

Lt Col. Lewis D. Chase
406-731-9998, x2215
home 406-4521-1135

PIO officer Lt Holland

Malmstrom AFB ^{on or about} Mar 24 67

Fowler: Over minuteman base at Malmstrom
missile flight went out.

Sylvania → can't talk about it

Boeing rep → hot tomato

Broad daylight - white light source
circling base.

Sid Wartell was there at the time.

Sylvania (Waltheon)

Joor Dahlof

Jim Pompelly

Sylvania, Malmstrom
monitored phone conversation
(no talk about)

~~Capt [unclear]~~

Lt Col. Lewis D. Chase
341 Combat Support Group (SAC)
Chief, Operations Division
Malmstrom AFB, Montana 59407

Fowler AFB

both req. of visuals by their crew,
~~Account~~

Olds
160
Capt. Duane Hlavinka home 454-3627
and Capt Johnson office 731-3670
Technical Analysis Division on 731-3682

AF Investgn

Rept.
Scope, when completed.

Site Action Task Force (from other base, Calif)

8:10 - Major James H. Scherff

* suggests we contact

Hqs AFSC Andrews AFB

SCS 30 (Direct inquiry to
Lt. Col. Coyne,
then contracting officer)

Access to information relative to
Echo Flight Incident (ca Mar 24, 67) at
Malstrom AFB

[alternate request results of EMP Lightning Test Program
more broad in scope.]

2. Meriana films

a. Check with people who saw them before & after the AF got them, to see if we could confirm as factual Nick's claim of ^{filming} clipping.

b. Locate & check with the former Virginia Ranning, who had been with Nick at the filming, to get her version of what she saw.

c. Other observers of the objects, if there were any.

3. Check Echo flight

Minuteman missile failure of March 24, 67 & rumors that UFO presence was associated therewith. Could we establish such a connection?

4. Details of photographic hoax

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Memo:

To: Robert Low
David Saunders
Norm Levine
From: R. Craig

Re Malmstrom AFB - Missile incident of about March 24, 1967

Communication with an entire flight of 10 Minuteman missiles was lost for unknown reasons. ~~Not all~~ The various missile sites are supplied with commercial power, not all from the same sub-station. In addition, each site supposedly has its independent power supply, to ~~take~~ take over in case of commercial power failure. Since contact with the entire flight was lost, the cause of failure is not only puzzling, but of utmost concern to our defense structure. Since the integrity of this defense system is in question, any investigation of the cause of failure (and the extent of failure) is extremely sensitive, and, therefore, carried out in strict secrecy.

At the time of this incident, there were numerous reports of UFO sightings in the area. The ufologists have attributed the power failures to the presence of UFO's. [i.e., the local ufologists who have knowledge of the failures]

The incident has been investigated intensely, locally by Capt. Duane Plavinka and Capt. Johnson and their crew of the Technical Analysis Division, and on a broader scale by Major James H. Scharff ^{of the Security Task Force} and others ^(Major Scharff is to be taken to be from Andrews AFB). Major Scharff's report of the investigation was nearing completion on October 20, 1967, when R. Craig indicated to Major Scharff our interest in learning if there might be any relations

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between this problem and the UFO questions.

Major Schiff suggests we contact

Headquarters, AFSC, Andrews AFB
SC'S BQ

directing or inquiry to Lt. Col. Coyne, through
our contracting office, requesting access to information
relative to the Echo Flight Incident (of about
March 24, 1967) at Malstrom AFB

(Alternately, if we wish information on a
broader scope, we should request results of
the EMP Lightning Test Program).

These reports would carry secret classification.

Roy, I called Higpler, and he said he
would try to get this, but he suspects it's
going to be classified too high for us to look
at it. Says he thinks interference by pulses
~~used by~~ ^{from} nuclear explosions is probably involved

BQ

↑ THIS SAYS: Roy, I called Higpler and he said he
would try to get this, but he suspects it's
going to be classified too high for us to look
at it. Says he thinks interference by pulses
~~used by~~ from nuclear explosions is probably involved.

← Bob =
Robert
Crow

Echo

To Roy Craig

ca 24 Mar 1967

10 Minutemen

Malstrom AFB

On site investigation by

Capt Duane Hlavinka }
Capt Johnson }

Technical
Analysis
Division

From off-site, broader scale investigation:

Major James H. Scharff, of Site
Activation Task Force (from Andrews^(?) AFB)

Major Scharff's investigation was nearing
completion on Oct 30, 1967. He suggests we
contact Hqs, AFSC, Andrews AFB

SCS BQ, directing our
inquiry to Lt. Col. Coyne

inquire re Echo Flight Incident
or, perhaps better, we should request results of
the EMP Lightning Test Program.

three AF men, reported seeing it in the sky southeast of Kalispell.

The object was described by some as being triangular in shape with a bright yellow glow. Others said it was cylindrical with an orange glow. All agreed it hovered over the area during the night shifting its position at intervals. It faded into the east when the sun came up, ~~it~~ according to reports.

end.

Report in Tribune of Saturday, May 25, 67

Re Belt incident ^{from} ~~from~~ ^{note} ~~5/24/67~~

re
Echo
1/2 "Advised of the incident here, a member of The Associated Press staff in Helena responded that UFO sightings were coming in from all sections of the state Friday night."

Sat, Mar 25, 67 Tribune.

p 8 "UFO Sighting is reported by Deputies"

A new UFO sighting was made by 3 sheriff's deputies and several others Thurs night, according to a report filed Friday.

(May 93)
Undersheriff Frank Takala said the object hovered north + west of Gore Hill. The report said the UFO was yellow in color and seemed to emit a red glow from top and bottom. After remaining motionless in an overcast and starless night, it travelled west and disappeared.

The undersheriff said it appeared to be about six times as large as the largest star that can be seen at night.

Sat, Mar 25, 67

p 13
Thurs night
UFO's have Busy Flight Schedules over Three States in Northwest. (AP release) Washington
Montana
Oregon

Bellings

no radar evidence associated with
white, blue, green light sightings.
Hovering & moving.

in story ^{Sunday} March 26 re Belt sighting,

"Airmen at Malmstrom AFB reported
sighting a UFO about 5 to 10 miles
northeast of the base at 3:30 a.m.

Mar 25

Saturday.

"FAA radar picked up the object
at 3:42 a.m. to the north^{west}~~west~~
and reported it was off the radar
at 4:26 a.m.

"Airman 2C Richard Moore, a
Communicator-platter at Malmstrom, observed the
object and said it couldn't have been a satellite because of
its jerky movements in crossing the sky.
"An aviation weather forecaster from Gore Hill said
the Weather Bureau radar didn't pick up anything, but noted

their radar was adjusted to pick up mostly clouds & precipitation.

"The AP in Helena reported sightings from all parts of the state Friday night."

↑

Mar 24

(Sun Mar 26)

^{wed.}
In Mar 29, 67 article "Belt UFO Authenticity Stirs Lively Argument" (other things to contend with)

"And how about the radar and visual sightings of a UFO at the base?"

(and broken branches in 30' diam area & more farther away. all fresh breaks, even of limbs of trees 25' hi.)