

## **MARCH 23, 1966 – TEMPLE OKLAHOMA**

Observer [William Eddie Laxson, 52, an instructor at Sheppard Air Force Base] was driving his car along the highway at approximately 0505 [a.m.], 23 March 1966, when he noticed an object parked on the road in front of him. He stopped the car and got out so as to get a better view of the object. The object was so parked that it blocked out a portion of the road curve sign. There were no sharp edges noted by the observer. The object had the appearance of a conventional aircraft (C-124) without wings or motors. There was a plexiglas [sic] bubble on top, similar to a B-26 canopy. As observer approached, he noticed a man wearing a baseball cap enter the object by steps from the bottom. After the man entered the object, it began to rise from the pavement and headed on a southeasterly direction at approximately 720 mph. The object had forward and aft lights that were very bright. As the object rose from the ground, a high speed drill type of sound was heard, plus a sound like that of welding rod when an arc is struck. Object was 75' long, nearly 8' from top to bottom and about 12' wide. There were some type of supports up the bottom of the object.

After the object disappeared the witness got back into his car and drove approximately fifteen miles down the highway. At this time the original witness stopped and talked with another individual who had also stopped along the roadway to watch some lights over Red River which is approximately five or six miles to the southeast.

Various organizations were contacted around the Temple [Oklahoma] area for a possible experimental or conventional aircraft. The observer stated that he thought the object was some type of Army or Air Force research aircraft. All attempts

at such an explanation proved fruitless, since there were no aircraft in the area at the time of the sighting. Although there are numerous helicopters and other experimental in the area, none could be put in the area of Temple at approximately 0500, 23 March 1966. Because of this factor the case is listed as unidentified by the Air Force.

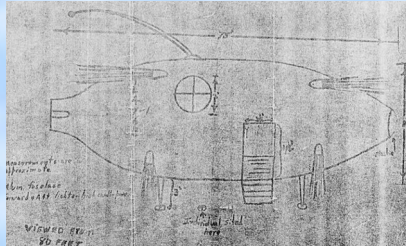
The second witness, who was not interviewed by the Air Force and who, according to the Blue Book files did not file out their long and involved form, was C. W. Anderson. Anderson confirmed for the newspaper that he had seen the craft as well. He told the reporter, "I know that people will say that Laxson is darned crazy. But that's what I saw."

Anderson said that he thought the object had been following him down the road. He had watched it in his rear view mirror for several miles. The problem for the Air Force was that Anderson did not complete their form. He didn't see the pilot or crewman either.

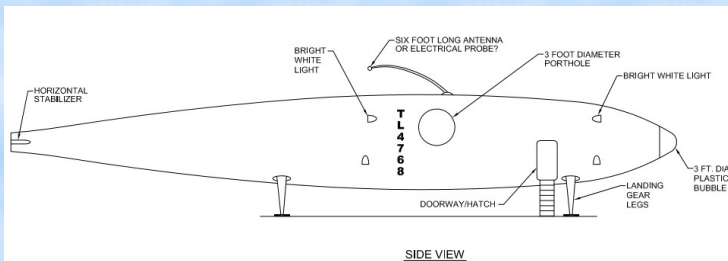
The drawing of the object made by Laxson, resembled, grossly, that Lonnie Zamora had made of the craft he saw, which means it was sort of egg-shaped. It was certainly longer and was lying on its side. Like Zamora, Laxson said that he saw symbols on the object, but unlike Zamora, he recognized them. He told the report that, "On the side I made out... 'TLA' with the last two figures '38.'"

In what might be described as a fit of honesty, the Air Force admitted they had no solution for the case. The description of the "alien" was more human than humanoid and he seemed to be dressed in conventional clothes right to the "mechanics" hat.

Investigation revealed a second witness and that might have influenced the Air Force, especially since the men had never met prior to the sighting. In the end, they labeled the case as “Unidentified.”



*Laxson's drawing from the Project Blue Book files.*



*Sketch of the craft by Michael Schratt c-2019*



*Mr. William Edgar Laxson*

**Reliability evaluation:**

**TRUE**

