

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 2000 local 3 Oct 53 04/0100Z	2. LOCATION North Rome, Pa
3. SOURCE CIVILIAN	10. CONCLUSION ASTRONOMICAL: ARCTURUS Arcturus at 5 deg elev, 295 deg az in position to set at 2000. Sighting characteristic of astro body.
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS ONE	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 15 min	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS No sound, stationary orange light pulsating, larger than star, slight movement in close area, observed on previous occasions.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ground visual	
7. COURSE stationary	
8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
2D DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
72 E. 10TH STREET
NEW YORK 3, NEW YORK

IN REPLY

REFER TO: 24-0-261

27 JAN 1954

SUBJECT: (Unclassified)

Unidentified Object seen in the Air
at 8:00 to 8:15 p.m. on 10/3/53 at
North Rome Township, Bradford County,
Pennsylvania

SPECIAL INQUIRY

TO: Commander
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Ohio

1. The New York Field Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, has advised this district that Special Agent HAROLD K. ALLEN, Jr., has obtained the following information from Mr. ██████████, U. S. Department of Labor, 215 Montague Street, Room 512, Brooklyn, New York:

"████████ stated that while visiting at North Rome Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, he observed an unidentified object in the sky between 8:00 and 8:15 p.m. on October 3, 1953. He advised that he sighted the object from outside of his residence which is the first house outside of North Rome Township on the road toward Lake Wesaunking, Pennsylvania. The object appeared to be about two miles distance and in a northwesterly direction with approximately fifteen degrees altitude over the horizon. It appeared stationary when first sighted, but when sighted on a fixed object it was found to be moved slightly sideways and up and down in a close area. It hovered in the air similar to a helicopter. It appeared larger than a star and was emitting an orange pulsating light. It did not emit any sound nor was there any exhaust steam visible.

The object was seen by Mrs. ██████████ same address, and also by ██████████ and ██████████ of North Rome Township, Bradford County, Pennsylvania, R.F.D. #5. They all concurred with what ██████████ had stated.

████████ recalled seeing the same object at approximately the same location a year previously.

DEGRADED AT 3 YEARS INVENTORY
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 30 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.2

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2D OSI File 24-0-261

Ltr to: Commander, ATIC

Subj: Unidentified Object seen in the Air

Mrs. [REDACTED] informed her husband that she had observed the object in the same location several times previously this year.

[REDACTED] recalled a rumor that a metallic flying object was found several years previously in approximately the same area where he had sighted the unidentifiable object on October 3, 1953. [REDACTED] stated that he is available at the United States Department of Labor, 215 Montague Street, Brooklyn, for any additional assistance that he might render."

2. No investigation is contemplated by this district.

3. Information furnished herewith has been derived from sources other than the Department of the Air Force and, in accordance with paragraph 5f, AFR 205-1, dissemination must not be made outside USAF channels.

Charles A. Hartman, Major
For and in the absence of
HARRY G. WEBER
Major, USAF
District Commander

cc: Dir OSI

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1 OCT 1953
Metors Rec'd

Meteors in the Records

The American Meteoritics Society, whose members specialize in the study of meteors and meteorites, for years have collected reports of such phenomena. From a large enough number of good descriptions of a given meteor, astronomers can analyze the data mathematically and determine the meteor's radiant—the point in the heavens from which it seems to come. The meteor is then identified by its radiant and given an AMS number. The data were published in *Meteoritics*, the journal of the society, and thus made available for future research.

The records of the society for the years 1950 to 1955 list dozens of fireballs, many of them green, that were somehow overlooked by saucer enthusiasts. On August 11, 1950, during the maximum of the Perseid shower, a blue-green fireball (AMS 2336) apparently oval- or cigar-shaped, appeared over Washington, Oregon, and Idaho at 7:30 P.M. and was reported by more than 100 witnesses. So brilliant that it showed a noticeable disk, it flew in a horizontal path, silently broke into three pieces, and disappeared [8, p. 379].

September 20, the same year, was a big day for meteors. At 1:35 A.M. a giant fireball (AMS 2326) roared over southeastern Illinois from north to south, leaving a luminous train visible in five states and illuminating the sky and countryside from St. Louis to Louisville and from Memphis to Knoxville. The final detonation, over western Kentucky, was heard over an area 1000 miles square and shook buildings from Paducah to Memphis. Fragments showered farms over a twenty-five mile area, struck five buildings, and penetrated one roof. About fifty pounds of meteorites dropped in Murray, Calloway County, Kentucky, and are now in the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. That same night about 10:45 P.M.,

fireballs were reported by plane crews flying over a six-state area—Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico [9, p. 115]. Similar fireballs that vanished without trace were reported on September 28, 1953 (AMS 2331); October 4, 1953 (AMS 2330); May 15, 1954; and October 27, 1954 (AMS 2337).

Information Only

Source: American Meteor Society for 1963, # 149

Philadelphia, Pa
7 - 8 October 1953

FIREBALL OF 1953 OCTOBER 7/8 A.M.S. No. 2377

On this date a bright fireball or bolide was observed at 7:32 p.m., E.S.T., by W. G. Clearver at New Haven, Conn., S1, and by Leith Holloway, Philadelphia, Pa., S2. The whole path, with a diagram, was obtained at S1 and part of the path (rest obscured by a building) at S2, where the path was given as vertical, and coordinates estimated. At S1 it was noted as brilliant blue, no lasting train, and that it exploded at end. At S2 it was recorded as -5 or -6 magnitude, vertical path, and that the visible part was traversed in 3 to 4 seconds. After some trials the following data were computed, which however must be approximate as only part of the path was seen at S2.

Date..... 1953 October 7.52 G.M.T.
Sidereal time at end point..... 311°
Began over..... $\lambda = 72^\circ 14'$, $\phi = 40^\circ 27'$ at 149 km
Ended over..... $\lambda = 73^\circ 00'$, $\phi = 40^\circ 19'$ at 91 km
Length of path..... 65 km
Projected length of path..... 63 km
Radiant corrected for zenith attraction..... $a = 257^\circ$, $h = 41.5^\circ$
 $\alpha = 14^\circ$, $\delta = +32^\circ$

As the radiant is only approximate no orbit is computed.
Nothing at this position and date is found in the Hoffmesier-van Niessl Catalogue.