

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD *DL*

DATE: March 3, 1950

FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN OBJECT OVER OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE, MARCH 1, 1950;
STUART ADCOCK, COMPLAINANT; VITAL FACILITIES; INTERNAL SECURITY

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ladd	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clegg	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glavin	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tracy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harbo	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nease	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input type="checkbox"/>

At 9:55 A.M. today, SAC Robey of Knoxville advised that Stuart E. Adcock, owner and operator of Radio Station WROL, Knoxville, had called the Knoxville Office at 11:15 P.M. on March 1. Adcock is a radio ham operator and has set up in his home in Knoxville an Army Surplus APN-7 radar set. Adcock advised that he had picked up on this set a "pip" indicating that an object was circling at an altitude of about 40,000 feet over Oak Ridge. Adcock stated that he customarily had followed the movement of airplanes through this set and he was sure this item was not a thunder cloud. Mr. Robey advised that the Knoxville Office had immediately notified the AEC Security Section following the receipt of the call from Mr. Adcock.

Belmont
Parsons
Whitely

At 5:30 P.M. on March 2, Mr. Adcock again called to say that he had again picked up an object at 11:15 A.M. on March 2 about 100,000 feet up and about 18 miles from his home in Knoxville which would place the object over Oak Ridge. Mr. Robey advised that CIC Agents had been given the information coming from the Knoxville Office, as a result of which CIC Agents and OSI representatives went out last night and looked over Mr. Adcock's set. They did see an object on the screen about 11:00 or 12:00 P.M. last night. They reported this information to the Third Army. Mr. Robey was of the opinion that the Air Force probably has sent the information to Washington also. Army CIC has now informed that CIA is going to send a technician down from Washington to examine the set. Mr. Robey had no information as to how CIA had jurisdiction. Mr. Robey advised that the Army is also contemplating sending a man up from Atlanta with a portable radar set to check into this situation. In addition, the Naval Reserve has a set locally and is putting it into operation this morning in an effort to identify this object.

Mr. Robey advised that AEC and the Armed Forces' representatives are somewhat concerned about this matter and he wanted the Bureau to have the above information in case there were inquiries.

ACTION

I advised Mr. Robey to keep in touch with the situation and let us know immediately of any developments and as to any information picked up by the Armed Forces or the CIA representative. I also requested that he ascertain who the CIA representative is and what action he took upon his arrival. Mr. Robey was advised that no investigation should be conducted by the Knoxville Office but that he should be kept advised of developments and should send a teletype to the Bureau tonight.

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Memo Keenan
3-10-50
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