

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 26 Feb 53 26/1239Z	2. LOCATION Kingsville, Md
3. SOURCE military	10. CONCLUSION POSSIBLE AIRCRAFT Comments: Since source was riding in an automobile, it is believed that obj was not properly observed. There is great possibility that obj was an a/c at a far distance reflecting the rays of the sun. No check on a/c in the area.
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Unusual luminous obj was sighted in the NE approx 40 deg above horizon. When first sighted obj appeared to be stationary and 15 seconds later the brightness appeared to diminish and seemed to move in an E direction. Obj was last observed approximately 30 deg above horizon.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION approx 30 sec	
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ground visual	
7. COURSE East	
8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNCLASSIFIED
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
4TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
BOLLING AIR FORCE BASE, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

24-0-252

9 APR 1953

SUBJECT: FLYOERT
Sighting of Unidentified Aerial Objects on
26 February 1953, at Kingsville, Maryland, and
5 March 1953, at Baltimore, Maryland
ROBERT F. PLOTT, Capt., USMC
SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commanding General
Headquarters Command, USAF
Bolling Air Force Base
Washington 25, D. C.

Headquarters Command, USAF Air
Provost Marshal Office File &
Record Check Sheet.
Date 12 APR 53 By
Special
Personnel
Security
Unit CO
Base APM
Others

1. This office has received two (2) Summary of Information Reports from the Baltimore Regional Office, 109th CIC Detachment, Subject: Sighting of an Unusual Luminous Aerial Object, dated 12 March and 25 March 1953. These Summary of Information Reports are set forth verbatim as follows:

DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5010.10 "SECURITY INFORMATION

12 March 1953

"Between 0739 and 0741 hours, 26 February 1953, [REDACTED] Captain, [REDACTED] Medical Service Corps, Chief of Radiological Hygiene Division, Army Environmental Health Laboratory, Army Chemical Center, Maryland, who was driving alone in his automobile in a westerly direction on U.S. Route 1, two to three miles west of Kingsville, Maryland, sighted an unusual luminous aerial object in the northeast sky. The object appeared to be self illuminated and about forty degrees above the horizon. [REDACTED] estimated the surface brightness and color temperature to be about the same as that of the sun which at that time was partly obscured by clouds in the southeast sky. A layer of medium dark gray stratus clouds, at an estimated altitude of 7,000 to 10,000 feet, were in the same part of the sky, but [REDACTED] was unable to determine whether the object was between him and the clouds, the midst of the clouds, or the far side of the clouds.

"At first sight the object appeared to be a motionless, sharply-defined, ellipse with a vertical major axis. The minor axis appeared [REDACTED] contained herein has been derived from sources other than USAF. In accordance with Par 5b, AFR 203-1, dissemination of the information contained herein must not be made outside of USAF channels."

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24-0-252

SUBJECT: Sighting of Unidentified Aerial Objects on 26 Feb 53, at Kingsville, Md, and 5 Mar 53, at Baltimore, Md - [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Capt, USMC FLYOBRT - SPECIAL INQUIRY

to be about two-thirds as long as the major axis. [REDACTED] estimated that at two and one-half feet from his eye the projected diameter of the object would be about one-eighth of an inch.

"After about fifteen seconds the brightness diminished somewhat and for an estimated five seconds the aerial object assumed the mushroom-shaped appearance of the caustic produced by the reflections of sunlight on the smooth interior of a wedding ring. Motion of the object first became apparent during this five-second period.

"Thereafter the major axis appeared to be horizontal and the object resumed its original brightness. It appeared to move at the same altitude in an easterly direction until, due to its movement away from the observer, it had reached a position thirty degrees above the horizon. Plott then lost sight of the object due to the progress of his automobile behind a hill. Upon reaching an unobstructed area further down the road, the object had disappeared and was not seen again. No smoke or vapor trails were observed.

"Captain [REDACTED] qualifications as an observer are as follows: 20/20 vision corrected by eyeglasses. He has a bachelor of science degree from Carnegie Institute of Technology where he majored in physics. Among his studies at Carnegie Tech was a one year course on the phenomena of light. [REDACTED] has used light phenomena as a physicist in connection with experimental work off and on for a period of eight years. On numerous occasions [REDACTED] has observed reflections from aircraft and pyrotechnic flares of various kinds and observed no similarity in color, brilliance and shape between the luminous aerial object and anything he had observed before.

"At 1600 hours, 26 February 1953, an agent of this office returned with [REDACTED] to a spot one hundred yards west of the intersection of Forge Road and U. S. Route 1 where [REDACTED] first observed the object. A compass was sighted on the spot in the sky where [REDACTED] first observed the object and a reading of thirty degrees was obtained. A check at the Churchville Ordnance Corps tank proving ground - the only known activity in that direction that could have been using pyrotechnics - revealed that no pyrotechnics had been used in that area.

"AGENT'S NOTE: The 208th AAA Battery, Catonsville, Maryland, was checked regarding any activity in the area with negative results.

Remainder of report filed under 5 MAR 53
Baltimore, Md

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PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE TIME GROUP 26 Feb 53 26/2310Z	2. LOCATION Pepperrell AFB, Newfoundland
3. SOURCE military	10. CONCLUSION OTHER: FLARE
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	Comments: Green obj moving downward at a high rate of speed indicates meteor. Source has probably overestimated size (compared to moon) in excitement. Upon completion of interrogation of
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION not reported	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS of many observer, object evaluated as a flare.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ground visual	Brief Summary: Green obj about the size of the moon emitted sparks as it traveled in a downward course at a very high rate of speed disappearing behind a hilly area.
7. COURSE East	
8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

15

Multiple

21 MAR 53 08 34z
23 MAR 53 10 10z

h

- 1. Atia
- 2. Ati
- 3. C. files

ATIC

3:46

RBC79

WPE071

YDA392

TYA123

TDB118

JEZ D260

JEX A49

RR JEDWP JEPHQ JEDEN 33

DE JEXC 96

R 221845Z

FM CG NEAC PEPPERREL AFB NFLD

TOJEDWP/ATIC WRIGHT-PATTRSON AFB OHIO

JEPHQ/ DIRECTOR OF INTELTIGENCE HQ USAF WASH DC

JEDEN/CG ADC ENT AFB COLO

NEOCOC-I 00022 REFERENCE OUR MESSAGE NEOCOC-I-03104. UPON

COMPLETION OF INTERROGATION OF OBSERVERS, OBJECT EVALUATEED AS

A FLARE.

20/1942Z MAR JEXC

Here's a solution!

26 0310Z

041

ACTION

27 FEB 53 06 05Z
OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

RE066

WPA033

YDA060

TYD035

TDA032

JEZ C029

1953 FEB 27 10:18

JEX C31

AGO
ACTIC

INFOR

1953 FEB 27 07:40

OPOP JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN 333

DE JEXC 1

OP 270050Z ZFF

FM CG NEAC PEPPERRELL AFB NF

TO JEPHQ/HQ USAF WASHDC

JEDWP/CG ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB DAYTON OHIO

JEDEN/CG ADC

NECOC-1-03104 ATTN DIR OF INTELLIGENCE. FLYOBRPT. AT 2310Z 26 FEBRUARY 1953 AN UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE MOON WAS SIGHTED OVER THE PEPPERRELL AFB - TORBAY AIRPORT AREA. OBJECT APPEARED GREEN IN COLOR, EMITTING SPARKS AND TRAVELLING DOWNWARD AT A VRY FAST RATE OF SPEED DISAPPEARING BEHIND THE WHITE HILLS AREA EAST OF PEPPERRELL AFB. OBJECT WAS OBSERVD BY MAJOR R. E. FANCHER, C. O. 6622ND AIR TRANSPORT SQ, A/2C SYLVESTER, 6600TH AIR POLICE SQDN AND A PILOT OF AN INCOMING AIRCRAFT TO TORBAY AIRPORT. CHECK WITH 64TH AIR DIV ADDC GAVE NEGATIVE RESULTS ON RADAR SCOPES. WEATHER AT TIME OF INCIDENT WAS GENERALLY GOOD, 12,000 TO 15,000 FEET BROKEN

1. Attn
2. Attn
3. C. files

Don't
McLean
They prob. overestimated
size when sighted

PAGE TWO JEXC 1

CLOUD COVER. MOON AND STARS WERE VISABLE AND NO WEATHER CONDITIONS
EXISTED TO CASUE SUCH AN INCIDENT. FURTHER INFORMATION WILL
BE SUBMITTED UPON DETAILED INTERROGATION OF OBSERVERS

27/0105Z FEB JEXC

Sounds like a meteor

cy 1

FM JCRC WASH DC 0105Z FEB 51

TO SAC, NEW YORK

RE JEXC 1

INFO: TELNO TELNO TELNO 200

TEL CRI

TEL COSO

FEB 51

10:18

ADVISE

ADVISE

ADVISE

ADVISE

ADVISE

511000Z 00 025

Pepperrell Air Force Base, Newfoundland

52 10
26 February 1953

I. Description of Incident

An Air Force major and enlisted personnel from this base observed a green object with a trail of sparks traveling downward at a high rate of speed and disappearing behind mountains to the east. The size of the object was compared to that of the moon. Time of sighting was 1910 local time and the existing weather conditions were generally good.

II. Discussion of Incident

Project Blue Book's contract astronomer is of the opinion that the object seen was an exceptionally bright meteor. The size of the object has probably been overestimated. Two factors substantiate the meteor conclusion in this case: 1) the fact that it followed a downward course and 2) that it gave off sparks, two characteristics of a common meteor. No length of observation was given but it probably was a matter of seconds.

III. Conclusion

Probably a meteor.

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T53-3695