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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: July 22, 1947

FROM : SAC, EL PASO

SUBJECT: Mrs. GWYNNE M. ~~MERCHANT~~, Informant
FLYING OBJECTS IN AIR

Handwritten: Flying discs

Mrs. GWYNNE M. MERCHANT has come to the resident agency at Santa Fe, New Mexico on several occasions to report that she has received information concerning flying objects passing through the air. Some of the reports that she has received concern light objects seen at night which have allegedly been followed by explosions. She advised that one of such objects was reported by FRANK BURTRAM, Forest Ranger, who works near Canjilon, New Mexico. She claims that others were seen near Park View and Tierra Amarilla, New Mexico.

Mrs. MERCHANT called attention to clippings from various newspapers concerning "disc-like" objects seen in New Mexico and other parts of the country.

Mrs. MERCHANT claims to be a student of radio waves and ray forms, and contends that the above mentioned objects may be missiles similar to those appearing over Sweden some time ago.

Mrs. MERCHANT has discussed the above with officials of the Atomic Energy Commission, and has written the Secretary of War and other government officials concerning her theories. Mr. SIDNEY NEWBURGER, Chief of Security and Intelligence for the A.E.C., has advised that officials at Los Alamos consider Mrs. MERCHANT unreliable and possibly not well balanced mentally. She has mentioned to agents of this office that she was struck by lightning when a child.

On July 15, Mrs. MERCHANT came to the Santa Fe resident agency and advised that she had written to WALTER WINCHELL, promising him a story in connection with the "flying discs."

The foregoing information is being submitted to the Bureau, inasmuch as Mrs. MERCHANT has written to several government officials and Mr. WINCHELL.

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