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2D3	1	1		INTERIOR COMMANDS				AJSS				AFCIN-1A Capt Capas			
3A	1	1		ACIC-S.L.	1	1		CJS				Ken Johns			
3B	1	1		ACIC-D.C.	1	1		NON-USAF AGENCIES							
OSR-2	1	1		AFSS	1	1		ARMY	2						
1B3	1			AU	1	1		NAVY	4						
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COUNTRY OF ACTIVITY REPORTING	REPORT NO.	(Leave Blank)
USA	AISS-UFOB-388-57	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

1/4/1958

COUNTRY OR AREA REPORT CONCERNS Kearney, Nebraska	DATE OF INFORMATION 5 Nov 57	
ACTIVITY SUBMITTING REPORT 1006th AISS Ent AFB, Colorado	DATE OF COLLECTION 6 Nov 57	SRI STATUS (*If applicable*) SRI NO. CANCELED/COMPLETE
PREPARING INDIVIDUAL WILLIAM P. BRUNSON Lt Col, USAF	DATE OF REPORT 13 Nov 57	SRI NO. CANCELED/INCOMPLETE
NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE REINHOLD O. SCHMIDT	EVALUATION E - 5	SRI NO. ACTIVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON (*Date*)

REFERENCES (*BAIR Subject, previous reports, etc., as applicable*)

AFR 200-2

SUBJECT (*Descriptive title. Use individual reports for separate subjects*)

Unidentified Flying Object

SUMMARY (*Give summary which highlights the salient factors of narrative report. Begin narrative text on AF Form 112a unless report can be fully stated on AF Form 112. List inclosures, including number of copies*)

I. CONTENTS:

Part One: Description of Sighting by Reinhold O. Schmidt.

Part Two: Supplementary Investigative Efforts.

Part Three: Comments of thePreparing Officer

II. SUMMARY: On 5 November 1957 SOURCE reported to city officials that he observed an unusual object on theground approximately three miles Southeast of Kearney, Nebraska at 2 PM CST. SOURCE spoke with the six crew members, entered the object and spent 30 minutes observing the interior. After exiting the object, it rose 150 feet and disappeared. SOURCE was only observer. Upon recommendation of the Buffalo County Mental Health Board, SOURCE was committed to the State Mental Hospital, Hastings, Nebraska. Investigators conclude that this sighting was a hallucination and was instigated by the SOURCE for personal publicity.

III. INVESTIGATORS: 1st/Lt Gregory Alexander AO 2217791
M/Sgt William Pangburn AF 19309653

APPROVED:

2 INCLS

William P. Brunson Lt Col
for JOHN W. MEADOR
Col, USAF
Commander

ABCZ

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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I. SOURCE: Reinhold Oscar Schmidt

Address: Fort Kearney Hotel
Kearney, Nebraska

Age: 58

Occupation: Grain buyer for Valu-Pak, Incorporated, Brawley, California.

Education: Grade School, High School, one (1) year Kearney Normal College.

Qualifications: No particular training in technical subject or in observation.

II. RELIABILITY: SOURCE is considered unreliable. A lengthy record of arrests and fines for bad checks and absconding with crops from 1932 until 1938 and a term in the Nebraska State Penitentiary for embezzlement in 1938 and 1939 were noted while SOURCE lived in this area. SOURCE had worked for the Valu-Pak Corporation two (2) weeks before the incident occurred, having lived in Wilcox, Arizona just prior to accepting this job. SOURCE was interviewed for three (3) hours by county psychiatrists and it was determined that SOURCE was in poor mental health and is in need of medical attention.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING:

"I turned off the highway to the north to inspect a field of milo (sorghum). I tried to turn back after checking the milo but the road was too narrow. I went further north looking for a spot to turn around; when I came to a gate in the road, I stopped the car and was going to turn around. At this time I noticed a flash of light coming from the river bed in front of me. I decided to go and see what it was. When I got within sixty (60) feet of the river bank, my motor stopped. I didn't think much of this because I had been going over rough roads and thought that perhaps some wires might have jarred loose. I tried the ignition key and stepped on the starter but it wouldn't go. I then noticed this object down in the river bed and at first, thought that it might be a balloon that had crashed there. I got out of the car and started walking toward the object. When I got about to the bank, I saw it wasn't a baloon but a ship on stilts. At this time a flash of light came out of the ship and seemed to paralyze me and I couldn't walk. I was approximately thirty (30) feet from the object. Two (2) men came out and asked me if I was armed and then searched me. After the search, I got to where I could move and walk again and I asked them what the ship was and what they were doing. They said they couldn't tell me. I asked if I could see it closer and they said that as long as they couldn't leave for a few minutes, I might as well look at it. We started back to the ship and as we got close a door opened on the left side. When I got into the ship, I noticed that there were four (4) men and two (2) women. They all spoke to me. The one (1) stayed with me most of the time, but they told me that they couldn't tell me anything about the ship. They did tell me not to be alarmed as I wouldn't be harmed. I was in the ship about twenty-five (25) or thirty (30) minutes. I then heard one gentleman say in German that they were ready for the take-off. They told me that I would have to leave; they said goodby and wished me good luck and I stepped out and the door closed and the ladder came back up into the ship. I stepped back eight (8) or ten (10) feet, but when the machine started working I thought that there would be a terrific blast, so I stepped back further, almost to the river bank. But there was no blast; it just went straight up into the air and when it got above the trees about fifty (50) feet, it took off in a southwesternly direction. When it got up about sixty (60) feet above the trees, it changed color, turning to a brownish

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color. Then it just disappeared. As to the time, it must have been shortly after two O'clock when I saw the flash, when I got out of the ship it was about three O'clock. It must have taken off about three O'clock."

IV: FURTHER QUESTIONING: SOURCE was interviewed for two (2) hours, resulting in the following amplification to his story.

1. The flash of light drawing his attention initially was similar to an electrical short, reddish in color, and did not blind the SOURCE. SOURCE was approximately one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) mile from the scene.

2. SOURCE did not attempt to check his automobile for battery failure, such as horn, lights or radio.

3. SOURCE was approximately thirty (30) feet from the object when the paralyzing light hit him. The light, orange in color, concentrated on him, not blinding or denying him of his senses other than movement, seemed to come from a two (2) inch diameter source on the end of the object and lasted for two (2) or three (3) secons. Paralysis lasted for approximately ten (10) seconds.

4. Searching of the SOURCE by the two (2) men was simply a "patting" operation. His pockets were not searched nor did the SOURCE touch any people at any time.

5. The four (4) men, about 5'4" tall, dark complected, were dressed in ordinary street suits. Each appeared to be dressed in different subdued tones of browns and blues, brown shoes, hats with narrow brims, and full length ties with subdued designs. One (1) man wore a small mustache (Hitler type). The two (2) women were dressed in white blouses and brown skirts, wore lipstick, had shortly cut brown hair, wore identical silver chain necklaces with a pendant in the center. All appeared to be between forty-five (45) and fifty (50) years of age.

6. The men spoke to SOURCE in broken English, but conversed with each other in High German. SOURCE understands German because his parents emigrated from that country.

7. Entrance to the object was by retracting stairway of four (4) steps. The door opened and closed automatically and without visible command.

8. The interior was about forty (40) feet long. Instruments mounted on aluminum stands lined the sides of the interior. SOURCE was unable to describe exactly any instrumentation except to say that a variety of circular and linear dials of various sizes were noticed. Both Roman numerals and ordinary numbers were noted on the dials.

9. SOURCE stated that the interior of the object was lighted from an invisible source. No noise other than the crew talking was heard. It was possible to see through the sides, bottom and floor of the object, being perfectly transparent. It was not possible to see through the ends of the object to the sections housing the mechanisms presumed to provide propulsion. A lounge consisting of a steel metal and brown upholstered sofa and two (2) chairs was located at the far end of the room.

10. A two-way conveyor apparatus ran the length of the room (40 feet). SOURCE observed the crew stepping on the conveyor and being transported at about walking speed, stepping off the conveyor at any point along its length. SOURCE stated, however, that no moving parts were noted, leading him to surmise that some "magnetic" force was driving the conveyor. The two (2) women and three (3) men were working on the wires behind the dials while the remaining man escorted the SOURCE. The wires ran from the instruments through a tube into the end section of the object.

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11. The exterior of the object was touched by SOURCE who described the sensation as that of touching shiny metal. There were no seams or rivets of any kind on the exterior - even the door "disappeared" and showed no seam. The object rested on four (4) shiny metal supports about three (3) or four (4) inches in diameter and three (3) feet long, slanted outboard and capped with black "pads" of about twelve (12) inches in diameter.

12. The object began rising slowly with little acceleration until it reached a height of ten (10) feet, then sped up slightly, reaching maximum altitude (150feet), in one and one-half (1½) minutes. The object did not hover, but transcribed a smooth arc. While a loud humming noise was heard, there was no wind blast felt by SOURCE. The ends housing the fans were about twenty-five (25) feet in length, the fans about twelve (12) feet in diameter. SOURCE could not detect any entrance to the ends housing the fans, either within the object or on the outside.

13. SOURCE drove his car to a nearby farmhouse to inquire whether the occupants had also observed the object. They had not.

2 Incl:

Area of Sighting
SOURCE's sketch of object

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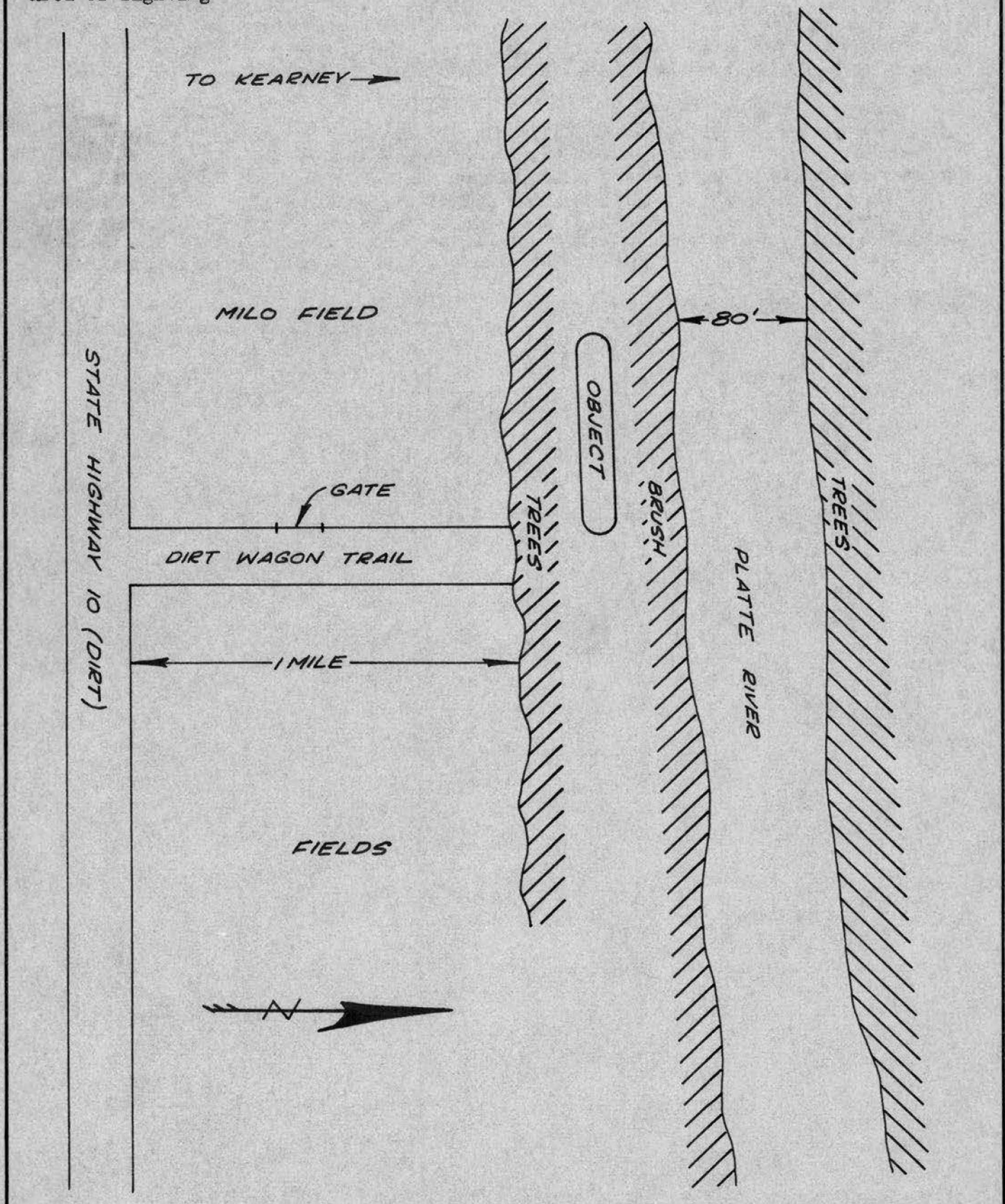
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Inclosure 1 to Part One
Area of Sighting



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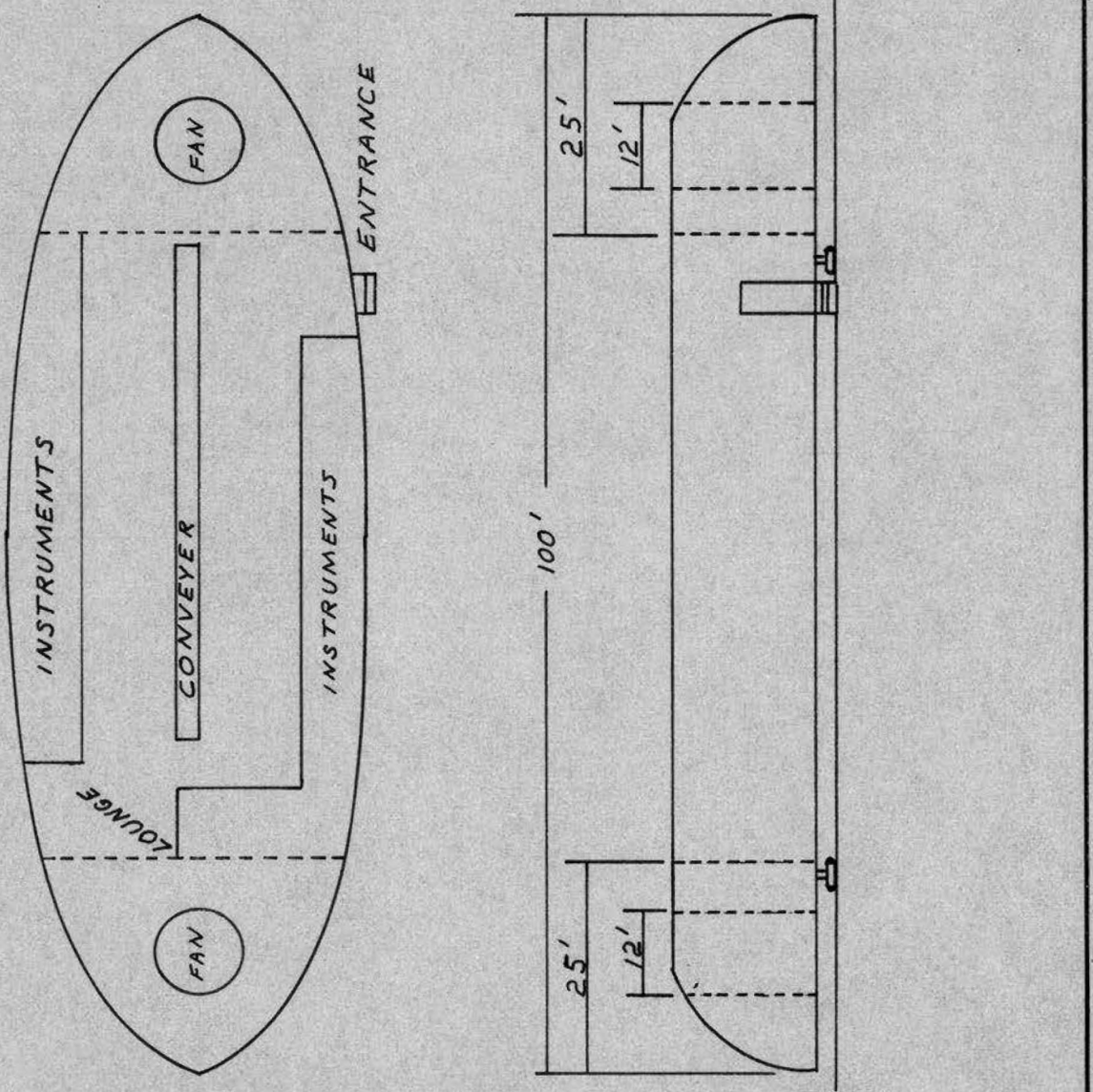
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Inclosure 2 to Part Two
SOURCE's sketch of object



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SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS:

1. SOURCE was taken to the scene of the sighting. No marks where the struts of the object had rested were visible because the area had been walked over by newsmen. While the SOURCE stated that the body of the object was about three feet from the ground, many dry weeds and some scrub trees of four or five feet high were unbroken in the location where the object rested. SOURCE was unable to provide a reason for this. A spot of oil about 24 inches in diameter was found on the ground below where the fan of the object was located. The greenish oil covered the dry leaves and it was possible to obtain a sample from pools made on the leaves. A quart oil can was found about 30 feet from the location of the oil spot. The Veedol 10-30 weight can was identical to an unopened can found in the trunk of the SOURCE'S car. A beer-type can opener found in the SOURCE'S car made identical opening marks as on the can found at the scene. The oil sample was sent to the University of Nebraska for analysis. Results of this analysis are not yet available.

2. A farmer, Paul Meuser, was driving his truck about 2 miles from the scene at approximately the time of the incident when his motor stopped. A Kearney mechanic was called and replaced the points in the distributor. The mechanic stated to investigators that he had replaced a broken rotor in the farmers truck about 10 days before the incident and that a piece of the broken rotor had not been removed at that time. The piece of rotor lodged between the points and caused the failure.

3. The interview was concluded at approximately 1700 hours on 6 November 1957. Two qualified psychiatrists interviewed Mr. Schmidt for a period of two hours. Their findings indicated that Mr. Schmidt was definitley a mental case and possibly could have suicidal tendencies. They also stated that with his particular mental condition, he would undoubtedly enjoy the publicity he was receiving from this incident. A hearing of the county health board was held at 2000 hours that evening and Mr. Schmidt was formally committed to the state hospital for the mentally ill in Hastings, Nebraska.

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COMMENTS OF THE PREPARING OFFICER:

1. SOURCE was asked to indicate when fifteen seconds had elapsed. He estimated the time after only five seconds had elapsed. SOURCE estimated 1000 yards to be equivalent to 1600 feet. SOURCE estimate of the width of the interview room was accurate.

2. Investigators arrived to interview the SOURCE after he had been subjected to all-night questioning by city officials and newsmen. The SOURCE thus had ample time to firmly establish in his mind the answers to practically all questions which the investigators could conceivably ask. The above facts notwithstanding, the SOURCE'S ready answers to all questions, particularly those which concerned minute details, detracted rather then lent authenticity to his story. SOURCE claimed no training in observation which would have allowed him to remember such facts as style of necklaces the women were wearing. SOURCE admitted difficulty in differentiating blues, grays and browns, and although he stated his vision was 20-20, he wore glasses.

3. The facts that; no supporting physical evidence (other than the oil spot which is viewed with suspicion) could be derived; his record of arrests; his too detailed account of the incident; and his mental condition lead the preparing officer to conclude that the incident has no basis in fact, and that the SOURCE suffered a hallucination as evidenced from the investigators' observations that Mr. Schmidt actually came to believe that he had witnessed the object.

William P. Brunson
WILLIAM P. BRUNSON
Lt Col, USAF
Operations Officer

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