

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT
4AF-1208-I

3. On 26 August 47, S/A Hubbard and this agent contacted Mr. Ray Switzer, Insurance Adjustor at the Raffels Hotel, Placerville, California. After traveling Cedar Ravine road to a point nine miles southeast of Placerville, known as Buck's Bar, Switzer decided that the place from where he had observed the object on 14 Aug 47 was nearer to Placerville. After a thorough check of the road, Switzer believed the spot where he had observed the object to be on the ridge just north of Webber Creek where the road breaks over the summit. This point is two miles from the Raffels Hotel, Placerville, California, on the Cedar Ravine Road. As the road approaches the summit it curves to the left which would provide an observer from an automobile a sweeping view through 40° of the canyon and the horizon on the south side of Webber Creek. This point of observation lies 38° 42' 45" North Latitude and 120° 47' 15" West Longitude. The elevation at this point is 2,000 feet above sea level. The horizon from this point in the south is formed by a series of mountain peaks which lie generally through 38° 39' 45" and which are on the south side of Squaw Hollow Creek, a distance of four miles, and ranging in elevation from 2,300 feet to 2,500 feet above sea level. Switzer was not definite as to what part of the field of view he had seen the object and indicated that it could have been as far as the horizon. Any object, or particles of an object, that Switzer saw, if on the ground on the field of view, would be in a six square mile area of wooded, mountainous terrain which is full of canyons and ravines.

AGENT'S NOTES: This agent believes that Switzer could have seen an aluminum surfaced conventional type aircraft which, due to the distance at which he observed it, distinguishing features were not seen because of the bright reflection and the short period of observation. The aircraft would have been coming from the left as Switzer turned to the left, thereby giving the effect of a much greater speed than the object was really traveling. This agent has no explanation as to the smoke trail observed by Switzer. If reconnaissance is desired of the area to see if anything can be located on the ground, this agent suggests that a small type aircraft similar to an L-5, be used in low level flight between the hours of 1100 to 1300. Switzer was very cooperative and expended much of his own time in an effort to be of as much service as possible. Switzer will communicate with the AC of S, A-2, Headquarters Fourth Air Force, Hamilton Field, California, in the event of any report of aircraft wreckage in the area.

4. On 26 Aug 47, a check with Ranger Dixon, State Forest Service, Camino, California, and George B. Young, Forester, Federal Forest Service, Placerville, California, provided the following information: There has been no forest fires or reported aircraft crashes in the area in question within the last month.

Bryden E. Moon, Special Agent, 4AF CIC

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