



Home » The Fringe » Project TWINKLE - Green Fireball UFO Research Study under Project Grudge, 1950s

THE FRINGE

Project TWINKLE – Green Fireball UFO Research Study under Project Grudge, 1950s



Background

In December 1949 Project Twinkle, a network of green fireball observation and photographic units, was established but never fully implemented.

Although it is widely believed the green fireballs were natural phenomenon, during Project TWINKLE, many scientific experts were not convinced.

4. There is considerable doubt in the minds of some of the project personnel that this is a natural phenomenon. As long as a reasonable doubt exists, it is not wise to discontinue entirely the observations. Dr. Whipple s suggestion that these may be moon reflections on small clouds cannot be discounted. That fire balls have been observed in the past cannot be discounted due to the reliability of several witnesses. It may be considered significant that fire balls have ceased abruptly as soon as a systematic watch was set up. At present it does not appear likely that the next six months of observations will yield any more information than the first six months, but it is felt that even negative information may be significant.

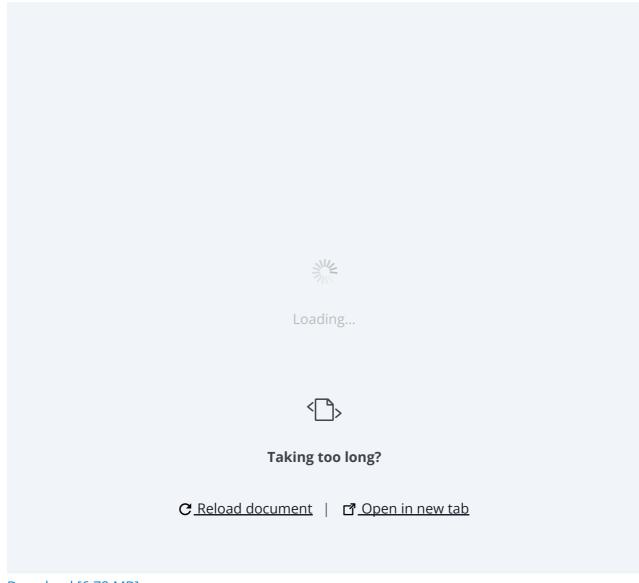
In addition, Clyde Tombaugh, the astronomer who discovered the planet Pluto, was reported as saying, "I have seen three objects in the last seven years which defied any explanation of known phenomenon, such as Venus, atmospheric optic, meteors or planes. I am a professional, highly

skilled, professional astronomer. In addition I have seen three green fireballs which were unusual in behavior from normal green fireballs... I think that several reputable scientists are being unscientific in refusing to entertain the possibility of extraterrestrial origin and nature."

Below, you will find some files on Project TWINKLE, as obtained from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA).

Document Archive

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