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UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT
4AF-1208-I
20 August 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

1. On 20 August 1947, this agent and Special Agent Hubbard interviewed Mr. Ray A. Switzer, Insurance Adjustor, at his home, 3451 David Way, Sacramento, California, and he stated in substance: On the afternoon of 14 August 1947, he was driving his automobile from Placerville, California, on the Cedar Ravine Road. Mr. Switzer's wife was in the front seat of the automobile and Mrs. Switzer's mother and the two Switzer children were in the back seat of the car. At about 1600 hours they were at a point approximately five miles southwest from Placerville when Switzer saw a white smoke trail out of the corner of his eye. In searching for a rocket ship (P80) he saw an object, four to six feet in length, ten to fourteen inches wide, and of a metal color, bright like highly polished chromium. In relation to the travel of the automobile the object was first seen at 1030, and when the object reached a point at approximately 1200, it was engulfed in a puff of dark gray smoke about ten feet in diameter. The object was traveling at a terrific rate of speed and seemed to be in a very shallow dive. When the puff of smoke appeared, the object disappeared completely and there were no particles seen to have fallen from the smoke. The point where the object was engulfed in the smoke was about eight hundred yards distant (in front of) Switzer with no possibility of the object being hidden from view by vegetation or terrain. The object appeared rectangular in shape except for one very short period of time it appeared to have a top surface that was very slightly curved. Mr. Switzer turned to tell his wife about the object and found her with her mouth open in an effort to say something and with her hand in a pointing gesture toward where the object had disappeared. The object was not very high in relation to the terrain and seemed to be following the contour of a canyon.

2. In a separate interview Mrs. Switzer concurred in the information obtained from Mr. Switzer with the following exceptions: The smoke trail and the puff that engulfed the object appeared dark gray in color and there was no change in the color. Mrs. Switzer estimated the object to be about five feet long and about a foot wide with the top surface being slightly curved. The object appeared to be some larger in front than in the rear.

AGENT'S NOTES: At the time this object was seen, the sun was to the Switzer's back, the sky was clear and the object gave off a very bright reflection. Mr. Switzer has been connected with the field of insurance investigation for the last eighteen years and appears to be a man not desirous of publicity. The other passengers of the car did not see the object. Mr. Switzer is in the process of moving to a ranch near Placerville, Calif., and his new address will be Box 43, Aukum, Eldorado County, Calif. Arrangements have been made to meet Mr. Switzer at 1400, 26 Aug 47 at Raffels Hotel, Placerville, Calif., for the purpose of going back over Cedar Ravine Road to locate the point where the object disappeared.

Bryden E. Moon, Special Agent, 4AF CIC

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