away and the first impression was that it was a large helicopter. When Mr Heard and his family reached the spot where they thought the object to be, they sighted it approximately one-half mile away and approximately 100 feet below them. The object appeared to immediately pick up speed, rising out of the canyon and passing over the road in front of the family. It dropped from sight for a few moments and was then seen traveling up a branch canyon. The object was described as completely round and approximately 35 to 50 feet in diameter. When it rose from the canyon and passed over the road it appeared to have a light near the nose. The light had a reddish purple hue. The object was reported to have a second light which was located on the back. The second light appeared as a narrow bluish band. The object was estimated to have a speed of 25-30 miles per hour.

4. On 17 August 1960 at approximately 2100 hours local, Lt Lynn H. Roberts, Dept of Correction, Mrs Laura E. Jones, ForestLook-Out, and Miss Lenora Siler sighted an unidentified flying object from the forestry look-out at Inskip Mountain. The object was described as a dull red light above the horizon. The object was reported to have faded and reappeared several times in gradual cycles. The object was reported to be generally stationary. At approximately 2130 hours another object was sighted which was similar to the first; however, it appeared to be moving from right to left at a constant elevation.

5. As evidenced by Exhibits I and M of attachment #1 to this document, there were many sightings of UFO's in the California area between 12-20 August 1960. These exhibits also confirm the fact that the circumstances surrounding these sightings were generally the same.

6. This case was brought to the attention of ATIC on 16 August 1960 by a telephone call from L/Col L. Tacker, SAFOI-3d. On this date a TWX (Atch #2) was sent to McClelland AFB, California requesting a full and detailed investigation in accordance with the provisions of AFR 200-2, dated 14 September 1959.

7. On 16 August 1960, ATIC made telephone contact with the 859th Radar Squadron (SAGE) (ADC), Red Bluff Air Station, Red Bluff, California. The 859th is tied in with the Portland Air Defense Sector, Adair Air Force Base. Major LeRoy of the Radar Station reported that nothing had appeared on their scopes which called for a scramble between 12-16 August 1960. Contact was again established with the 859th on 17 November 1960, and at this time Major LeRoy denied having informed patrolmen Scott and Carson that an unidentified object was on the scope of his unit on the night of the sighting. The Radar Unit at Red Bluff is a SAGE station. The equipment at Red Bluff is only monitored at that station and is tied in to the Portland Air Defense Sector, which has the identification and intercept responsibility. Major LeRoy informed the California Highway Patrol that his station had no capability for identification, but that in view of the fact that no scramble had occurred, no unidentified object was on the scope.

The major stated that the officers were not convinced that his information was all true.

8. For further support of the data collected during the investigation of this case ATIC obtained from the Air Weather Service (MATS) at Asheville, North Carolina the WUAN Forms 31 (Adiabatic Charts) for the Red Bluff, California area covering the period 8-24 August 1960. The weather stations at Red Bluff, Chico, and Redding, California are second order stations. These second order stations observe on a limited schedule, generally daylight hours, and do not complete adiabatic charts. The most representative records available for determining the vertical temperature gradient for Red Bluff are the Adiabatic Charts from Oakland, California and Medford, Oregon. Red Bluff is located almost exactly half way between these two cities, 165 miles from Oakland and 155 miles from Medford. Since the general weather for Oakland, Red Bluff, and Medford was the same, it is safe to assume that interpolation will give a representative picture of the vertical temperature gradient at Red Bluff. The Adiabatic Charts indicate that a strong temperature inversion was prevalent in the entire northern California area during the period of the sightings.

9. The conclusion of ATIC is that the sightings which occurred in the Red Bluff area were due to atmospheric refraction. It is an impossible task to determine what the exact light source was for each specific incident, but the planet Mars was the most probable culprit in the instance of the highway patrolman. The planet at the time of the sighting was just below the horizon and probably hove into view due to the refraction of its light by the atmosphere. A contributing factor to the sightings could have been the layer of smoke which hung over the area in a thin stratiform layer. This smoke came from the forest fires in the area and hung in a layer due to the stable conditions associated with the inversion.

10. The usual occurrence in nature is for the temperature of the atmosphere to decrease as altitude increases. This change in temperature with altitude is known as the "lapse rate." In some cases, however, instead of decreasing with altitude the temperature actually increases and the condition is termed an "inversion."

11. In passing from one medium to another of different densities or different densities of the same medium, waves of radiant energy are refracted or bent from their original straight line course, except when entering at 90° to the surface separating the two media. The bending is explained by the fact that the waves travel at different speeds in media of different densities. This, in effect, means that a person can in fact look around a corner, or a curve when there are an infinite number of layers of slightly different densities next to each other, as in the atmosphere. Due to the fact that light of different wave lengths (colors) bend at different angles, white light is separated into color bands (spectrum) ranging usually from red to violet. The longer wave lengths (red) being bent less than the short (blue). This secondary effect of refraction is called dispersion.

12. In addition to the usual results of atmospheric refraction, special optical effects known as mirages may occur when there are strong temperature contrasts in adjacent layers of air. Mirages fall into two general categories termed "inferior" and "superior." The most common mirage is the inferior type, occurring when the temperature profile is following the normal pattern of decreasing with altitude. However, for the condition to occur, a layer of extremely warm air must exist near the surface with relatively cooler and, therefore, denser air above it. Convection would normally occur under these conditions, but usually has not begun due to lack of turbulence and the slow transfer of heat due to conduction and radiation. These conditions cause the light which reaches the eye to be less curved than normally, and in some extreme conditions to actually be curved in the opposite direction. The effect of inferior mirages is to shorten the distance to ones apparent horizon (see Atch #3). In this type of mirage a distant object is sometimes seen inverted and below the real object. This is the type of mirage which is so familiar to persons on deserts. The water they see being an inverted image of the sky. An everyday experience with a mirage of this type is the wet appearance of known to be dry highways. The wet spot remaining some distance ahead of the car. These mirages are called "inferior" because the image is below the real object. When the opposite temperature conditions occur, a cold layer of air with warmer air on top (inversion), the conditions produce a superior mirage. These mirages tend to increase the distance to our horizon and their effects are much more startling than inferior mirages. When these conditions occur a person can actually see objects which normally would be below his horizon. Sometimes the images will be highly magnified or extremely distorted. This mirage is called a superior mirage because the image occurs above the actual object. In this explanation reference has been made to layers of air, but it should be understood that the transition from one layer to the next is not abrupt. There is mixing and a gradual change in the refractive power of the air, and the effects seen in mirages are due to this continuous variation.

13. A number of the witnesses mentioned that the object they observed was moving at some approximate speed. The speeds most commonly mentioned were centered around about 35 miles per hour. It should be noted that these witnesses were riding in cars and that this is probably the speed at which they were driving. It is a common characteristic of mirages that the image remains a constant distance from the observer in order that the geometry associated with the phenomena remains fairly consistent. Mirages of water holes seen in the desert are constantly out of reach. It is probable that the witnesses' estimates of speed were reached by the fact that the object appeared to keep pace with their cars.

14. It is quite probable that reports of all of the sightings which occurred in California during the period 12-20 August 1960 did not reach ATIC. It is, therefore, impossible to make an accurate estimate as to how many sightings actually occurred and what percentage were

due to the inversion. It is possible that some were due to other causes such as "hysteria" and the "get into the act" attitude of some people. However, in view of all available evidence in this case, it is concluded that the effects associated with the inversion were responsible for the sightings which occurred in the Red Bluff, California area between 12-20 August 1960.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science and Components

- 3 Atch:
1. File of UFO Sightings
 2. Cy TWX, 16 Aug 60 to
McClellan AFB, Calif
 3. Diagram of effects of mirages

X
2700 12/23

The official USAF explanation for the Red Bluff sighting was a refraction of the planet Mars and/or the stars Aldebaran and Betelgeuse. At NICAP's request I checked the positions of the planet and the two stars for the date, time, and place of the observation. It was found that all three objects were below the eastern horizon at the start of the sighting, that Mars did not rise above the horizon until about an hour after the sighting began, that Aldebaran did not rise until 1 a.m., and Betelgeuse not until 3 a.m., an hour after the sighting was over. Atmospheric refraction can elevate celestial objects above the horizon but by no more than 35 minutes of arc (a little more than the apparent diameter of the sun or moon). Refraction can also cause a star or planet near the horizon to appear to shift or wobble slightly. However, the Red Bluff object reportedly performed violent maneuvers over a wide area of the eastern sky before disappearing below the eastern horizon (a celestial object in the east would have continued to rise higher in the sky and eventually set in the west). Further, the object described by highway patrolmen Scott and Carson bore no resemblance at all to a refracted star or planet--a very large, oblong object shaped somewhat like a football with a red light on each end and a row of white lights visible at times between the red lights. According to the officers, the object swept the sky and ground 6 or 7 times with a red beam of light. In my opinion the explanation used by the Air Force is completely without basis and ignores the fundamental facts of the observation.

In corresponding with witnesses Scott and Carson, I asked them if they accepted the official explanation. Carson replied: "I have been told we saw northern lights, a weather balloon, and now refractions. I served 4 years with the Air Force. I believe I am familiar with the northern lights, also weather balloons. Officer Scott served as a paratrooper during the Korean conflict. Both of us are very aware of the tricks light can play on the eyes during darkness. We were aware of this at the time. Our observations and estimations of speed, size, etc., came from aligning the object with fixed objects on the horizon. I agree we find it difficult to believe what we were watching, but no one will ever convince us that we were witnessing a refraction of light."

Walter N. Webb
- Walter N. Webb



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

TUCSON, ARIZONA 85721

INSTITUTE OF ATMOSPHERIC PHYSICS

October 29, 1966

Dear Dick:

This concerns some checking I've done on the August 13, 1960 sightings near Red Bluff, Calif.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) office at Red Bluff informed me that Charles A. Carson has been transferred to the Santa Cruz area. The CHP office there gave me his unlisted phone number (AC 408 688-4795) when I identified myself. I reached him by phone at his home ~~Friday~~ evening, Oct. 27. His home address is 2660 Borregas Drive, Aptos, Calif. Carson informed me that CHP Patrolman Stanley Scott, who was with him that night, was killed in an aircraft accident, so I could not contact him. I spoke with Carson for over an hour, and found him quite articulate and intelligent, and careful in his description of the event. On the basis of the phone discussions I would rate his reliability and credibility as high.

I quickly confirmed the main features of the sighting as reported in the Evidence. They sighted the object as they were heading east on a road east of Corning. It was descending at a steep (45°) angle from north to south (i.e., from their left to right). He estimates that it was not over $1/4$ mile away when first noted. Their first impression was that it was an aircraft in distress, so they jammed on the brakes and leapt out to get a better view of what they thought was going to be a disaster. The object was making no sound and they saw no exhaust, no wings, but took it to be a power-off dive, viewed from the side. It proceeded down its glide path passing over their road and continuing a short distance south. When at a point whose altitude he recalls as a few hundred feet above terrain, the object instantaneously reversed its motion and climbed more or less back up the glide-path to a position almost due east of them, but a bit south of the roadway. There it hovered for about a minute, long enough for Patrolman Scott to dive for the radio and call the dispatcher to send other cars and alert all cars in the area.

Next the object came west towards them, losing altitude from about 300-500 ft to perhaps 50-100 ft above terrain. At closest approach it was "within easy pistol range", perhaps 150 yds, he recalled. (They had only .357 Magnums, but with armor-piercing bullets, and they debated whether they should fire, deciding not to unless it came still closer, which it did not.) They could see lights at each end of the football-shaped object, whose length he put over 100 ft but under 200 ft. It looked metallic and one of the lights was an intense and steady red light which he estimated at about 6 ft in diameter. Its beam seemed to extend out a distance in the air, and then to end in some curious manner that he did not understand then or now. It seemed to go out a few hundred yards, evidently being visible from dust in the air, though that's only an inference on my part. It seemed to be fixed to the object and as the object maneuvered and turned, it did too. The object went "through any maneuver you might mention" during the more than a minute that it remained in that general spot. They noted static on their radio during this time, while they talked with the Tehama County Sheriff's office that does their dispatching after 1700 in the evening. He indicated that they "were a little bit nervous about the thing", but did not request permission to fire.

Then it began to move away from them, towards the east, and since the Tehama dispatcher (Deputy Clarence Fry) had indicated that he was getting other cars they took courage and elected to follow it at judicious distance. Its eastward motion was sometimes very slow, occasionally very fast, "so fast as to be unbelievable." Occasionally it drifted back towards them "almost as if in water". They couldn't see the light all the time, as it turned from time to time. This was in open, but rolling country, and it tended to stay well to their south most of the time, so that from time to time during their extended chase (which he recalled only as "over an hour") the object would become temporarily hidden behind isolated hills. They knew all the back roads and would take side-roads from time to time to try to get near it. Once it did not come out from behind a hill, so they stopped, climbed up on the hood of their patrol car to look over an embankment when all of a sudden it shot up to within only about 150 feet of them before darting eastward once more. They resumed their pursuit of it and got as far east as a place which sounded phonetically like "Romano Ranch", a monastery he said. This was east of Highway 99E. To this point he estimates over an hour had elapsed. He did not know just where the other cars were, they never joined his car. I believe he indicated that he learned later the others never got closer than Los Molinos, but they definitely saw a red-glowing object to their south, he learned.

It was getting farther and farther ahead of them, so they broke off the attempt at keeping up with it, pulled back to 99E and went south to where they knew there was a forest fire control tower. The forester was gone but the tower was open and they ran up to the top to observe the remainder of the episode from there. The object was then only a "light", but it gradually climbed up over a range of hills about 3 miles east and continued eastward. Before it finally disappeared, a second "light" came in from the south, approached the first "light" and then the two moved on eastward and eventually disappeared, terminating the observations. He estimated that the total time might have been about 2 hours to this point. Said the radio log would show the correct time.

He confirmed that they had asked the dispatcher to check with the Red Bluff radar base and confirmed that they said they had the object on their scopes, going through the reported motions to the east, etc. Carson was at first somewhat reluctant to get into this aspect, saying that he was not free to "involve the Air Force", but when I read from the published account in the Evidence he opened up a good bit. He said that the Air Force never came to interrogate him (he was a bit cryptic and definitely annoyed in saying this, but I believe I got the correct picture). Said you "might call it an interrogation" in that he and Scott, the next AM asked for an appointment at the Red Bluff radar base, drove there (9 miles W of Red Bluff). He said he stated to the commanding officer something like, "Well, we understand there was a bit of commotion last night", to which the officer replied "Not to my knowledge" and immediately gave them what he termed "the ice-water approach". So they asked to talk to the man who was on the radar the preceding night and the commanding officer denied them permission to see him. Carson said "I was getting a bit testy" at that point, but they left. Somewhere along the line, evidently a few days later, he thought he had talked to someone from the Air Force, but described it as a "tongue-in-cheek investigation". He couldn't recall just how this interview came about and didn't remember where it was done. He told me that a Dr. Clarence W. Winning, of Red Bluff was at the Tehama Co. Sheriff's office that night and was on one of the phone extensions and heard the radar base say that they had a radar fix on the object, and said a lot of other persons were on other extensions listening in, as he heard it later; but knew of no others by name.

Carson said that night was clear, with no wind, a "beautiful night". He was in the Air Force 4 years, though not as a pilot. He is now and was then a private pilot and so was Scott. He was familiar with all the conventional planes in the area and is positive this was no plane, nor a meteor, nor northern lights. He understands that the Air Force later claimed they were looking at a star. "I know what I saw. It was not a star. I saw what I saw. I've never seen anything like it before or since." "We saw something that could defy the law of gravity". And concerning the Air Force star-explanation he stated that "I'd hate to try to take one of my cases into court with such weak arguments!". As you can see, his initial reluctance to "involve the Air Force", which came out when I first brought up the radar question, had evaporated as he proceeded through his account and on to the USAF handling of the thing. "When we walked into that radar station and got ice water, we knew what was coming", he said. But his CHP base stuck by them, and elected to release no names, just the story, which was marked Confidential in the CHP files. Some reporter, who later (3 months later) told him he'd been awarded \$50 for digging out their names and using them in a news story, knew they were the only two men on duty in that area that night, so it came out in the local press by about two days later. Evidently handled locally as a big story. This had one useful side-effect: A number of persons who had seen the red-glowing object, some while driving on 99E, wrote them letters confirming the sighting, etc.

He said Dispatcher Fry was running from his radio out to the front of his building, from which he could see the red object, since it was several hundred feet above ground and that's generally open country. He mentioned that Fry brought several trustees outdoors "as witnesses". Carson said "we came in for a lot of kidding but fortunately there were a lot of people who saw it. We could lay them end to end." He mentioned an interesting point: The following nights there were more Air Force planes in the air over the County than he'd ever seen before. But he heard no more from the Air Force. He heard from a deputy that an Air Force investigator had interrogated a federal forester whose whole family had seen a similar object, but he thought it was the next night, though not sure of that. Didn't know this forester by name, only hearsay report. He also mentioned that the "University of California sent up a team to check on it". They interviewed him and Scott and were going over the area taking samples of soil and fence-wire. (Magnetic check?). He can't recall any names of these people. I wonder if it could have been Dr. Harder, an Agro man?

Hoping to secure more definite confirmation on the radar sighting, I phoned Dr. Clarence W. Winning of Red Bluff, on Friday evening, Oct. 28. (AC 916 527-3326 is his office number, but they switched the call to his home, which is shown as 530 Main St. in the 1963 AMA Directory.) This netted no firm check. Winning was vague on details, though as we talked, his memory came back on some details. He was doing alcohol blood tests there that PM. Recalls a lot of commotion during the sighting, and remembered there was something about radar checks but was unable to say for sure whether he was on an extension phone. I don't know just what to make of that. He did not seem evasive, yet he just couldn't recall. Did he need a blood-test? I would have closed the conversation on that except he proceeded to mention that a few days later he, himself, saw a red, glowing object over his home area, about 2300, when returning from a night call. He awakened his wife and they both watched it 10-15 minutes. He thought it was 5-700 ft up, definitely not a plane or meteor. Moved slowly, and could go up or down like a helicopter. Thought it couldn't actually have been a helicopter because would have heard the noise and seen the blades, but negative on both. Said he recalled that many others

in that area saw objects that week (as per the Evidence). Has never seen any since. Said the object looked about 30-40 feet long, or across, and appeared to be circular, like a disc. Winning did not seem a particularly good observer, but that he had seen something unusual appeared evident.

After several false tries, I eventually got Sheriff Lyle Williams, Tehama County Sheriff for past 12 years. Office phone AC 916 527-1551, home phone 527-4482. Got him on the evening of Oct. 29. He recalled all the activity of that period, but could not recall accurate details pro and con the radar fix, and did not want to give me hearsay. Told me Deputy Clarence Fry left the force three years back and is now a logger in Hayfork, Calif. I tried to contact Fry in Hayfork, but the operator there had no such listing and said there's no logging camp nearby, so that has petered out, it seems. In all, we have no positive double-check on the radar fix from anything that I have turned up.

This winds up my check on that case, I guess. Carson makes an impressive witness and the case is a strong one even without more positive information on the radar aspects. If you have anything more on this, I'd like to know of it, and I'd appreciate it if you could send me copies of any Nicap dope on this part of the total Red Bluff episode.

Now back to my long phone call to Carson for an independent matter. Carson said that not too long after his incident a funny thing was reported in local papers. A hunter in some hills over east of Red Bluff, maybe near Westwood or Chester, was resting on a big boulder, got down and started walking away, when the boulder blew up! Knocked him flat but did not injure him. Investigators reportedly found a section of metal that resembled a "fin", and this was carried in local papers and in the Sacramento papers (Sacramento Bee, he figured). Carson followed these short pieces with interest, but there was never any summary, just little accounts that indicated the "fin" was sent back East for analysis. Said USAF couldn't identify it. One story evidently surmised that something like a missile had hit the boulder and exploded it. "It blew up, quite to pieces", Carson stated. He tried to find out more but never could learn any more of this. Asked me if I could run anything down on this and wants to know if I should turn up anything.

So, my question on this one is whether you have anything on it that we could pass on to Carson? Suppose Paul Cerny would have been following this. Carson is pretty sure it was in August or September, 1960. Sounds pretty wild, doesn't it. Said it was a big boulder, and was all broken up. If his account is correct, one can't understand why the hunter wasn't killed, so he may have it garbled when he says the guy was only yards away. Perhaps tens of yards, or more. But he was very definite that this was in and out of the back pages for some time.

That's it on the Aug. 13 case. I'd like to get copies of anything useful in the files, and I'll be interested to hear if you know of the Exploding Boulder case.

Regards,

JEM
JEMcDonald

SUMMARY OF SIGHTINGS NEAR RED BLUFF, CALIF
DURING THE PERIOD 12-20 AUGUST 1960

There were many sightings of UFOs in the California area between 12-20 August, 1960. It is quite probable that reports of ALL the sightings did not reach ATIC. Comparison of those that were reported to ATIC confirms the fact that the circumstances surrounding these sightings were generally the same. In this summary we will only detail three of the representative sightings reported.

On 13 August 1960 at 2345 PST, two California highway patrolmen, Stanley Scott and Charles A. Carson, observed an unidentified flying object while patrolling 18 miles south of Red Bluff, California. The two officers stated that the object suddenly appeared directly in front of their patrol car and their first impression was that it was an aircraft about to crash. The officers leaped from their car in order to be in a better position to act after the expected crash. When outside of their car, both officers were immediately struck by the absence of sound, but assumed that the aircraft was without power. As the object approached within 200-300 feet of the ground it suddenly reversed itself, and at a high speed gained approximately 500 feet of altitude, where it came to a complete stop. The officers described the object as surrounded by a glow, and at each end of the round or elliptical object there were red lights. At times there were approximately five white lights visible between the red lights. Officer Scott's impression was that the object was sweeping the area with red light beams and estimated that six or seven sweeps were made. He further stated that it appeared to take positive action to avoid his shining the red light of the patrol vehicle upon it. Both officers described the motion as ABRUPT, but generally toward the east. They followed in their vehicle. As they followed and watched the object, it was approached by a similar object. Finally, both objects disappeared below the eastern horizon. Upon return to the Tehama County Sheriff's Office, it was determined that two deputies and the night jailer had also experienced seeing the object and their impressions were the same as that of the two patrolmen.

On 17 August 1960, at 1930 PST, Mr. Robert Heard of Route #1, Box 658, Red Bluff California, was driving up Belle Mill Road with his wife and son, toward what is commonly called Hog Back Road. Mr. Heard reported that he and his family sighted a bright metal-like object at approximately tree-top level, which was flying in a northerly direction. He stated that the object was approximately three to four miles away and the first impression was that it was a large helicopter. When they reached the spot where they thought the object should be, they sighted it approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away and approximately 100 feet below them. The object appeared to immediately pick up speed, rising out of the canyon and passing over the road and in front of the family. It dropped from sight for a few moments, and was then seen traveling up a branch canyon. The object was described as completely round and approximately 35 to 50 feet in diameter. When it rose from the canyon and passed over the road, it appeared to have a light near the nose. The light had a reddish-purple hue. The object was reported to have a second light located on the back. The second light appeared as a narrow bluish band. The object was estimated to have a speed of 25-30 miles per hour.

On 17 August 1960 at approximately 2100 PST, Lt. Lynn H. Roberts, Dept. of Correction; Mrs. Laura E. Jones, Forest Look Out; and Miss Lenora Siler sighted an unidentified flying object from the forestry look-out at Inskip Mountain. The object was described as a dull red light above the horizon. It was reported to have faded and reappeared several times in gradual cycles. It was also reported to be generally stationary. At approximately 2130 PST another object was sighted which appeared to be similar to the first; however it appeared to be moving from right to left at a constant elevation.

On 16 August 1960 ATIC made telephone contact with the 659th Radar Squadron (SAGE) (ADC), Red Bluff Air Station, Red Bluff, California. Maj. LeRoy of the Radar Station reported that nothing had appeared on their scopes which called for a scramble between 12-16 August 1960. Maj. LeRoy was again contacted on 17 August 1960, and at this time Maj. LeRoy denied having informed patrolmen Scott and Carson that an unidentified object was on the scope of his unit the night of the sighting. Maj. LeRoy informed the California Highway Patrol that his station had no capability for identification, but in view of the fact that no scramble had occurred, no unidentified object was on the scope. The major stated that the officers were not convinced that his information was truthful.

To further support the data collected during the investigation of this case, ATIC obtained from the Air Weather Service at Asheville, North Carolina, the WEAN Forms 31 (Adiabatic Charts) for the Red Bluff, California area, covering the period 8-24 August 1960. The weather stations at Red Bluff, Chico, and Redding, California are second order stations. Such stations observe on a limited schedule, generally during daylight hours, and make no complete Adiabatic Charts. The most representative records available for determining the vertical temperature gradient for Red Bluff are the Adiabatic Charts from Oakland, California and Medford, Oregon. Red Bluff is located 165 miles from Oakland and 155 miles from Medford. Since the general weather over the entire Medford, Red Bluff, Oakland area was the same, it is safe to assume that interpolation will give a representative picture of the vertical temperature gradient at Red Bluff. The charts indicate that a strong temperature inversion was prevalent in the entire northern California area during the period of the sightings.

This leads to the conclusion that the sightings which occurred in the Red Bluff area were due to ATMOSPHERIC REFRACTION. It is impossible to determine the exact light source for each specific incident, but the planet Mars was the most probable culprit in the instance of the highway patrolmen. The planet, at the time of the sighting was just below the horizon and probably hove into view due to the refraction of its light by the atmosphere. A contributing factor to the sightings could have been the layer of smoke which hung over the area in a thin stratiform layer. This smoke came from the forest fires in the area and hung in a layer due to the stable conditions associated with the inversion.

The usual occurrence in nature is for the temperature of the atmosphere to decrease as the altitude increases. This change in temperature with altitude is known as the "lapse rate". Occasionally instead of decreasing with altitude, the temperature actually increases and the condition is termed an "inversion".

In passing from one medium to another of different densities or when passing through different densities of the same medium, waves of radiant energy are refracted or bent from their original straight line course, except when entering at 90° to the surface separating the two media. The bending is explained by the fact that the waves travel at different speeds in media of different densities. This, in effect, means that a person can in fact look around a corner, or a curve when there are an infinite number of layers of slightly different densities next to each other, as in the atmosphere. Due to the fact that light of different wave lengths (colors) bend at different angles, white light is separated into color bands (spectrum) ranging usually from red to violet. The longer wave lengths (red) being bent less than the short (blue). This secondary effect of refraction is called "dispersion".

In addition to the usual results of atmospheric refraction, special optical effects known as mirages may occur when there are strong temperature contrasts in adjacent layers of air. Mirages fall into two general categories termed "inferior" and "superior". The most common mirage is the "inferior" type, occurring when the temperature profile is following the normal pattern of decreasing with altitude. However, for the "inferior mirage" to occur, a layer of extremely warm air must exist near the surface with relatively cooler and therefore denser air above it. Convection would normally occur under these conditions, but usually has not begun due to lack of turbulence and the slow transfer of heat by conduction and/or radiation. These conditions causes the light which reaches the eye to be less curved than normally, and in some extreme conditions to actually be curved in the opposite direction. The effect of inferior mirages is to shorten the distance to ones apparent horizon. In this type of mirage a distant object is sometimes seen inverted and below the real object. This is the type of mirage that is so familiar to people on deserts. The water they see being an inverted image of the sky. An every day experience with a mirage of this type is the wet appearance of know to be dry highways. The wet spot remaining some distance ahead of the car. These mirages are called "inferior" because the image is below the real object. When the opposite temperature conditions occur, a cold layer of air with warmer air on top (inversion), they produce a "superior" mirage. These mirages tend to increase the distances to our horizons and their effects are much more startling than that of inferior mirages. When these conditions occur, a person can actually see objects which normally would be below his horizon. Sometimes the images will be highly magnified or extremely distorted. This mirage is called a Superior Mirage because the image occurs above the actual object. It should be understood that the transition from one layer of air to another is not abrupt, there is mixing and a gradual change in the refractive power of the air. The unusual effects observed in mirages are due to this continuous variation.

The most commonly reported speed of the object observed centers around 35 MPH. It should be noted these witnesses were riding in cars and this is probably the speed at which they were driving. A common characteristic of mirages is that the image remains a constant distance from the observer. It follows that the geometry associated with the phenomenon remains fairly consistent. Mirages of water holes seen in the desert are constantly out of reach. It is possible that the estimates of speed reported were reached by the fact the object appeared to keep pace with their cars. It is impossible to make an accurate estimate of how many sightings actually occurred and what percentage were due to the inversion. It is possible that some were due to other causes such as "hysteria" and the "get in the act" attitude of some people. In view of available evidence in this case, it is concluded that the effects associated with the inversion were responsible for the sightings at Red Bluff, 12-20 August 1960.

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UFO SIGHTING RED BLUFF, CALIFORNIA
12-20 August 1960

Radio KBLF interview of officers Scott and Carson of highway patrol, Red Bluff, Office.

Saturday night, approximately 11:50, almost midnight.

Where did you first spot the unidentified flying object?
East of Corning (?), about 4 miles East of Corning to be exact.

You were on the Hoag (?) road where the people know the area around here, right? Now, what you spotted, we have had a lot of talk and people have called it different things and everything else; so, the best way possible, Mr. Scott, if you could more or less identify what it looked like from where you were this time of the evening.

At first we thought it was an airliner coming down and after looking closer at it and getting out of the car, we realized that it was not a conventional type aircraft. It was surrounded by a bright white glow, a glow of light. It was shaped similar to a football. A row of white lights ran horizontal to the object across the center of it, and on each end there was a red light which would sweep the countryside as the object turned. It pointed the red light in the direction...

How far were you from this when you sighted it the first time?

It is hard to say, not knowing the size of the object. It is possible that we were as close as a half mile or anywhere up to a mile and a half to two miles at the closest.

Something I asked Ken this afternoon, I'll ask him again; but right now, I would like to ask you. The very first moment you saw the unidentified flying object--what was your first feeling?

At first I didn't have any feeling until the object had performed a few maneuvers and then appeared to be coming straight toward the patrol car. At that time, I did get scared and the hair on the back of my neck stood up and I was quite shocked.

Was there ever a feeling of fear in any way, form, or was it mostly curiosity or shock, like you say?

Well, I did feel fear just one time there when it first started toward us, and after that, it was more curiosity. We were then trying to find out what it was.

Well, Ken, to your own idea now, Mr. Scott more or less explained what it looked like--once again it looked like it had either a row of lights¹ or a row of windows² on the side of the object, is this right?

Yes, it appeared to be windows. The windows were³ only visible when the object would turn at a certain angle to us. It appeared to have to manipulate the machine in order to get this beam to sweep⁴

in the sense that the beam wasn't movable in itself, that the entire object had to move to move the beam light--this fixed light.

This fixed light, was this one the nose and one, more or less, the rear of the ship?

We only saw one beam in operation at a time but both red lights on the front and rear or sides, how ever the case may be, were always visible.

Would you say it was round?

The light or the object?

No, the object itself.

The object was round.

In other words, if someone would say a flying saucer--that is what it looked like?

Yes, that's right.

And it was supposedly hovering over the ground at a certain altitude for a certain length of time right in that area?

That's correct, quite considerable lengths of time it hovered over the ground and appeared motionless.

Well, you know a lot of people have been talking about weather balloons and illusions and so forth; and right now I would like to point out that we have with us two members of the California highway patrol and they in no way are seeing any illusions, the big thing we want to point out. And, in checking with the weather bureaus in Sacramento on the San Francisco Bay area--there were two balloons let out with red and white lights but these balloons were never in the area where the officers were. And so, if anyone has the idea that this is an illusion, no, it is not!

And something else, too, _____, I would like to bring out and that is the fact that you or Mr. Scott put the red light on the object. That was officer Scott, he propped (?) the red light on the object.

What happened then?

Well, then the object moved away from us, and we followed it in the patrol car at which time we lost sight of it. We stopped after several miles and got out of the patrol car and, as I recall, we climbed on the hood of the car to look over a knoll. There it was, looking right back at us.

Good feeling, right!

It was hovering about a mile away. At this time it appeared to be about a mile away.

Well, _____ was saying earlier that at one time it was behind the hill and all at once it seemed to jump over the hill.

That was the time.

It appeared a lot closer that what it was.

How big would you say the object was?

As large or larger than an airliner.

Could you say in feet approximately?

About 150 to 200 feet.

How close would you say that you ever got to the flying object?

Well, like we said, not knowing the exact size of the object and just judging from the lights, we couldn't get too much of an extremely accurate--it would be a guess, but we figure anywhere from a half mile to a mile and a half.

Well, let's see, in your own thoughts, naturally in your own opinion, do you have any idea what it might be? What is your own opinion?

Not in the slightest. I wouldn't even care to form an opinion. I would like to know what it is.

Still amazed!?

This was Saturday night. I heard reports too, that it was also sighted last night by residents in the area and it seems to be coming back to the same spot. Do you think there might be a possible chance that it would return to this same spot tonight or some time in the future?

Well, could be.

Could be, right!

Well, after all this night's work, Mr. Scott, what was your feeling after you returned home and heard of course, on newscasts and read in newspapers and magazines about people who spotted such objects and people saying some weird things about them? How did you feel yourself, especially after you reported this to the highway patrol office?

Well, I could hardly believe what I had seen out there and I was thankful for the fact that there were other officers from different agencies that had seen the object, plus residents of the area and people traveling through because myself--I don't think if I had seen it and no one else had seen it--I would have been pretty confused.

(The object was seen by:) You and _____ and three deputies and a couple of prisoners from the jail and some city police plus some residents from the area. It would really be quite a thing to come across something like this. Were you in the area on a regular routine patrol?

We were on routine patrol. We were the only car in the county that night and we were covering the entire county.

After you had come across this thing, you reported it to the highway patrol office?

No, we reported it to the dispatcher at the sheriff's office. We don't have a dispatcher here at Red Bluff.

They in turn sent down three deputies, was that the idea?

Yes, that is what they did.

You say then it was more of a saucer shape than a cigar shape? The way you described it this afternoon, it could be either one.

It could have been either one. Not being directly under it and not getting the full view of the under side of the thing or never having the machine turn cross ways in front of us it is

(would be) difficult to say even in the daytime--you could not determine whether it was round or oblong.

Well, do you say this, that maybe perhaps it knew of your presence there especially with this red light on?

I firmly believe it was aware of the presence of the light because the object moved away immediately. As officer Scott brought the red light on, it moved directly away from us.

Well, then it did move away. Did it move away slowly or did it do this all at once, with speed?

It moved away fairly fast. It moved so swiftly that we lost sight of it. That is when we lost it the first time.

I see, like it did notice the red light and it was leaving the area. Then did it return after you put the red light ...

It came back towards us on one other occasion.

_____, Let's put it this way, how do you feel about the whole situation right now?

I am like officer Scott, I still find it rather difficult to believe even after watching. It was amazing to sit out there for two hours and fifteen minutes watching this thing, and it is even more difficult to tell someone else what you saw. It is quite an experience. That is all you could say about it.

So, if someone would say to you that they felt you saw a balloon or an optical illusion, what would you say?

I would say that I wish that person had been sitting where I was and I had been sitting home.

Is that your same feeling, Mr. Scott?

That's right, it was definitely not a balloon or optical illusion. We saw something out there.

It was a UFO, an unidentified flying object. I can see what you mean.

Well, there it is. In other words, we have an unidentified flying object, maybe never again, then again we might.

This is in the _____ area on highway 99 E and as a guess it was approximately 200 feet (sq ft ?) in diameter, and had weird lights and so forth, and hovering over the ground down there, and shifting from back and forth and, once again, it was not an optical illusion: it was there.

Well, _____, would you like to say anything to sort of wrap this up. I know you have been busy all day long and both Mr. Scott and Mr. Carson have been with the wire service and the television all day and now I have them cornered, too, trying to get more out of them; but after this experience tied up with press and everything else, what do you think of it now?

Oh, even with the press it was quite an experience. I think most of the reporters and people we talked to were quite impressed due to the number of creditable people that saw the thing. I go along with Scott 100 per cent: I am sure glad I wasn't there by myself. If I had been, I would have gone home and thought it over by myself before reporting it.

Isn't it true that someone in the area at the time traveling through called in somewhere and reported, more or less, confirming your reports of the same object?

Yes, two people from San Francisco called today to report that they had seen the object in the area at that time as they were passing through on highway 99 E.

How many people would you say saw the object that you know of that night?

I have no idea. There was, I believe, at least 8 of us at that time that we knew of right then that was watching the object. However, I do know that some people have called the highway patrol reporting that they also saw the object. Of course, this happened today after the story broke.

I was talking to some of the residents of the _____ area and they said too that they also spotted the object. (narrator)

Well, gentlemen, since time is running out I would like to take the opportunity to say thanks after a busy day with press and with the office work and so forth. I would like to thank you a lot for taking the time and coming out here. To me this is a fantastic story. I think it is just fabulous and like you said, I am glad you weren't alone because if I were in the position I would feel the very same way. So, thank you so very much.

We have officer Scott and officer Carson here.
Highway Patrol, Red Bluff Office.

'FLYING FOOTBALL'

Aug 16-60

Police Chase UFO

News

RED BLUFF, Calif., Aug. 16 (UPI)—Two California highway patrolmen have reported sighting—and then racing—a mysterious “flying football” which gave off a red glow.

At least eight other persons also reported the object, described as being the size of an airliner. They reported that sometimes it just hung silently in the air only 200 feet off ground.

The strange story began about 11:45 p. m. Saturday when patrolmen Stanley Scott and Charles A. Carson were cruising in their patrol car some 18 miles south of here.

'LIGHTS'

Mr. Scott reported last night he first saw the thing about 1½ miles away at an altitude of 200 feet. It seemed to have a row of horizontal lights and “something on the end that made a red beam” and appeared to be sweeping the ground.

As he kept looking, it suddenly shot noiselessly up about 500 feet.

The patrolmen sent out a radio alert and then put their flashing red light on. The object swung its red beam and

then began to slide across the sky, they reported. They pursued the object for about two hours.

MANEUVERS

At one time, it went into “various maneuvers—straight up and down, and sideways.” But it soon left its pursuers behind.

Three deputy sheriffs, hearing the radio alert, entered the hunt. They reported they saw the object, too, but were also out-manuevered as it disappeared over the eastern horizon around 2 a. m.

All this time, the patrolmen's radio was full of static, presumably caused by the flying object.

Meanwhile, in Red Bluff, the night jailer, Clarence Fry, picked up the radio alert. About 1 a. m. he marched four prisoners onto the front steps of the jailhouse. All five men testified to seeing the glowing mysterious object “about 25 miles to the south.”

1960

AUG. 13

CALIF.

RED BLUFF
Sawed-off
light beam?

Red Bluff Daily News 6 Monday, August 15, 1960

RED BLUFF, CALIFORNIA — TELEPHONE LA 7-2151

Eight Officers Report Seeing Flying Saucers

A huge object reportedly to be at least as large as an airliner emitting an extremely red beam described as being 10 feet or more across flying at low levels

east of Corning and in the Vina plains area, was spotted by two highway patrolmen, three sheriff's deputies and three city policemen and other citizens Saturday night, shortly before midnight.

The object was first spotted by the Highway Patrolmen when they were on Hoag road east of Corning. The two men said at first they saw what appeared to be a huge airliner dropping from the sky as if it were going to crash.

"We stopped and leaped from the patrol car in order to get a position at what we were sure was going to be a crash," stated the men. When leaping from the auto, the patrolmen noticed complete silence but said they still assumed it to be an aircraft with its engines off.

"The object was probably within 100 to 200 feet of the ground when it suddenly reversed completely at a high speed and gained approximately 500 feet in altitude," their report stated.

The patrolmen said at that time the object stopped and was completely visible to both of them. It was not any type of aircraft known to them. It was reported as being surrounded by a glow causing it to appear as an oblong object. There were red lights at each end and sides, and at times white lights could also be seen between the red one, according to the report.

The patrolmen said they watched the object perform various aerial feats. At this

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 1)

time they called the sheriff's office which called the local radar base reporting the happenings.

According to the patrolmen at that time the officials at the base said they were tracking an unidentified object but did not say if the two were the same. No information was available from the base today.

As the patrolmen continued to watch the object on two occasions it came directly at the patrol car each time sweeping the area with a huge red light. One of the patrolmen described the light as being violently red and 10 feet or more across. From their position the men could not tell if the light ever struck the surface.

As the object came within about a mile of the officers they turned their car's red light toward it and it immediately went away from them.

The officers said the strange machine used its red light to sweep the area six or seven times.

According to the report, the object then started slowly moving easterly and the patrolmen followed it until reaching the Vina plains fire station at which time they reportedly saw a similar object approaching the first from the south.

The second object moved close to the first at which time both stopped, the men said.

After watching for two and a half hours, a sight, the patrolmen themselves found hard to believe, they returned to the local sheriff's office.

At that time the patrolmen said three sheriff's deputies stated they had seen the object from a distance and described it exactly as the CHP pair had seen it.

Also near the same time Saturday night three city policemen saw what they described as a slowly moving object appearing to have red and white lights coming from it, at a low altitude.

The possibility of the object being the satellite recently shot into orbit was discounted by the patrolmen who stated they had seen the orbiting satellite cross the sky earlier.

The patrolmen also stated they experienced radio interference every time the object came close to their patrol vehicle.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1960

WORLD-TELEGRAM AND SUN

Cops Spot Mysterious Flying Object

United Press International.

RED BLUFF, Calif., Aug. 16.—Two California highway patrolmen have reported sighting—and racing—a mysterious flying football-shaped thing which gave off a red glow.

At least eight other persons also reported spotting the object, described as being the size of an airliner.

The incident happened Saturday night when Patrolmen Stanley Scott and Charles A. Carons were cruising 18 miles south of here. Patrolman Scott last night said he first saw the thing about a mile and a half away at an altitude of 200 feet. It seemed to have a row of horizontal lights and "something on the end that made a red beam" and appeared to be sweeping the ground.

As they looked at it in disbelief, it shot noiselessly up about 500 feet.

They sent out a radio alert. The object swung its red beam and began to slide across the sky. They pursued it for two hours.

Three deputy sheriffs, hearing the radio alert, saw the object too.

In Red Bluff the night jailer Clarence Fry, heard the radio alert and marched four prisoners outside. All five men testified to seeing the glowing mysterious object.

NEW JERSEY

Red Bluff CHP office AC 916 527-2034
Santa Cruz CHP office AC 408 475-3466

Charles A. Carson 408 - 423-1045 (July 23, 1968)
117. Duval Way, Santa Cruz.

R.H. Hall
NICAP

244

227

October 29, 1966

~~244~~

Dear Dick:

This concerns some checking I've done on the August 13, 1960 sightings near Red Bluff, Calif.

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) office at Red Bluff informed me that Charles A. Carson has been transferred to the Santa Cruz area. The CHP office there gave me his unlisted phone number (AC 408 688-4795) when I identified myself. I reached him by phone at his home Friday evening, Oct. 27. His home address is ~~2660 Borregas Drive, Aptos, Calif.~~ Carson informed me that CHP Patrolman Stanley Scott, who was with him that night, was killed in an aircraft accident, so I could not contact him. I spoke with Carson for over an hour, and found him quite articulate and intelligent, and careful in his description of the event. On the basis of the phone discussions I would rate his reliability and credibility as high.

① I quickly confirmed the main features of the sighting as reported in the Evidence. They sighted the object as they were heading east on a road east of Corning. It was descending at a steep (45°) angle from north to south (i.e., from their left to right). He estimates that it was not over 1/4 mile away when first noted. * Their first impression was that it was an aircraft in distress, so they jammed on the brakes and leapt out to get a better view of what they thought was going to be a disaster. The object was making no sound and they saw no exhaust, no wings, but took it to be a power-off dive, viewed from the side. It proceeded down its glide path passing over their road and continuing a short distance south. When at a point whose altitude he recalls as a few hundred feet above terrain, the object instantaneously reversed its motion and climbed more or less back up the glide-path to a position almost due east of them, but a bit south of the roadway. There it hovered for about a minute, long enough for Patrolman Scott to dive for the radio and call the dispatcher to send other cars and alert all cars in the area.

② * Next the object came west towards them, losing altitude from about 300-500 ft to perhaps 50-100 ft above terrain. At closest approach it was "within easy pistol range", perhaps 150 yds. he recalled. (They had only .357 Magnums, but with armor-piercing bullets, and they debated whether they should fire, deciding not to unless it came still closer, which it did not.) They could see lights at each end of the football-shaped object, whose length he put over 100 ft but under 200 ft. It looked metallic and one of the lights was an intense and steady red light which he estimated at about 6 ft in diameter. Its beam seemed to extend out a distance in the air, and then to end in some curious manner that he did not understand then or now. It seemed to go out a few hundred yards, evidently being visible from dust in the air, though that's only an inference on my part. It seemed to be fixed to the object and as the object maneuvered and turned, it did too. The object went "through any maneuver you might mention" during the more than a minute that it remained in that general spot. They noted static on their radio during this time, while they talked with the Tehama County Sheriff's office that does their dispatching after 1700 in the evening. He indicated that they "were a little bit nervous about the thing", but did not request permission to fire.

③ no longer in service

~~227~~
001

Then it began to move away from them, towards the east, and since the Tehama dispatcher (Deputy Clarence Fry) had indicated that he was getting other cars they took courage and elected to follow it at judicious distance. Its eastward motion was sometimes very slow, occasionally very fast, "so fast as to be unbelievable." Occasionally it drifted back towards them "almost as if in water". They couldn't see the light all the time, as it turned from time to time. This was in open, but rolling country, and it tended to stay well to their south most of the time, so that from time to time during their extended chase (which he recalled only as "over an hour") the object would become temporarily hidden behind isolated hills. They knew all the back roads and would take side-roads from time to time to try to get near it. Once it did not come out from behind a hill, so they stopped, climbed up on the hood of their patrol car to look over an embankment when all of a sudden it shot up to within only about 150 feet of them before darting eastward once more. They resumed their pursuit of it and got as far east as a place which sounded phonetically like "Pomiano Ranch", a monastery he said. This was east of Highway 99F. To this point he estimates over an hour had elapsed. He did not know just where the other cars were, they never joined his car. I believe he indicated that he learned later the others never got closer than Los Molinos, but they definitely saw a red-glowing object to their south, he learned.

It was getting farther and farther ahead of them, so they broke off the attempt at keeping up with it, pulled back to 99E and went south to where they knew there was a forest fire control tower. The forester was gone but the tower was open and they ran up to the top to observe the remainder of the episode from there. The object was then only a "light", but it gradually climbed up over a range of hills about 2 miles east and continued eastward. Before it finally disappeared, a second "light" came in from the south, approached the first "light" and then the two moved on eastward and eventually disappeared, terminating the observations. He estimated that the total time might have been about 2 hours to this point. Said the radio log would show the correct time.

He confirmed that they had asked the dispatcher to check with the Red Bluff radar base and confirmed that they said they had the object on their scopes, going through the reported motions to the east, etc. Carson was at first somewhat reluctant to get into this aspect, saying that he was not free to "involve the Air Force", but when I read from the published account in the Evidence he opened up a good bit. He said that the Air Force never came to interrogate him (he was a bit cryptic and definitely annoyed in saying this, but I believe I got the correct picture). Said you "might call it an interrogative" in that he and Scott, the next AM asked for an appointment at the Red Bluff radar base, drove there (9 miles W of Red Bluff). He said he stated to the commanding officer something like, "Well, we understand there was a bit of commotion last night", to which the officer replied "Not to my knowledge" and immediately gave them what he termed "the ice-water approach". So they asked to talk to the man who was on the radar the preceding night and the commanding officer denied them permission to see him. Carson said "I was getting a bit testy" at that point, but they left. Somewhere along the line, evidently a few days later, he thought he had talked to someone from the Air Force, but described it as a "tongue-in-cheek investigation". He couldn't recall just how this interview came about and didn't remember where it was done. He told me that a Dr. Clarence W. Winning, of Red Bluff was at the Tehama Co. Sheriff's office that night and was on one of the phone extensions and heard the radar base say that they had a radar fix on the object, and said a lot of other persons were on other extensions listening in, as he heard it later; but knew of no others by name.

3 244 [227] *at 10:00 PM*

Carson said that night was clear, with no wind, a "beautiful night". He was in the Air Force 4 years, though not as a pilot. He is now and was then a private pilot and so was Scott. He was familiar with all the conventional planes in the area and is positive this was no plane, nor a meteor, nor northern lights. He understands that the Air Force later claimed they were looking at a star. "I know what I saw. It was not a star. I saw what I saw. I've never seen anything like it before or since." "We saw something that could defy the law of gravity". And concerning the Air Force star-explanation he stated that "I'd hate to try to take one of my cases into court with such weak arguments!" As you can see, his initial reluctance to "involve the Air Force", which came out when I first brought up the radar question, had evaporated as he proceeded through his account and on to the USAF handling of the thing. "When we walked into that radar station and got ice water, we knew what was coming", he said. But his CHP base stuck by them, and elected to release no names, just the story, which was marked Confidential in the CHP files. Some reporter, who later (3 months later) told him he'd been awarded \$50 for digging out their names and using them in a news story, knew they were the only two men on duty in that area that night, so it came out in the local press by about two days later. Evidently handled locally as a big story. This had one useful side-effect: A number of persons who had seen the red-glowing object, some while driving on 99E, wrote them letters confirming the sighting, etc.

He said Dispatcher Fry was running from his radio out to the front of his building, from which he could see the red object, since it was several hundred feet above ground and that's generally open country. He mentioned that Fry brought several trustees outdoors "as witnesses". Carson said "we came in for a lot of kidding but fortunately there were a lot of people who saw it. We could lay them end to end." He mentioned an interesting point: The following nights there were more Air Force planes in the air over the County than he'd ever seen before. But he heard no more from the Air Force. He heard from a deputy that an Air Force investigator had interrogated a federal forester whose whole family had seen a similar object, but he thought it was the next night, though not sure of that. Didn't know this forester by name, only hearsay report. He also mentioned that the "University of California sent up a team to check on it". They interviewed him and Scott and were going over the area taking samples of soil and fence-wire. (Magnetic check?). He can't recall any names of these people. I wonder if it could have been Dr. Harder, an Aero man?

Hoing to secure more definite confirmation on the radar sighting, I phoned Dr. Clarence W. Winning of Red Bluff, on Friday evening, Oct. 28. (AC 916 527-3326 is his office number, but they switched the call to his home, which is shown as 530 Main St. in the 1963 AMA Directory.) This netted no firm check. Winning was vague on details, though as we talked, his memory came back on some details. He was doing alcohol blood tests there that PM. Recalls a lot of commotion during the sighting, and remembered there was something about radar checks but was unable to say for sure whether he was on an extension phone. I don't know just what to make of that. He did not seem evasive, yet he just couldn't recall. Did he need a blood-test? I would have closed the conversation on that except he proceeded to mention that a few days later he, himself, saw a red, glowing object over his home area, about 2300, when returning from a night call. He awakened his wife and they both watched it 10-15 minutes. He thought it was 5-700 ft up, definitely not a plane or meteor. Moved slowly, and could go up or down like a helicopter. Thought it couldn't actually have been a helicopter because would have heard the noise and seen the blades, but negative on both. Said he recalled that many others

in that area saw objects that week (as per the Evidence). Has never seen any since. Said the object looked about 30-40 feet long or across, and appeared to be circular, like a disc. Winning did not seem a particularly good observer, but that he had seen something unusual appeared evident.

244 ~~227~~ ~~227~~ ~~227~~

After several false tries, I eventually got Sheriff Lyle Williams, Tehama County Sheriff for past 12 years. Office phone AC 916 527-1551, home phone 527-4482. Got him on the evening of Oct. 29. He recalled all the activity of that period, but could not recall accurate details pro and con the radar fix, and did not want to give me hearsay. Told me Deputy Clarence Fry left the force three years back and is now a logger in Hayfork, Calif. I tried to contact Fry in Hayfork, but the operator there had no such listing and said there's no logging camp nearby, so that has petered out, it seems. I, all, we have no positive double-check on the radar fix from anything that I have turned up.

This winds up my check on that case, I guess. Carson makes an impressive witness and the case is a strong one even without more positive information on the radar aspects. If you have anything more on this, I'd like to know of it, and I'd appreciate it if you could send me copies of any Nicap dope on this part of the total Red Bluff episode.

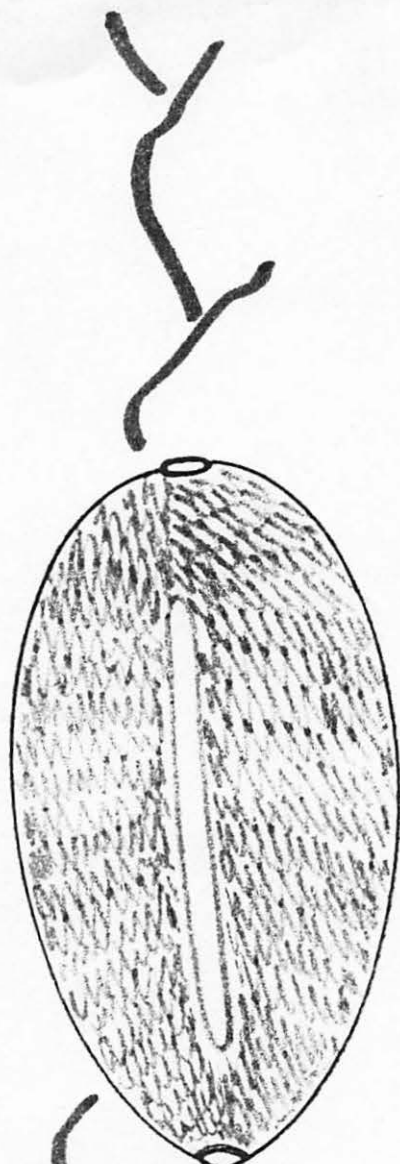
Now back to my long phone call to Carson for an independent matter. Carson said that not too long after his incident a funny thing was reported in local papers. A hunter in some hills over east of Red Bluff, maybe near Westwood or Chester, was resting on a big boulder, got down and started walking away, when the boulder blew up! Knocked him flat but did not injure him. Investigators reportedly found a section of metal that resembled a "fin", and this was carried in local papers and in the Sacramento papers (Sacramento Bee, he figured). Carson followed these short pieces with interest, but there was never any summary, just little accounts that indicated the "fin" was sent back East for analysis. Said USAF couldn't identify it. One story evidently surmised that something like a missile had hit the boulder and exploded it. "It blew up, quite to pieces", Carson stated. He tried to find out more but never could learn any more of this. Asked me if I could run anything down on this and wants to know if I should turn up anything.

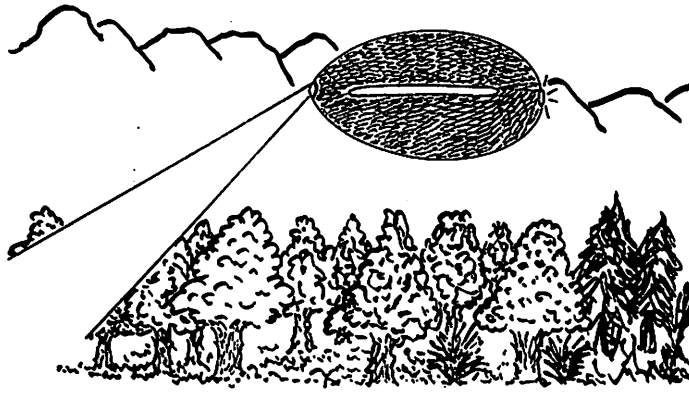
So, my question on this one is whether you have anything on it that we could pass on to Carson? Suppose Paul Cerny would have been following this. Carson is pretty sure it was 1. August or September, 1960. Sounds pretty wild, doesn't it. Said it was a big boulder, and was all broken up. If his account is correct, he can't understand why the hunter wasn't killed, so he may have it garbled when he says the guy was only yards away. Perhaps tens of yards, or more. But he was very definite that this was in and out of the back pages for some time.

That's it on the Aug. 13 case. I'd like to get copies of anything useful in the files, and I'll be interested to hear if you know of the Exploding Boulder case.

Regards,

JEMcDonald





1960, August 13

Red Bluff

10:40 T.M. WW

rec. Dec. 1

NOV. 14, 1960
mailed Nov 29

TO: WALTER N. WEBB
FROM: SCOTT - CARSON, C.H.P.
SUBJECT: U.F.O.

SIR: FIRST LET ME APOLOGIZE FOR THE
DELAY IN ANSWERING.

I HAVE PERMISSION TO FORWARD
TO YOU OFFICER SCOTT'S AND MY OWN
COMBINED, INITIAL REPORT SUBMITTED TO
OUR AREA COMMANDER THE SAME NIGHT.
I WILL ATTEMPT TO ANSWER HERE YOUR
SPECIFIC QUESTIONS.

THE TIME ELEMENT - OUR FIRST SIGHT
OF THE OBJECT WAS AT 2350 HOURS. WE
LOST CONTACT DURING BRIEF INTERVALS
ONLY, DUE TO THE OBJECT MANOEUVERING
BELOW LOW HILLS IN THE AREA. DURING
THESE TIMES WE ATTEMPTED TO GET
CLOSER. OUR LAST VISUAL CONTACT WAS
AT 0205 HOURS.

AS TO LOCATION, WE WERE MOVING
ALMOST DUE EAST ON HOAG ROAD APPROX.
2 MILES EAST OF CORNING, CALIF.

2

MOST OF OUR TIME WAS SPENT OBSERVING THE OBJECT, HOWEVER, WE MADE SEVERAL ATTEMPTS TO FOLLOW IT, OR I SHOULD SAY GET CLOSER TO IT, BUT THE OBJECT SEEMED AWARE OF US AND ~~WE~~ WERE MORE SUCCESSFUL REMAINING MOTION-LESS AND ALLOW IT TO APPROACH US, WHICH IT DID ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS.

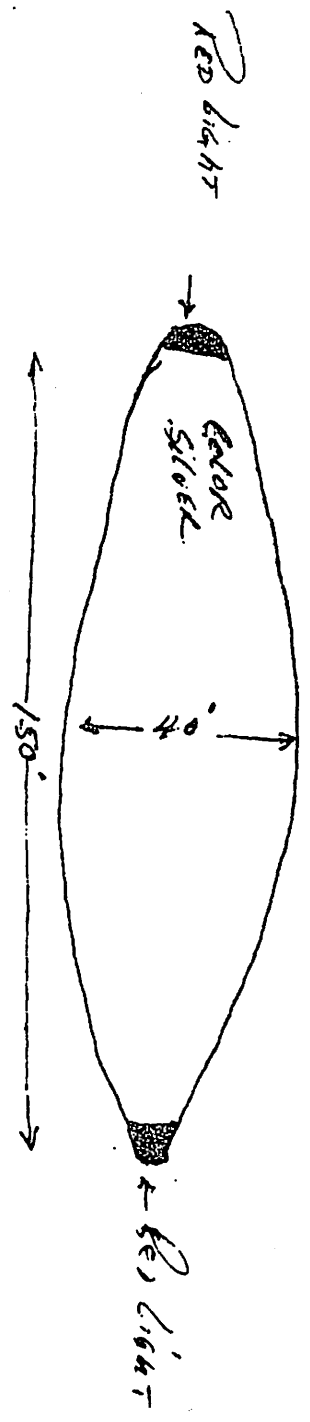
THERE WAS NO CLOUDS OR AIRCRAFT VISIBLE. THE OBJECT WAS SHAPED SOMEWHAT LIKE A FOOT-BALL, THE EDGES (HERE I AM CONFUSED AS TO WHAT YOU MEAN BY EDGES, REFERRING TO THE OUT-SIDE VISIBLE EDGES OF THE OBJECT AS OPPOSED TO A THIN, SHARP EDGE, NO THIN, SHARP EDGES WERE VISIBLE) OR I SHOULD SAY OUTSIDE OF THE OBJECT WERE CLEAR TO US. THE OBJECT WAS ILLUMINATED BY A GLOW. THIS GLOW WAS EMITTED BY THE OBJECT, WAS NOT A REFLECTION OF OTHER LIGHTS. THE OBJECT WAS SOLID, DEFINITELY NOT TRANSPARENT. AT NO TIME DID WE HEAR ANY TYPE OF SOUND EXCEPT RADIO INTERFERENCE.

THE OBJECT WAS CAPABLE OF MOVING
IN ANY DIRECTION, UP AND DOWN, BACK
AND FORTH. AT TIMES THE MOVEMENT
WAS VERY SLOW. AT TIMES IT WAS
COMPLETELY MOTIONLESS. IT MOVED AT
HIGH (EXTREMELY) SPEEDS AND SEVERAL
TIMES WE WATCHED IT CHANGE DIRECTIONS
OR REVERSE ITSELF WHILE MOVING AT
UNBELIEVABLE SPEEDS.

WHEN FIRST OBSERVED THE OBJECT
WAS MOVING FROM NORTH TO SOUTH. OUR
PURSUIT LED IN AN EASTERLY DIRECTION
AND OBJECT DISAPPEARED ON EASTERN
HORIZON. IT WAS APPROX. 500 FEET
ABOVE THE HORIZON WHEN FIRST
OBSERVED, SEEMINGLY FALLING, AT
APPROX 45° ANGLE TO THE SOUTH.
A COIN, HELD AT ARMS LENGTH CANNOT
BE COMPARED TO THE SIZE OF THIS
OBJECT. IT WAS VERY LARGE. APPROX.
150 FEET TO 200 FEET LONG - 40 TO
50 FEET THROUGH.

AS TO THE OFFICIAL EXPLANATION,⁴
I HAVE BEEN TOLD WE SAW NORTHERN LIGHTS,
A WEATHER BALLOON, AND ALSO REFRACTIONS.
I SERVED 4 YEARS WITH THE AIR
FORCE, I BELIEVE I AM FAMILAR WITH THE
NORTHERN LIGHTS, ALSO WEATHER BALLOONS.
OFFICER SCOTT SERVED AS A PARA-TROOPER
DURING THE KOREAN CONFLICT. BOTH OF
US ARE VERY AWARE OF THE TRICKS
LIGHT CAN PLAY ON THE EYES DURING
DARKNESS. WE WERE AWARE OF THIS
AT THE TIME. OUR OBSERVATIONS AND
ESTIMATIONS OF SPEED, SIZE ETC.
CAME FROM ALIGNING THE OBJECT
WITH FIXED OBJECTS ON THE HORIZON.
I AGREE WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO
BELIEVE WHAT WE WERE WATCHING, BUT
NO ONE WILL EVER CONVINCE US
THAT WE WERE WITNESSING A
REFRACTION OF LIGHT.

Sincerely
Charles A. Cannon
CALIF. HIGHWAY PATROL
435 S. MAIN ST. RED BLUFF



CRUDE SKETCH -
SORRY, I'M NOT MUCH OF AN ARTIST.

AFCIM-432x

Susp
18 Nov 60

Congressional Request for Summary of UFO Sighting
(Mr Robert Smart, House Armed Services Committee)

SAFOI-3d (L/Col Tacker)

1. The summaries contained in this correspondence are of the UFO sightings which occurred in the Red Bluff, California area between 12-20 August 1960. These summaries and the associated ATIC analysis are forwarded per telephone requests by L/Col Tacker, SAFOI-3d and L/Col J. Boland, SAFLI on 16 November 1960. Information concerning these sightings was requested from SAFLI by Mr Robert Smart, House Armed Services Committee.
2. On 13 August 1960 at 2345 hours PST, two California highway patrolmen, Stanley Scott and Charles A. Carson, observed an unidentified flying object while patrolling 13 miles south of Red Bluff, California. The two officers stated that the object suddenly appeared directly in front of their patrol car and their first impression was that it was an aircraft about to crash. The officers leaped from their car in order to be in a better position to act after the expected crash. When outside of their car both officers were immediately struck by the absence of sound, but assumed the aircraft was without power. As the object approached within 200-300 feet of the ground it suddenly reversed itself, and at high speed gained approximately 500 feet of altitude, where it came to a complete stop. The officers described the object as surrounded by a glow, and at each end of the round or elliptical object there were red lights. At times there were approximately five white lights visible between the red lights. Officer Scott's impression was that the object was sweeping the area with red light beams and estimated that six or seven sweeps were made. He further stated that it appeared to take positive action to avoid his shining the red light of the patrol vehicle upon it. Both officers described the motion as abrupt, but generally toward the east and reported that they followed in their vehicle. As they followed and watched the object, it was approached by a similar object. Finally both objects disappeared below the eastern horizon. Upon return to the Tehama County Sheriff's Office, it was determined that two deputies and the night jailer had also experienced seeing the object and their impressions were the same as the two patrolmen.
3. On 17 August 1960, at 1930 hours PST, Mr Robert Heard of Route #1, Box #658, Red Bluff, California was driving up Belle Hill Road with his wife and son toward what is commonly called Hog Back Road. Mr Heard reported that he and his family sighted a bright metal-like object at approximately tree top level which was flying in a northerly direction. Mr Heard stated that the object was approximately three to

Atch # 3

four miles away and the first impression was that it was a large helicopter. When Mr Heard and his family reached the spot where they thought the object to be, they sighted it approximately one-half mile away and approximately 100 feet below them. The object appeared to immediately pick up speed, rising out of the canyon and passing over the road in front of the family. It dropped from sight for a few moments and was then seen traveling up a branch canyon. The object was described as completely round and approximately 35 to 50 feet in diameter. When it rose from the canyon and passed over the road it appeared to have a light near the nose. The light had a reddish purple hue. The object was reported to have a second light which was located on the back. The second light appeared as a narrow bluish band. The object was estimated to have a speed of 25-30 miles per hour.

4. On 17 August 1960 at approximately 2100 hours local, Lt Lynn H. Roberts, Dept of Correction, Mrs Laura E. Jones, Forest Look-Out, and Miss Lenora Siler sighted an unidentified flying object from the forestry look-out at Inskip Mountain. The object was described as a dull red light above the horizon. The object was reported to have faded and reappeared several times in gradual cycles. The object was reported to be generally stationary. At approximately 2130 hours another object was sighted which was similar to the first; however, it appeared to be moving from right to left at a constant elevation.

5. As evidenced by Exhibits I and M of attachment #1 to this document, there were many sightings of UFO's in the California area between 12-20 August 1960. These exhibits also confirm the fact that the circumstances surrounding these sightings were generally the same.

6. This case was brought to the attention of ATIC on 16 August 1960 by a telephone call from L/Col L. Tacker, SAFOI-3d. On this date a TWX (Atch #2) was sent to McClelland AFB, California requesting a full and detailed investigation in accordance with the provisions of AFR 200-2, dated 14 September 1959.

7. On 16 August 1960, ATIC made telephone contact with the 359th Radar Squadron (SAGE) (ADC), Red Bluff Air Station, Red Bluff, California. The 359th is tied in with the Portland Air Defense Sector, Adair Air Force Base. Major LeRoy of the Radar Station reported that nothing had appeared on their scopes which called for a scramble between 12-16 August 1960. Contact was again established with the 359th on 17 November 1960, and at this time Major LeRoy denied having informed patrolmen Scott and Carson that an unidentified object was on the scope of his unit on the night of the sighting. The Radar Unit at Red Bluff is a SAGE station. The equipment at Red Bluff is only monitored at that station and is tied in to the Portland Air Defense Sector, which has the identification and intercept responsibility. Major LeRoy informed the California Highway Patrol that his station had no capability for identification, but that in view of the fact that no scramble had occurred, no unidentified object was on the scope. The

The major stated that the officers were not convinced that his information was all true.

8. For further support of the data collected during the investigation of this case ATIC obtained from the Air Weather Service (MATS) at Asheville, North Carolina the WMAN Forms 31 (Adiabatic Charts) for the Red Bluff, California area covering the period 8-24 August 1960. The weather stations at Red Bluff, Chico, and Redding, California are second order stations. These second order stations observe on a limited schedule, generally daylight hours, and do not complete adiabatic charts. The most representative records available for determining the vertical temperature gradient for Red Bluff are the Adiabatic Charts from Oakland, California and Medford, Oregon. Red Bluff is located almost exactly half way between these two cities, 165 miles from Oakland and 155 miles from Medford. Since the general weather for Oakland, Red Bluff, and Medford was the same, it is safe to assume that interpolation will give a representative picture of the vertical temperature gradient at Red Bluff. The Adiabatic Charts indicate that a strong temperature inversion was prevalent in the entire northern California area during the period of the sightings.

9. The conclusion of ATIC is that the sightings which occurred in the Red Bluff area were due to atmospheric refraction. It is an impossible task to determine what the exact light source was for each specific incident, but the planet Mars was the most probable culprit in the instance of the highway patrolmen. The planet at the time of the sighting was just below the horizon and probably hove into view due to the refraction of its light by the atmosphere. A contributing factor to the sightings could have been the layer of smoke which hung over the area in a thin stratiform layer. This smoke came from the forest fires in the area and hung in a layer due to the stable conditions associated with the inversion.

10. The usual occurrence in nature is for the temperature of the atmosphere to decrease as altitude increases. This change in temperature with altitude is known as the "lapse rate." In some cases, however, instead of decreasing with altitude the temperature actually increases and the condition is termed an "inversion."

11. In passing from one medium to another of different densities or different densities of the same medium, waves of radiant energy are refracted or bent from their original straight line course, except when entering at 90° to the surface separating the two media. The bending is explained by the fact that the waves travel at different speeds in media of different densities. This, in effect, means that a person can in fact look around a corner, or a curve when there are an infinite number of layers of slightly different densities next to each other, as in the atmosphere. Due to the fact that light of different wave lengths (colors) bend at different angles, white light is separated into color bands (spectrum) ranging usually from red to violet. The longer wave lengths (red) being bent less than the short (blue). This secondary effect of refraction is called dispersion.

12. In addition to the usual results of atmospheric refraction, special optical effects known as mirages may occur when there are strong temperature contrasts in adjacent layers of air. Mirages fall into two general categories termed "inferior" and "superior." The most common mirage is the inferior type, occurring when the temperature profile is following the normal pattern of decreasing with altitude. However, for the condition to occur, a layer of extremely warm air must exist near the surface with relatively cooler and, therefore, denser air above it. Convection would normally occur under these conditions, but usually has not begun due to lack of turbulence and the slow transfer of heat due to conduction and radiation. These conditions cause the light which reaches the eye to be less curved than normally, and in some extreme conditions to actually be curved in the opposite direction. The effect of inferior mirages is to shorten the distance to ones apparent horizon (see Atch #3). In this type of mirage a distant object is sometimes seen inverted and below the real object. This is the type of mirage which is so familiar to persons on deserts. The water they see being an inverted image of the sky. An everyday experience with a mirage of this type is the wet appearance of known to be dry highways. The wet spot remaining some distance ahead of the car. These mirages are called "inferior" because the image is below the real object. When the opposite temperature conditions occur, a cold layer of air with warmer air on top (inversion), the conditions produce a superior mirage. These mirages tend to increase the distance to our horizon and their effects are much more startling than inferior mirages. When these conditions occur a person can actually see objects which normally would be below his horizon. Sometimes the images will be highly magnified or extremely distorted. This mirage is called a superior mirage because the image occurs above the actual object. In this explanation reference has been made to layers of air, but it should be understood that the transition from one layer to the next is not abrupt. There is mixing and a gradual change in the refractive power of the air, and the effects seen in mirages are due to this continuous variation.

13. A number of the witnesses mentioned that the object they observed was moving at some approximate speed. The speeds most commonly mentioned were centered around about 35 miles per hour. It should be noted that these witnesses were riding in cars and that this is probably the speed at which they were driving. It is a common characteristic of mirages that the image remains a constant distance from the observer in order that the geometry associated with the phenomena remains fairly consistent. Mirages of water holes seen in the desert are constantly out of reach. It is probable that the witnesses' estimates of speed were reached by the fact that the object appeared to keep pace with their cars.

14. It is quite probable that reports of all of the sightings which occurred in California during the period 12-20 August 1960 did not reach ATIC. It is, therefore, impossible to make an accurate estimate as to how many sightings actually occurred and what percentage were

due to the inversion. It is possible that some were due to other causes such as "hysteria" and the "get into the act" attitude of some people. However, in view of all available evidence in this case, it is concluded that the effects associated with the inversion were responsible for the sightings which occurred in the Red Bluff, California area between 12-20 August 1960.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science and Components

3 Atch:

1. File of UFO Sightings
2. Cy TWX, 16 Aug 60 to
McClellan AFB, Calif
3. Diagram of effects of mirages

11:50 AM (BJT)
(WEST COU)

A
ROUPEL

RED BLUFF, CALIF., AUG. 17 (AP) MYSTERIOUS FOOTBALL-SHAPED OBJECTS
FLYING IN FORMATION AND EMITTING A RED GLOW" WERE REPORTED SEEN
FOR THE SECOND TIME IN A WEEK TUESDAY NIGHT (COY. BY AT LEAST 20
OBSERVERS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA'S PLUMAS COUNTY.

THE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (UFO) WERE OBSERVED IN THE
LITTLE COMMUNITY OF MINERAL, 30 MILES EAST OF WHERE THREE CALIFORNIA
HIGHWAY PATROLMEN REPORTED SIMILAR SIGHTINGS SATURDAY NIGHT.

THE PLUMAS COUNTY PHENOMENA WAS REPORTED BY THREE SHERIFFS
DEPUTIES, A FORESTER AND ABOUT 20 PATRONS OF THE MINERAL LODGE.

TWO DEPUTIES AT A ROADBLOCK SAID THEY SAW THE UFO'S.
"I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT AND I PROBABLY WOULDN'T SAY
ANYTHING ABOUT IT NOW IF OTHERS HADN'T SEEN IT TOO," SAID DEPUTY
BILL GONZALES.

GONZALES SAID THE CRAFT WERE FLYING IN A LOOSE FORMATION, GLOWING
A BRILLIANT RED AND WHITE.

"THEY WERE DIPPING AND DIVING AND MOVING AT SIMPLY UNBELIEVABLE
SPEED," HE DESCRIBED. "AND THE REALLY STRANGE PART--THEY DIDN'T
MAKE A SOUND."

HIS PARTNER AT THE ROADBLOCK, A.D. PERRY, SAID "THIS IS SOMETHING
OVER OUR HEADS."

GC1150PCS NM

1960

AUG. 13

CALIF.

Red Bluff Daily News 6 Monday, August 15, 1960

RED BLUFF, CALIFORNIA — TELEPHONE LA 7-2151

Eight Officers Report Seeing Flying Saucers

A huge object reportedly to be at least as large as an airliner emitting an extremely red beam described as being 10 feet or more across flying at low levels

east of Corning and in the Vina plains area, was spotted by two highway patrolmen, three sheriff's deputies and three city policemen and other citizens Saturday night, shortly before midnight.

The object was first spotted by the Highway Patrolmen when they were on Hoag road east of Corning. The two men said at first they saw what appeared to be a huge airliner dropping from the sky as if it were going to crash.

"We stopped and leaped from the patrol car in order to get a position at what we were sure was going to be a crash," stated the men. When leaping from the auto, the patrolmen noticed complete silence but said they still assumed it to be an aircraft with its engines off.

"The object was probably within 100 to 200 feet of the ground when it suddenly reversed completely at a high speed and gained approximately 500 feet in altitude," their report stated.

The patrolmen said at that time the object stopped and was completely visible to both of them. It was not any type of aircraft known to them. It was reported as being surrounded by a glow causing it to appear as an oblong object. There were red lights at each end and sides, and at times white lights could also be seen between the red ones, according to the report.

The patrolmen said they watched the object perform various aerial feats. At this (Continued on Page 3 Col. 1)

time they called the sheriff's office which called the local radar base reporting the happenings.

According to the patrolmen at that time the officials at the base said they were tracking an unidentified object but did not say if the two were the same. No information was available from the base today.

As the patrolmen continued to watch the object on two occasions it came directly at the patrol car each time sweeping the area with a huge red light. One of the patrolmen described the light as being violently red and 10 feet or more across. From their position the men could not tell if the light ever struck the surface.

As the object came within about a mile of the officers they turned their car's red light toward it and it immediately went away from them.

The officers said the strange machine used its red light to sweep the area six or seven times.

According to the report, the object then started slowly moving easterly and the patrolmen followed it until reaching the Vina plains fire station at which time they reportedly saw a similar object approaching the first from the south.

The second object moved close to the first at which time both stopped, the men said.

After watching for two and a half hours, a sight the patrolmen themselves found hard to believe, they returned to the local sheriff's office.

At that time the patrolmen said three sheriff's deputies stated they had seen the object from a distance and described it exactly as the CHP pair had seen it.

Also near the same time Saturday night three city policemen saw what they described as a slowly moving object appearing to have red and white lights coming from it, at a low altitude.

The possibility of the object being the satellite recently shot into orbit was discounted by the patrolmen who stated they had seen the orbiting satellite cross the sky earlier.

The patrolmen also stated they experienced radio interference every time the object came close to their patrol vehicle.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1960

WORLD-TELEGRAM AND SUN

Cops Spot Mysterious Flying Object

United Press International.

RED BLUFF, Calif., Aug. 16.—Two California highway patrolmen have reported sighting—and racing—a mysterious flying football-shaped thing which gave off a red glow.

At least eight other persons also reported spotting the object, described as being the size of an airliner.

The incident happened Saturday night when Patrolmen Stanley Scott and Charles A. Carons were cruising 18 miles south of here. Patrolman Scott last night said he first saw the thing about a mile and a half away at an altitude of 200 feet. It seemed to have a row of horizontal lights and "something on the end that made a red beam" and appeared to be sweeping the ground.

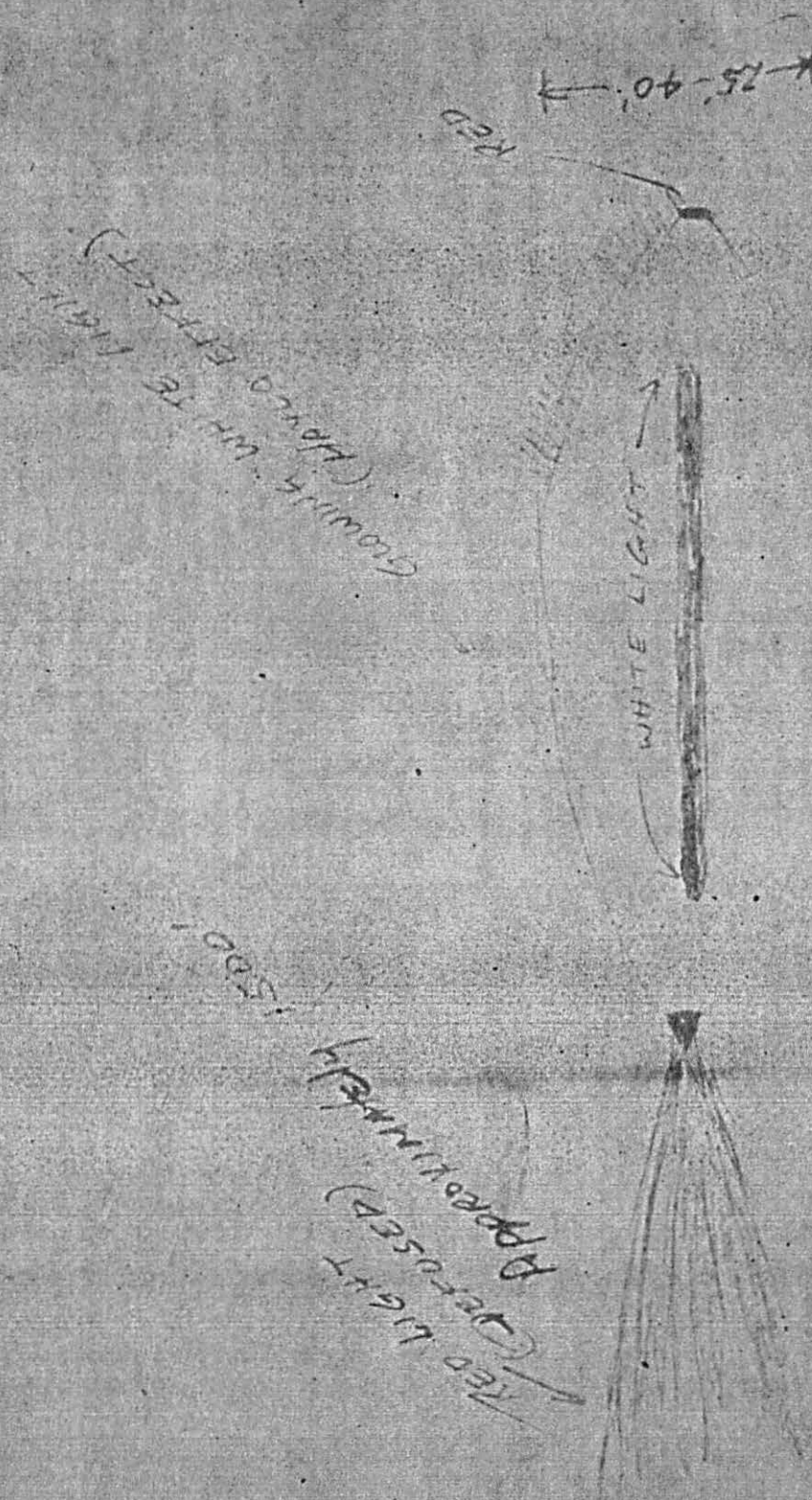
As they looked at it in disbelief, it shot noiselessly up about 500 feet.

They sent out a radio alert. The object swung its red beam and began to slide across the sky. They pursued it for two hours.

Three deputy sheriffs, hearing the radio alert, saw the object too.

In Red Bluff the night jailer Clarence Fry, heard the radio alert and marched four prisoners outside. All five men testified to seeing the glowing mysterious object.

NEW JERSEY

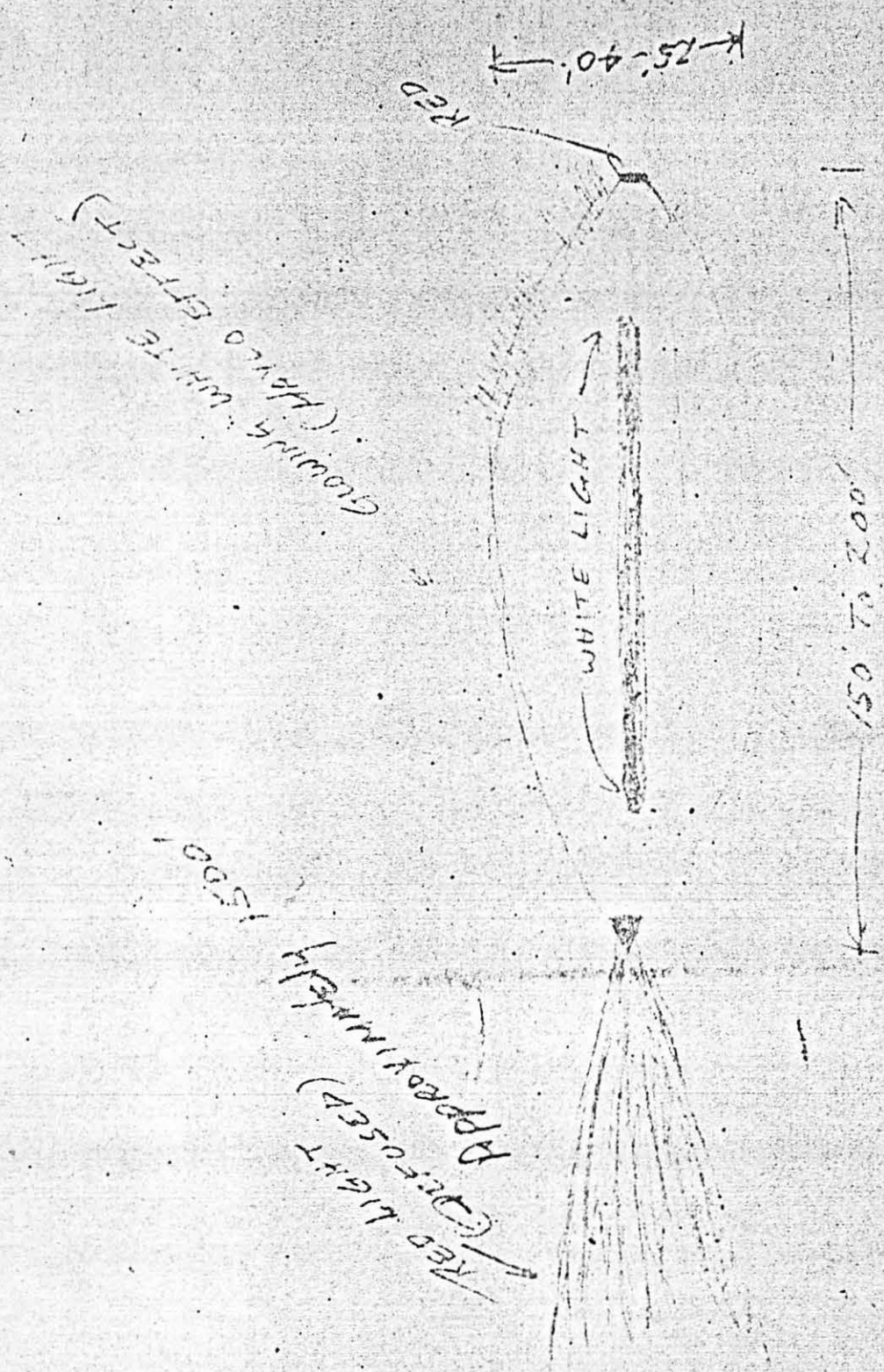


Sketch Done By

Stanley E. Scott

Stanley E. Scott

1950



Sketch Drawn By

CALIFORNIA Highway

STANLEY E. SCOTT

1630 HRS 18 August 60

Area Commander - 130

Carson - Scott, #2398 - 1851

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

13/ Aug/60

Depl.

C
O
P
Y ?

Officer Scott and I were EB on Hoag Road, east of Corning looking for a speeding motorcycle when we saw what at first appeared to be a huge airliner dropping from the sky. The object was very low and directly in front of us. We stopped and leaped from the patrol vehicle in order to get a position on what we were sure was going to be an airplane crash. From our position outside the car the first thing we noticed was an absolute silence. Still assuming it to be an aircraft with power off we continued to watch until the object was probably within 100' to 200' of the ground when it suddenly reversed completely, at high speed and gained approximately 500' altitude. There the object stopped, at this time it was clearly visible to both of us and obviously not an aircraft of any design familiar to us. It was surrounded by a glow making the round or oblong object visible. At each end, or each side of the object there were definite red lights. At times about five white lights were visible between the red lights. As we watched, the object moved again and performed aerial feats that were actually unbelievable.

At this time we radioed Tehama County Sheriff's Office requesting they contact local radar base. The Radar Base confirmed the U.F.O. - completely unidentified.

Officer Scott and myself, after our verification continued to watch the object. On two occasions the object came directly towards the patrol vehicle, each time it approached, the object turned, swept the area with a huge red light. Officer Scott turned the red light on the patrol vehicle towards the object and it immediately went away from us. We observed the object use the red beam approximately 6 or 7 times, sweeping the sky and ground areas. The object began moving slowly in an easterly direction and we followed. We proceeded to the Vina plains fire station where we again were able to locate the object. As we watched it was approached by a similar object from the south. It moved near the first object and both stopped, remaining in that position for some time, occasionally emitting the red beam.

Finally both objects disappeared below the eastern horizon. We returned to the Tehama County Sheriff's Office and met Deputy Fry and Deputy Montgomery, who had gone to Los Molinos after contacting the Radar Base. Both had seen the U. P. O. clearly and described to us what we saw. The night jailer also was able to see the object for a short time, each described the object and its maneuvers exactly as we saw them. We first saw the object at 2350 hours and observed it for approximately two hours and 15 minutes. Each time the object neared us we experienced radio interference.

We submit this report in confidence for your information, we were calm after our initial shock and decided to observe and record all we could of the object.

Stanley Scott, #1851
Charles A. Carson, #2358

About all that can be added to this is that the area of the sighting is low rolling ranch-land and the night was clear.

S. Scott

Police man witness

[CE 1]
2

August 13, 1960

JFH

Area Commander - 130

Carson - Scott, #2358 - 1851

UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT

car found

Officer Scott and I were EB on Hoag Road, east of Corning looking for a speeding motorcycle when we saw what at first appeared to be a huge airliner dropping from the sky. The object was very low and directly in front of us. We stopped and leaped from the patrol vehicle in order to get a position on what we were sure was going to be an airplane crash. From our position outside the car the first thing we noticed was an absolute silence. Still assuming it to be an aircraft with power off we continued to watch until the object was probably within 100' to 200' of the ground when it suddenly reversed completely, at high speed and gained approximately 500' altitude. There the object stopped, at this time it was clearly visible to both of us and obviously not an aircraft of any design familiar to us. It was surrounded by a glow making the round or oblong object visible. At each end, or each side of the object there were definite red lights. At times about five white lights were visible between the red lights. As we watched the object moved again and performed aerial feats that were actually unbelievable.

At this time we radioed Tehama County Sheriff's Office requesting they contact local radar base. The Radar Base confirmed the U.F.O. - completely unidentified.

Do not have anything on scope

Officer Scott and myself, after our verification continued to watch the object. On two occasions the object came directly towards the patrol vehicle, each time it approached, the object turned, swept the area with a huge red light. Officer Scott turned the red light on the patrol vehicle towards the object and it immediately went away from us.. We observed the object use the red beam approximately 6 or 7 times, sweeping the sky and ground areas. The object began moving slowly in an easterly direction and we followed. We proceeded to the Vina Plains fire station where we again were able to locate the object. As we watched it was approached by a similar object from the south. It moved near the first object and both stopped, remaining in that position for some time, occasionally emitting the red beam.

Aug. 13

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1650*

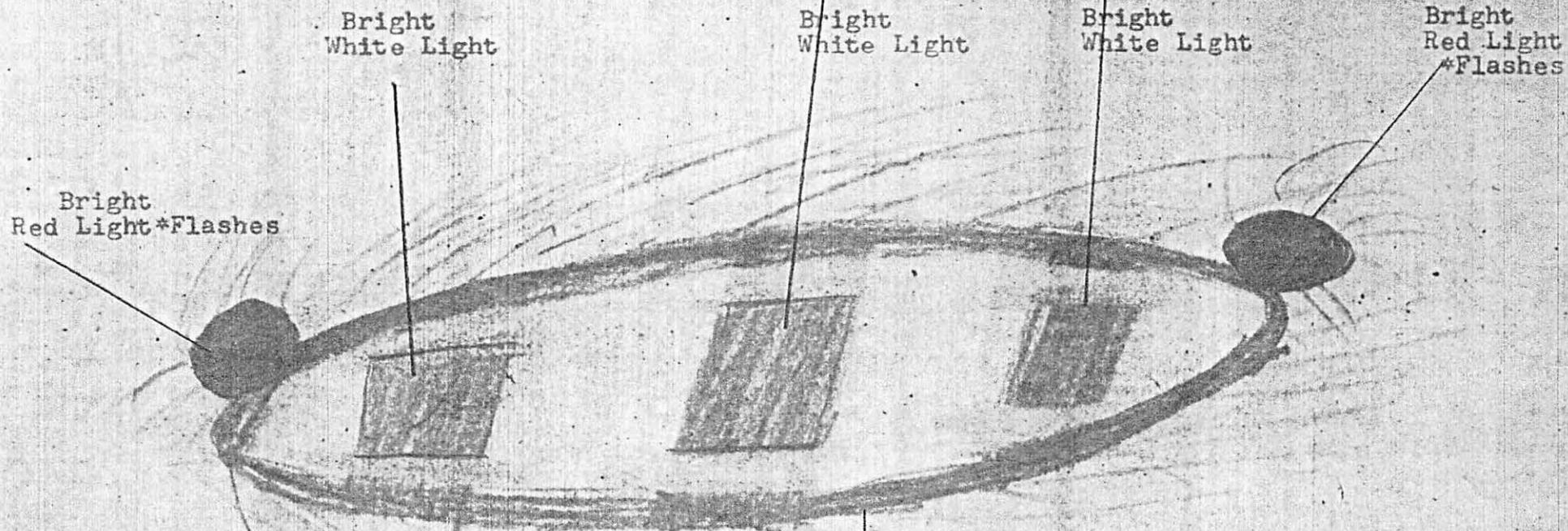
18 Aug 1960

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We submit this report in confidence for your information, we were calm after our initial shock and decided to observe and record all we could of the object.

Stanley Scott, #1851
Charles A. Carson, #2358

DRAWING OF OBJECT SEEN OVER RED BLUFF, CALIF
ON AUGUST 14, 1960 at 20:05 to 10:10PM



Drawing by
Clarence Fry, Deputy Sheriff
Tehama County, Red Bluff, California

Witness to sighting and drawing
Fay D. Stewart
Bobby L. Smith
Richard Harrell

COMMENTS & OFFICIAL REACTIONS

"The Red Bluff Radar Station admitted that at 11:45 p.m. Saturday--when the phenomenon was first seen by Highway Patrolmen Stanley Scott and Charles A. Carson--it was tracking "an object." S.F. Examiner--8-17-60

S.F. Weather Bureau said Red Bluff station releases balloon every night at 11:00 p.m.--S.F. Examiner, 8-17-60

Sheriff Lyle Williams (Red Bluff, Tehama County) issued his men cameras and high-speed film to try to photograph UFO--S.F. Chronicle, 8-19-60

AF Intelligence officer begins investigation of Tehama County UFO sightings. Duane Bilslend, supervisor of criminal investigation at McClelland AFB said he will question everyone who reported sightings--UPI, 8-20-60 (Sacramento Bee, 8-20-60; S.F. Chronicle, 8-21-60) Chronicle added that Bilslend being aided by Lt. David Snyder of the Red Bluff Air Force Sta., a radar base.

RECEIVED
AUG 22 1960

RECEIVED
AUG 22 1960

1960 Aug 16

Calis

DID 8 PEOPLE SEE FLYING SAUCER?

DID YOU SEE THIS?
PHIL A.
AUG. 16, 1960
C.E.P.

Patrolmen Report Racing Mysterious Glowing Object

RED BLUFF (UPI)—Two California highway patrolmen have reported sighting and then racing a mysterious flying football-shaped thing which gave off a mysterious red glow.

At least eight other persons also reported spotting the object, which was described as being the size of an airliner. They reported that sometimes it hung silently in the air only 200 feet off the ground.

The strange story began about 11:45 p.m. Saturday when Patrolmen Stanley Scott and Charles A. Carson were cruising in their patrol car 18 miles south of here.

Scott Monday night reported that he first saw the thing about a mile and a half away at an altitude of 200 feet. It seemed to have a row of horizontal lights and "something on the end that made a red beam" and appeared to be sweeping the ground, he reported.

As they kept looking at it in disbelief, it suddenly shot noiselessly up about 500 feet.

They sent out a radio alert and then put their flashing red light on. The object swung its red beam and then began to slide across the sky, they reported. They pursued the object for about two hours.

At one time, it went into "various maneuvers—straight up and

down, and sideways." But it soon left its pursuers behind.

Three deputy sheriffs, hearing the radio alert, raced into the hunt. They reported that they saw it too, but were also outmaneuvered as the thing disappeared over the eastern horizon around 2 a.m.

All this time, the patrolmen's radio was full of static, presumably caused by the flying object.

Meanwhile, here in Red Bluff, the night jailer, Clarence Fry, picked up the radio alert. About 1 a.m. he marched four prisoners onto the front steps of the jailhouse. All five men testified to seeing the glowing mysterious object "about 25 miles to the south."

Neither officer would identify it as a "flying saucer."

But their boss, Highway Patrol Capt. Ruel Boehm, said Monday night: "They know they saw it and we know they saw it."

TEMPERATURES

At Noon Today, 78
MAXIMUM YESTERDAY
84 at 6 p.m.
24-HOUR MINIMUM
62 at 7 a.m.

THIS DATE LAST YEAR
Maximum, 79; Minimum, 64
HUMIDITY

88 at 8 a.m.; 65 at Noon
Sunrise, 6:15; Sunset, 7:30

LOS ANGELES, CALIF.
EXAMINER 8-16-1960

TEHAMA COUNTY
SHERIFF
SUPPLEMENTAL CRIME REPORT

INFORMATION ON FLYING OBJECTS

Type of Crime

Crime Report No.

REPORT ON FLYING OBJECTS, TEHAMA CO.

On Monday 8-8-60 at approximately 9:05PM at the Tehama County Jail there was heard and felt two loud Booms, at about 9:25PM received a radio report from the Corning Police Dept. that there was a ball of fire falling from the sky, The ball or object appeared to be falling to the East of Los Molinas and Vina area. This report was radioed from the Corning Police Dept. by Officers Eui and Prentiss. Writer reported this to the California Div. of Forestry a CAA and the US Radar Base at Red Bluff, as the falling object was thought to be a Aircraft of some sort. All of the reports from the above was neg. as to any of our Air Craft., and no Fires.

*original
1960
Red Bluff
night*

On August 13, 1960 at about 11:30PM, Officers Scott and Carson of the California Hiway Patrol radioed the Tehama Co. Sheriff's Office and stated that they were watching a flying Object and had been for about one hour.

At 12:00 Midnight this Officer and Officer Montgomery went to Los Molinas and set on a small hill to the East named or called Blueberry Hill and at approximately 12:30AM of 8-14-60 observed four objects in the Western sky, they were traveling from the south to the north in a straight line and at times they would go straight up or down, one of the objects seem to stop and hover over the Red Bluff area. After a short time there was a Object seen going from the North to the South.

On 8-14-60 at approximately 10:05 to 10:10PM went out side of the Tehama Co. Jail to check the Sky as officer Montgomery radioed that he had a object in the Los Molinas area that had appeared to have landed twice to the east of Los Molinas, on checking out side of the Jail observed a object coming in from the west to a position of about South East of the Jail and it appeared to stop and hover for a moment in that position, Writer called to the four trustees a Fay D. Stewart, Hal Grondsman, Bobbie L. Smith, and a Richard Harrell to come out side and observe the flying object, by the time the four above men arrived the Object was gone but was spotted in the North West by Mr. Smith when the writer and others got across the front of the jail yard the Object was hovering and it looked like a large Mail Road car with two large Red Lights one on each end, the whole Object was a pale Yellow glow in color and white lights appeared along it in three or four places which may have been windows. The Object then took off in a southernly direction and passed out of sight with out any of the above four persons and this writer hearing any type of motor or sound from the Object. A few moments later the Corning Police radioed (Officer Prentiss) and he stated that the object was west of Corning going South at a great Speed.

cont. on page no 2

*W. H.
D. L. S.
F. D. S.
R. E. H.*

TEHAMA COUNTY
SHERIFF
SUPPLEMENTAL CRIME REPORT

Information on flying objects

Type of Crime

Crime Report No.

August 20, 1960 4:00 P:M

Writer Alton D Perry and William J Gonzalez Criminal investigators for the Tehama County Sheriff's office, Red Bluff, California Observed on August 16, 1960 at 11:10 P:M Six flying objects direction of travel South West from the Mineral lodge.

These six objects were very bright and the maneuverability while in flight was something out of the ordinary.

These objects were traveling in pairs at the time they were observed as one was ahead of the other a short distance and the other two were at some distance in the back using the simialar type of formation.

One object was seen down under the tree lines going the same direction as it peeled off on a downward direction from the last two that was in the formation.

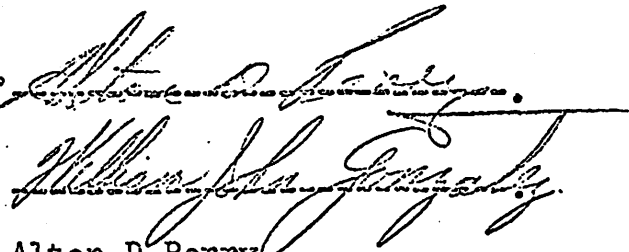
These objects were in our view for approx three to four minutes and they disappeared over the mountains.

The lighting on all six objects were very bright and distinct all the time they were in our view. Much brighter than any plane.

There were several people at the Mineral lodge that observed these objects, along with some of the names that was with us: Bob Smith special Deputy at Mineral Lodge, Bill E'Horn Red Bluff, Calif.

P:S The lights at times appeared bright like and lettric torch.

Signed.



Alton D Perry
Ch. Crim. Invest.
William J Gonzalez
Ch. Crim. Invest.

13/AUG/60

Aerial Phenomena Research Organization

4740 E. COOPER STREET
EA 6-0059
TUCSON, ARIZONA

22 August 1960

UFO Report Blank

Please complete the following questions and forward to the above-named organization as soon as possible. Postage attached.

NAME OF OBSERVER: ^{1/2} STALLEY SCOTT AGE: } 29 OCCUPATION: STATE TRAFFIC OFFICERS
CHARLES CARSON

Date of Observation: 8-13-60 Time: (first observed) 11:45 P.M.

Shape of Object: FOOTBALL Color: GLOWED WHITE

Azimuth (Direction - N,S,E,W., etc.) when first observed: EAST

Elevation: (distance above horizon in degrees - 90 degrees being the angular distance from horizon to directly overhead). 15°

Number of Objects: ONE

Detailed Description: (Any evidence of windows, ports, doors, lights, protrusions, lights other than object itself, exhaust or trail, etc.)

RED LIGHT (SHORT FLASH)



RED GLOW BRIGHT WHITE HORIZONTAL LIGHT, MAY HAVE BEEN PORTS.

Maneuvers: UP AND DOWN - SIDEWAYS - USUALLY MOTION LESS - ROTATED SLOWLY SWEEPING RED BEAM OF LIGHT - SPEED, BELOW 400 MPH.

Approximate altitudes: 200' TO 1000' ABOVE THE GROUND

Estimated distance from observer: 1ST SIGHTING APPROX. 1 MILE, LAST 15 MILES

Any evidence of disturbance of watches, radios, engines, lights, etc.

EXCESSIVE RADIO STATIC DURING SIGHTING - COMPLETE RADIO FAILURE ON OUR AND OTHER FREQUENCIES QRS PRIOR TO SIGHTING
Did any such manifestations such as above-named disturbances coincide with maneuver of object, change of color, altitude, etc? DO NOT BELIEVE SO.

Sound: Did the object or objects make any discernible sound? NO

Location: Does area in which object was observed contain any military or defense installation, if so, give approximate distance from area.

ICBM PADS 10 MILES - RADAR BASE 25 MILES

Weather Conditions: Describe clouds, approximate altitude, etc. Give temperature at time of sighting, if possible, also any display of Northern Lights (aurora borealis). Was moon visible? If so, in what approximate section of the sky? Also give location of known stars, planets, if possible. CLEAR - 75° TO 80° - MOON CAME UP ABOUT 1:20 A.M. APPROX. 15° SOUTH OF THE U.F.O AS WE WATCHED IT ON THE HORIZON THRU GLASSES

LASTING 25 MIN

Personal information about observer:

Does observer wear glass? *NO* If so, was he (she) wearing them?

Does observer have good hearing? *YES* If not, does he (she) wear hearing aid?

Was he (she) wearing hearing aid?

Does observer partake of alcoholic beverage? If so, had alcohol been consumed within four hours prior to sighting? How much? *NONE*

ON SPECIAL OCCASIONS

None of the above questions are any reflection on the character of the observer, merely an attempt to consider all factors which could be involved. It is necessary that all questions be answered as objectively as possible. Upon completion, please sign full name. Thank You.

A. Smith
C. CARSON

Aerial Phenomena Research Organization

4740 E. COOPER STREET
EA 6-0059
TUCSON, ARIZONA

22 August 1960

UFO Report Blank

Please complete the following questions and forward to the above-named organization as soon as possible. Postage attached.

NAME OF OBSERVER: Clarence Fry AGE: 34 OCCUPATION: Deputy Sheriff

Date of Observations: ~~8-14-60~~ 8-14-60 Time: (first observed) 10/05pm

Shape of Object: Oval Color: Pale Yellow Glow Red Lights and white

Direction (Direction - N, S, E, W., etc.) when first observed: Came from the west so, west

Elevation: (distance above horizon in degrees - 90 degrees being the angular distance from horizon to directly overhead). Unknown as to degrees

Number of Objects: at this time and this sighting only one

Detailed Descriptions: (Any evidence of windows, ports, doors, lights, protrusions, lights other than object itself, exhaust or trail, etc.)

Real Flashing Light
Pale yellow glow
White lights
Real Flashing Light. *abt. size of a R.R. Car.*

Maneuvers: straight up and down hover and ect.

Approximate altitudes: unknown est. at abt 1 mile

Estimated distance from observer: abt. 1 mile

Any evidence of disturbance of watches, radios, engines, lights, etc.

Radios

Did any such manifestations such as above-named disturbances coincide with maneuver of object, change of color, altitude, etc?

unknown out side at time but while object was in area radio acted up

Sound: Did the object or objects make any discernible sound?
no sound heard

Location: Does area in which object was observed contain any military or defense installation, if so, give approximate distance from area. yes Radar base

Weather Conditions: Describe clouds, approximate altitude, etc. Give temperature at time of sighting, if possible, also any display of Northern lights (aurora borealis). Was moon visible? If so, in what approximate section of the sky? Also give location of known stars, planets, if possible.

no moon clear temp abt 80

Personal information about observer:

Does observer wear glasses? no If so, was he (she) wearing them?

Does observer have good hearing? no If not, does he (she) wear hearing aid?

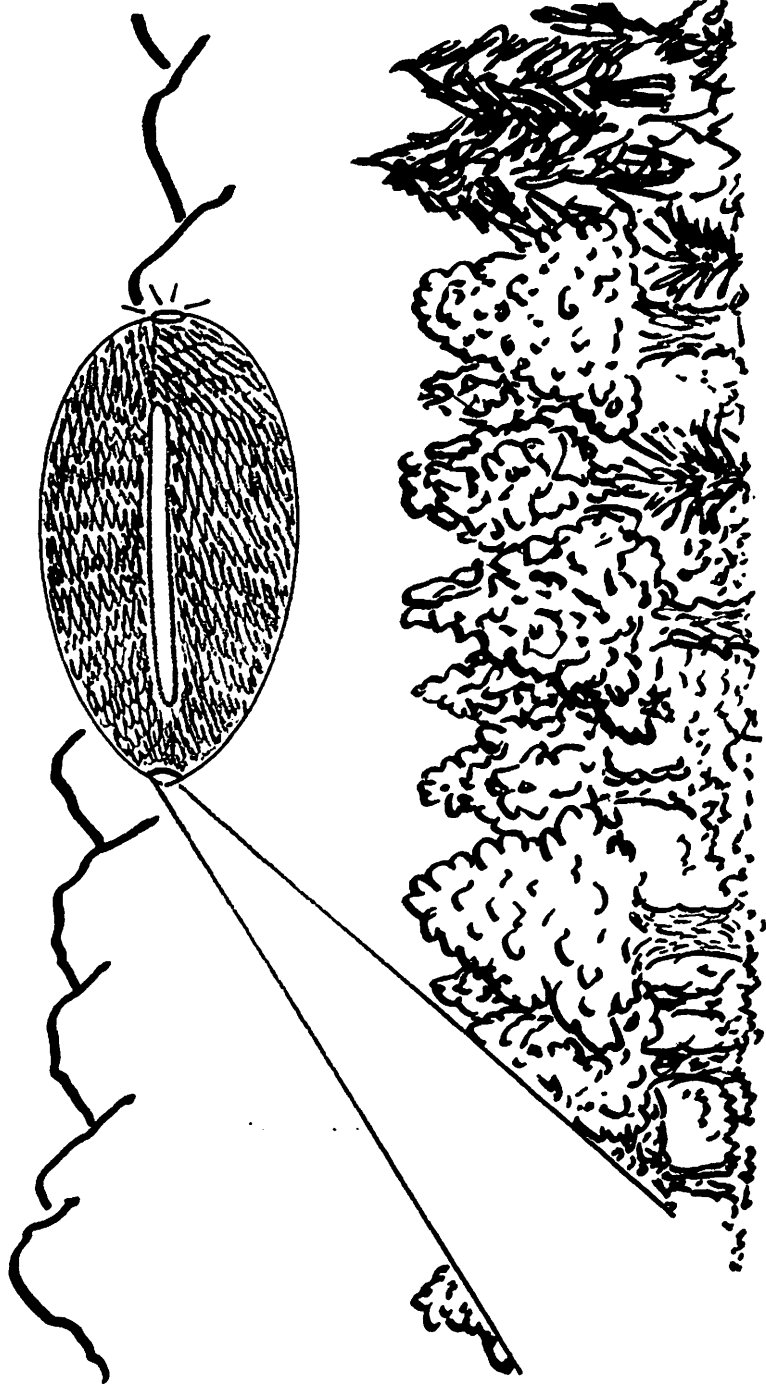
Was he (she) wearing hearing aid?

Does observer partake of alcoholic beverages? If so, had alcohol been consumed in
last hours prior to sighting? How much?

none

None of the above questions are any reflection on the character of the observer, nor
is an attempt to consider all factors which could be involved. It is necessary that
all questions be answered as objectively as possible. Upon completion, please sign
full name. Thank You.

Clarence Fry
Clarence Fry



I have interviewed one of the two California Highway Patrolmen who were the principal witnesses and have spoken with two other persons in that area who were involved in the incident. CHP officers C. A. Carson and S. Scott, driving east at 2300 on a back road south of Red Bluff suddenly sighted what they first took to be an aircraft about to crash just ahead of them. Pulling their patrol car to a rapid stop and jumping out to be ready to render whatever assistance they could, they were astonished to see the long metallic-looking object abruptly reverse its initial steep descent, climb back up to several hundred feet altitude and then hover motionless. Next it came silently towards them until, as Officer Carson put it to me, "it was within easy pistol range." They had their pistols ready and were debating whether to fire when it stopped. Attempts to radio back to the nearest dispatcher failed due to strong radio interference, an occurrence that recurred each time the object came close to them during the remainder of this 2-hour-long sighting. Huge bright lights at either end of the object swept the area. Carson stated to me that one light was about six feet in diameter; other smaller lights were also discernible on the object. After some initial minutes of hovering only 100 to 200 feet away from them and about that same distance above the ground, the object started moving eastward away from them. They then contacted the Tehama County Sheriff's office that handled their night-dispatching work, and asked for additional cars and for a check with Red Bluff Air Force Radar Station. Then they began to follow the object. The full account is too involved to relate here (see Ref. 3), but it is important to point out that a number of witnesses confirmed the object from various viewing points in the county, and a call to the AF Radar unit brought confirmation that they were tracking an unknown moving in the manner reported by Carson and Scott.

When, however, Carson and Scott went next day to talk with personnel at the Red Bluff radar base, they were informed that no such radar sighting had been made. Their request to the officer in charge to talk with the radarman on duty at the time of the incident was denied. The Bluebook explanation that came out after a few days attributed this very detailed, close-range sighting of a large object, seen by two experienced officers, to "refraction of the planet Mars and the two bright stars Aldebaran and Betelgeux." NICAP referred the question to one of their astronomical advisers, who found that none of the three celestial objects were even in the California skies at that time. Bluebook then changed the explanation to read Mars and Capella! Capella, the only one of those celestial bodies that was even in the California skies at 2300, was nowhere near the location of the sighted object, and could not, of course, give the impression of the various maneuvers clearly described by the officer--



Carson subsequently stated, "...no one will ever convince us that we were witnessing a refraction of light." And to me, he wryly remarked on the Bluebook explanations that "I'd sure hate to take one of my cases into court with such weak arguments." Dr. Menzel

concurs with the Air Force explanations and speaks of this being a night of "fantastic multiple inversions of temperature and humidity," such that he would have expected many more reports of UFOs. I should like to know what radiosonde data Dr. Menzel is citing, since the data I obtained does not fit that description. And any such casual putting-aside of the details of the basic report has no scientific justification in the first place. If Menzel and Bluebook think California Highway Patrolmen draw their .44's in uneasiness over looking at a refracted image of Capella, and misinterpret it as a 100-ft object with huge bright lights hovering over the road nearby, I am afraid I cannot share their readiness to so easily discredit


and discount reliable witnesses. When I spoke with Carson a few months ago, I found him still deeply impressed by this incident, over six years after it occurred. "I've never seen anything like it, before or since," he emphasized.

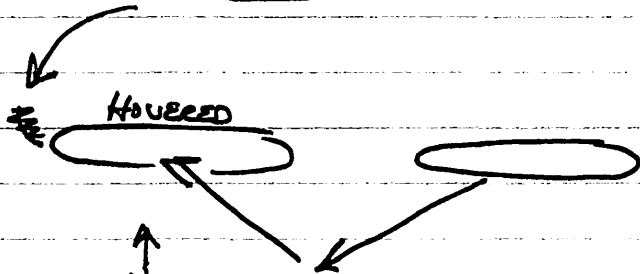
The northern California valley area was the scene of a number of other very interesting sightings in the period August 13-18, many of which NICAP has documented and cited. In my own checking of the Carson-Scott sighting, I ran onto one additional interesting "hidden UFO report" involving a sighting of a low-altitude hovering disc with red lights, seen by a Red Bluff physician during that same period, but will omit details here.

(~ 20 minutes)

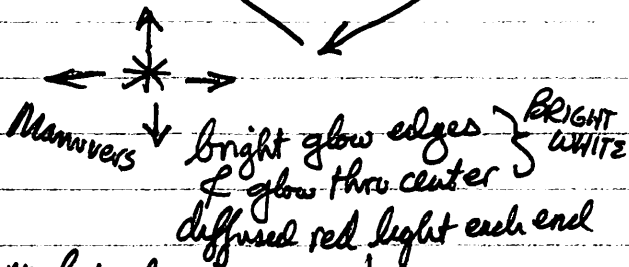
Harder interviews (Dr. Johnson "there, too")

11:50 PM

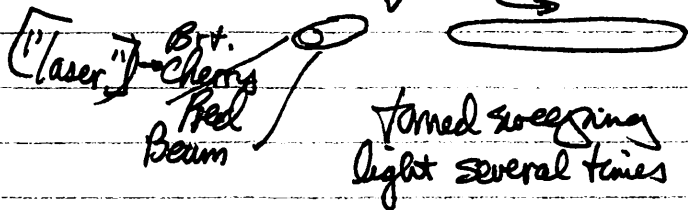
Carson:  NO SOUND



Scott



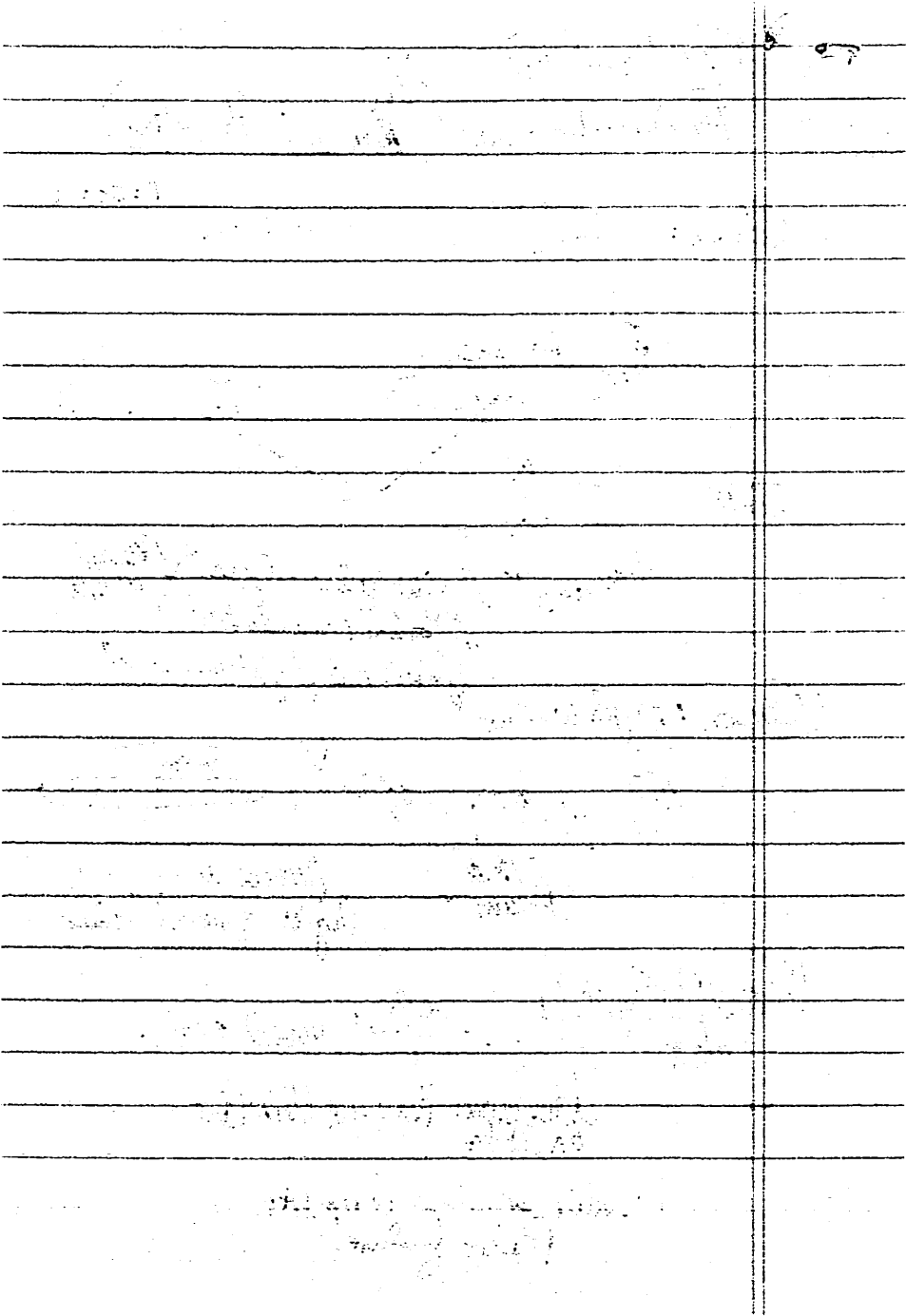
(Carson: maybe windows)



Pointed Red Spotlight at it → Object moved away.

Interference thru. not this time on Radio

(Earlier evening = complete Radio failure)



Red Bull CA SIGN. BUERBACH file.

* Case was in separate folder. (dated Aug 12-20 '60)

* In Boulder CO case is mention of Red Bull
& ATIC statement re: Inversion.
Signed for Nick Post

* Newsclip / pp. Mangel / Many views
of Mangel(s)

* Difficult to read letter.

* Newsclips more.

* Picked up stuff off Radio
Interview (typed up)

Previous note
said
"Good
stuff."

* Good quality stuff shows up

* ATIC Summary / [unclear]
signs it

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a general discussion of the problem.

2. In the second part, we shall consider the special case of a homogeneous medium.

3. The third part is devoted to the study of the asymptotic behavior of the solution.

4. Finally, in the fourth part, we shall discuss the numerical solution of the problem.

5. The fifth part is devoted to the study of the stability of the numerical solution.

6. In the sixth part, we shall consider the case of a non-homogeneous medium.

7. The seventh part is devoted to the study of the asymptotic behavior of the solution.

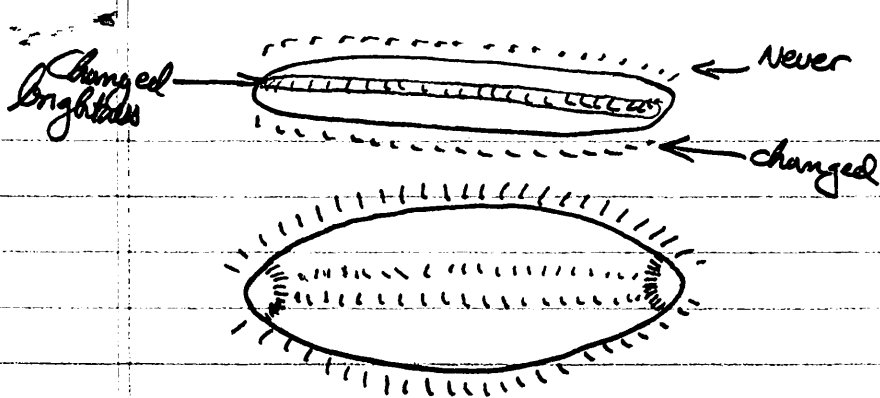
8. Finally, in the eighth part, we shall discuss the numerical solution of the problem.

9. The ninth part is devoted to the study of the stability of the numerical solution.

10. In the tenth part, we shall consider the case of a non-homogeneous medium.

11. The eleventh part is devoted to the study of the asymptotic behavior of the solution.

12. Finally, in the twelfth part, we shall discuss the numerical solution of the problem.

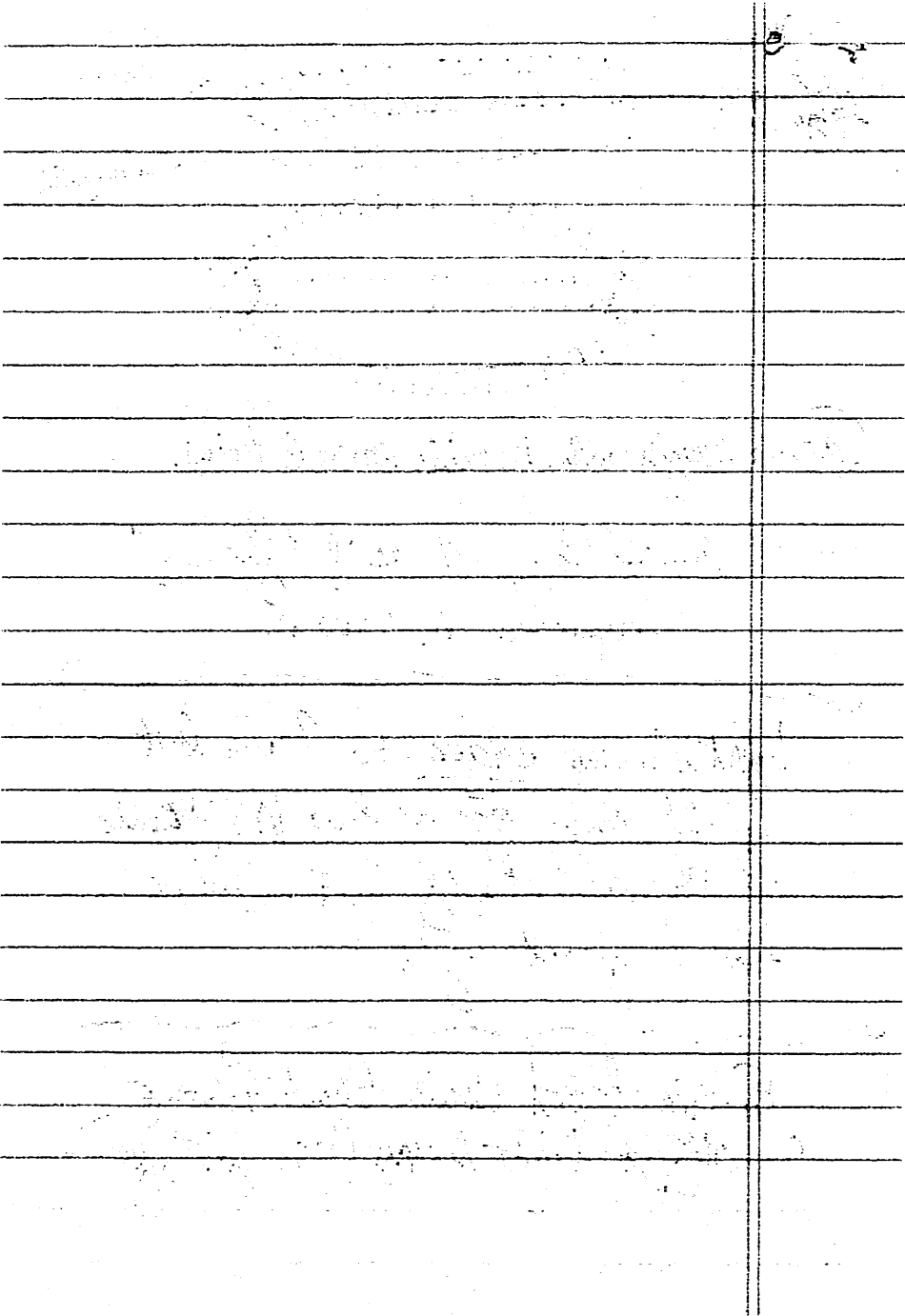


Carson: Maybe within 1/2 mile several times.

— Moved w/o effort as if "floating"
Suspended in water.

light showed edges to beam but
would only go ~ few 100 yards
& played itself out. (more
like a flood light)

Entire object would bank sweep
as ~~object~~ light sweep (ie a spot light)



Disappeared from view & appeared
in another area 15 mi away.

Over farm frange lands w. very
little houses.

Left by travelling E. up slope
of the Seires.

At one time object ^{later} stopped &
came toward them — caused
them fear.

