

# PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 1. DATE<br>26 Feb 51                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  | 2. LOCATION<br>Durban, S. Africa                                                                                                                                                                      |  | 12. CONCLUSIONS<br><input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon<br><input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon<br><input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft<br><input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft<br><input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical<br><input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical<br><input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>UNIDENTIFIED</u><br><input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unknown |  |
| 3. DATE-TIME GROUP<br>Local _____<br>GMT 26/0255Z                                                                                                                                                                              |  | 4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar<br><input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| 5. PHOTOS<br><input type="checkbox"/> Yes<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No                                                                                                                                            |  | 6. SOURCE<br>NOT GIVEN CIVILIAN                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| 7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION<br>1 minute                                                                                                                                                                                           |  | 8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS<br>1                                                                                                                                                                             |  | 9. COURSE<br>Not given                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
| 10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING<br>Color was bright dark red, Shape like torpedo.<br>Looking through a windshield from a lorry<br>which was stationary. It was traveling parallel<br>to the ground and not dropping like a star. |  |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  | 11. COMMENTS<br>UNIDENTIFIED.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |





DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

AF287826

In reply refer to  
IAD:CMW 745a. 5612/2-2651

March 14, 1951.

UNCLASSIFIED

MEMORANDUM FOR: Directorate of Intelligence,  
Chief, Collection Control Branch,  
Room 5-C-135 The Pentagon,  
Department of the Air Force.

SUBJECT: Report of Flying Saucers from  
Union of South Africa.

Enclosed as of possible interest to your Department is  
copy of despatch No. 282 of February 26, 1951 from the  
American Consulate at Durban, transmitting copies of two  
articles from local newspapers concerning the appearance  
of a torpedo-shaped object floating in the sky over the  
Durban area.

*Edward J. Carroll*  
Edward J. Carroll  
Chief, Military Liaison Branch  
Division of  
Acquisition and Distribution

Enclosure: ✓

Copy of despatch  
No. 282, Feb. 26,  
1951 from Durban  
with two attachments.

UNCLASSIFIED



7-2712-34



UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

Enclosure to  
despatch no. 282

American Consulate,  
Durban, South Africa.  
February 26, 1951.

C O P Y:

TORPEDO SHAPE IN SKY

Three Europeans and some Natives saw a torpedo-shaped object travelling slowly over the Point area of Durban shortly before 5 o'clock this morning.

Mr. W. [REDACTED], Glenwood, told The Daily News: "We were coming off night shift and with two companions I was sitting in the lorry while the trailer was full of Natives. As the lorry stopped at the corner of Point Road and Winder Street I looked up through the wind-screen and saw something that looked like a torpedo travelling slowly overhead towards the Bluff. I called my companion's attention to it and asked the time. It was 4.55.

"It was beautifully coloured, the front part being bright red, the centre dark red and the end bright red. There was no noise and no trail that I could see, and although I have seen thousands of shooting stars I will swear it was not a star for it was travelling parallel to the ground and not dropping like a star.

"It was by far the prettiest thing I have ever seen in the sky and we watched it for about a minute before it passed out of sight, going in the direction of the Bluff.

"With me in the lorry was Mr. [REDACTED], of [REDACTED], and a driver whose name I'm not sure of. The Natives were very excited by this lovely thing in the sky!"

Natal Daily News, February 21, 1951.



FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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SECURITY : UNCLASSIFIED

PRIORITY: AIR POUCH

AF287826

For Dept.  
use only.

TO : Department of State (For Department of Defense)

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745a,5612/2-2651

FROM : DURBAN 282 February 26, 1951.

REF : - -

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SUBJECT : Flying Saucers over Durban.

As of possible interest to the Department there are attached two newspaper articles which appeared in the Daily News of Durban on February 21, and February 22, 1951.

tjk

c.c.

V.E.Prichard,/thw

Robert G. McGregor  
American Consul.

Enclosures:

Two clippings.

Copies to: American Embassy, Pretoria  
American Consulate General, Johannesburg.

Department of State  
Acquisition and Distribution Division  
Military Liaison Branch  
MAR 1 4 1951



UNCLASSIFIED

(Classification)

Enclosure to  
despatch no. 282

American Consulate,  
Durban, South Africa.  
February 26, 1951.

C O P Y:

OTHERS SAW "TORPEDO" OBJECT

The torpedo-shaped object reported to have been seen flying over Durban early yesterday morning was also seen by passengers waiting for a train at Merebank station.

Mr. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Merebank, says a group of people were standing on the platform waiting for the 5 a.m. train when the object was seen in the sky over the sea in the Isipingo area.

He says: "It was exactly the same as the description given by Mr. [REDACTED] in The Daily News yesterday but the color to me appeared to be blue. It was a most beautiful sight. It looked like a ball when I first saw it, and then it gradually became torpedo-shaped, until finally it disappeared in the sky somewhere near Reunion Rocks. There was no noise and the object seemed to be at a low altitude travelling slowly".

Mr. Douglas Robertson, a Durban astronomer, says that although he did not see the object himself, the possibility of it being a comet can definitely be ruled out. The reports say this object travelled up the coast, and comets are known to travel only from west to east.

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