

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 7 November 1954 07/2155Z	2. LOCATION Oneida, Tennessee
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION 11 PROBABLY BALLOON
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 12 Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS One crescent shaped object the size of a half dollar held at arms length, silver in color was observed through windshield. Object disappeared into nothing-ness.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual	Investigated by Flight 2-B. Investigation determined that weather balloons are released regularly from Knoxville, Tenn., one balloon released an hour before the sighting. Investigating authority believed it was this balloon which possibly gave rise to the sighting.
7. COURSE SW	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

UNCLASSIFIED

(CLASSIFICATION)

REPORT NO.

28 AUG 54

CLASSIFICATION

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Tennessee

Flight 2-B

46026 ATSS

DATE OF INFORMATION

072155Z Nov 54

EVALUATION

SOURCE

Mr. [REDACTED]

S. R. KUDAN 2nd Lt., USAF

10-2 dtd 12 Aug 54

Contents:

PAGE ONE- Description of sighting of object by Mr. Kelvin C. Sexton

SUMMARY- The UROB was first sighted by Mr. [REDACTED] on Sunday, 11 Aug 54, at 4:50 P.M. (EST) on U.S. Highway #27, two miles south of ONEIDA, Tennessee (GRID 2931). GROUND of sighting spot was (GRID 2729). The information contained in this report was obtained from the person observing the object and from an investigation conducted to determine the possible cause of the sighting.

INVESTIGATOR- S/Sgt Richard N. Holden, AF 11 199 870

James N. KUDAN
 JAMES N. KUDAN
 2nd Lt., USAF
 OIC FLIGHT 2-B

SIGNING OFFICER-

John N. White Jr.
 JOHN N. WHITE JR.
 Colonel, USAF
 Commander

CLASS- Original, D/L USAF, Comd ATIC, D/L 35 ADIC

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Description of Object

- a. Crescent
- b. Size of Half Dollar held in the hand at arm's length
- c. Silver
- d. One
- e. N/A
- f. Negative
- g. Burst from tail and similar to vapor trail from jet engine but disappeared immediately upon release from the tail end.
- h. Negative
- i. Negative

2. Description of Course of Object

- a. OBSERVER'S attention was first called to the object when his wife spotted it through the windshield of his automobile. After OBSERVER had driven along for two more miles and the object did not disappear, he stopped to watch it.
- b. The angle of elevation of the object when first sighted was 45° and its azimuth was 175° .
- c. Same as b. above
- d. The object appeared from the southwest and continued moving in the same direction for the entire time it was in the sight of the OBSERVER.
- e. Merely disappeared from sight like an aircraft in normal flight.
- f. OBSERVER saw the object for a period of twelve (12) minutes from the first moment he saw it in the automobile.

3. Manner of Observation

- a. Ground-visual
- b. Negative
- c. N/A

4. Time and Date of Sighting

- a. 07215Z Nov 54
- b. Day

5. Location of Observer

- a. Location of OBSERVER (GRC 2729) two miles south of ONEIDA, TENN (GRC 2931).
- b. N/A

6. Identifying Information of Observer

- a. Civilian, [REDACTED] 44 years, [REDACTED], Tennessee
- b. N/A

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Flight 2-B, 4602d AISS

ZENITH 3-54

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7. Weather and Winds Aloft Conditions

- a. Clear sky, no wind, dry, cool
- b. Unknown
- c. Unlimited
- d. Unlimited
- e. None
- f. None

8. No phenomenal astronomical activity, but the University of Tennessee's astronomer, Dr. Mary Peters, reported that there are many meteor showers in the Tennessee area during the month of November, much more so than any other month during the entire year.

9. N/A

10. Negative

11. OIC Flight 2-B, 4602d Air Intelligence Service Squadron. This report was turned over to this unit by the Knoxville 602d USAF organization, several weeks after the sighting. Capt. F.B. Routs, USAF, presently with that organization and recently with an AC & W Squadron, has written the following statement on the report: "Probably a weather balloon with radar reflector. As stated, the sun was below the horizon which would give the bright reflective appearance. The balloons are released at specified times to chart winds aloft and constant wind currents. Rising heat from the ground would give optical illusion as to color and movement."

The weather balloons are released from the Knoxville Weather Station at 10:00 A.M., 10:00 P.M., and 4:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. daily. The weather man at the station said it would be possible for the balloon to travel that distance in an hour's time.

12. N/A

James E. Murphy
JAMES E. MURPHY
2nd Lt. USAF
OIC FLIGHT 2-B

COMMENTS OF APPROVING OFFICER:

This UFOB was reported to Flight 2-B, 4602d AISS, several weeks after the sighting. That Flight conducted both the preliminary, and a follow-up, investigation. Check with the Central Center for System 119 I reveals that there was no activity of that project going on in the area at the time. Compare with the hypothesis of the Proposing Officer that sighting could possibly have been caused by a weather balloon. Further investigation is not deemed warranted.

W.H.

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