

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 25 Apr 58		2. LOCATION Midway Island, Pacific Ocean		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☒ Possibly Balloon	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 25/1530Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military		☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 20 mins		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE West	☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Rnd obj about the size of a volleyball when first sighted. As it came closer it appeared about the size of a bushel basket. First appeared bluish-white then changed slowly to a glowing red, then to a navy blue color. There appeared to be two small lights attached to the obj which moved in a peculiar pattern. Obj moved slowly inland and rose rapidly.			11. COMMENTS Possibly balloon w/running lights.		

Multi
424

25/1530 Z

41

U. S. NAVAL STATION
NAVY 3080 (THREE ZERO EIGHT ZERO)
c/o Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, California

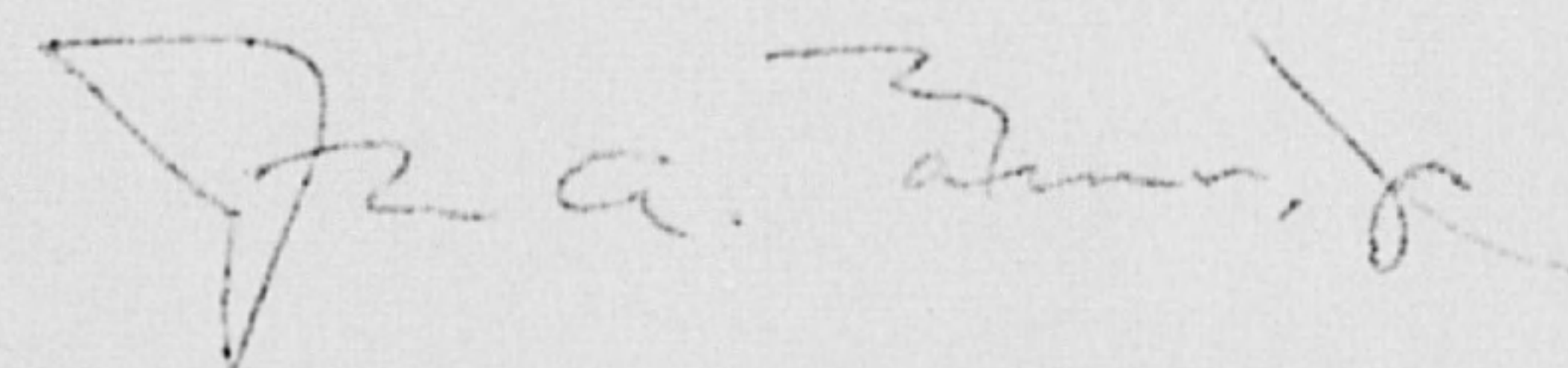
NS3080:025:JHM:ep
Ser 103

12 MAY 1958

From: Commanding Officer, U. S. Naval Station, Midway Island
To: Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Air Force, Hickam Air Force Base
Subj: Unidentified Flying Objects; report of
Ref: (a) OPNAV Instruction 3820.9

Encl: (1) Descriptive data of unidentified objects
(2) Report of observation by John P. TOTTER, AD2, 277 50 68, USN
(3) Report of observation by Jerry L. WORD, AN, 511 59 22, USN
(4) Statement of Robert D. HANNHORST, RM3, 572 62 96, USN
(5) Weather observation and winds aloft

1. In accordance with reference (a) enclosures (1) through (5) are forwarded herewith.



Copy to:
COMFOURTEEN W/ENCLS
COMNAVFOURTEEN W/ENCLS

JOHN A. GAMON, Jr.

PFICO-A

1st Ind

28 May 58

AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE, HQ PACAF, APO 953

TO: Commander, Air Technical Intelligence Center, W-P AFB Ohio

Forwarded for your information



Possibly fallow
from Hawaii (Japan)
- with numerous sightings
See the many circles
- in Berlin
- Berlin
- Berlin

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Descriptive data of Unidentified Flying Objects.

1. Description of the object

- a. Shape - round
- b. Size - when first observed the object appeared to be about the size of a volleyball. As it came toward the station TOTTEN said it appeared to be about the size of a bushel basket.
- c. Color - first appeared to have a blueish-white color then changing slowly to a glowing red and then to a Navy blue color.
- d. Number - One
- e. Formation - None
- f. No special discernible features or details except that there appeared to be two small marker lights attached to the object that moved in a peculiar pattern. *robot kind of pattern*
- g. No Trail or exhaust
- h. No sound heard
- i. Unusual feature; The object came from a direction other than the usual flight pattern of landing aircraft. The object was reported moving slowly inland and rose rapidly.

*Typical
ballroom
floor
reported down*

2. Description of the course of the object.

- a. A sudden flare of light outside his quarters first called the attention of one observer (TOTTEN). The second observer (WORD) observed the object while sitting on the rear end of the crash/fire Truck stationed at the Intersection of the runways.
- b. The angle of elevation of the object when first observed was approximately 45 deg bearing 250 degrees True.
- c. The angle of elevation of the object upon disappearance was 65 or 70 degrees. While moving toward Midway the object appeared to be Tracking about 045 deg. True.
- d. The flight path was toward Midway and rose rapidly then disappeared. While the object was moving inland one observer noted two small lights moving in a peculiar pattern. One small light appeared close to the right

ENCLOSURE (1)

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edge even with the top edge of the object and moved to the left. When the above small light was directly over the object (large light) another small light appeared on the right. Both lights moved slowly to the left and disappeared. Approximately 10 or 15 seconds later the cycle was repeated and lasted for about 15 seconds. After about two minutes the object was too far away to observe the small lights.

e. The object disappeared overhead at a very high altitude.

f. The object was in sight approximately 20 minutes.

3. Manner of observation.

- a. Ground visual
- b. No optical aids used
- c. Sighting not made while air borne.

4. Time and date of sighting

- a. 251530Z April 1958 *1530-11 = 0430*
- b. Night

5. Location of observer

- a. Midway Island Latitude 28° 12' 35" North. Longitude 177° 22' 47" West.

6. Identifying information of observers

Not an observer to be sent
John P. TOTTON, AD2, 277-50-68, USN Air Operations - Very reliable
Jerry L. WORD, AM, 511-59-22, USN Crash/Fire Crew - Reliable
Robert D. HANENHORST, RM3, 572-62-96, USN Air/Ground Operator - Reliable

7. Weather and winds - aloft conditions at time and place of sightings

- a. Attached as enclosure (5)

8. Unusual activity or conditions: There was no unusual activity or condition such as METEOROLOGICAL, ASTRONOMICAL or otherwise known to exist at this time which might account for this sighting.

9. Interception or Identification action taken - none

10. Location of Air Traffic in the area at the time of sighting:

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Type Aircraft	Location	Local Time
<u>KB-50 3059</u>	<u>APPROX 550 MILES from Midway</u> <u>BEARING 289 True</u>	<u>AT 0430 (Local)</u>
<u>WV-2 43199</u>	<u>Landed Midway</u>	<u>0355 (Local)</u>
<u>C-97 00700</u>	<u>Took off Midway</u>	<u>0346 (Local)</u>
<u>R7V 40311</u>	<u>Landed at Midway</u>	<u>0422 (Local)</u>
<u>WV-2 43205</u>	<u>Took off Midway</u>	<u>0428 (Local)</u>
<u>C-54 17237</u>	<u>APPROX 420 MILES from Midway</u> <u>BEARING 289 True</u>	<u>AT 0430 (Local)</u>

11. LCDR Jesse E. McLEOD JR. 196994 USN, Air Route Traffic and Approach Control Officer prepared this report.

Comments:

No radar was operating on the station at the time of the sighting and none of the aircraft in the immediate vicinity of the airport reported sighting any bright light or unidentified flying object. A thorough check was made with the officer-of-the-day, the Marine roving patrol, sentries on duty, weather service personnel, Air Terminal and Air Control Tower duty personnel. Negative reports were received from all sources as to sighting any unidentified lights or objects.

I cannot identify the light or object reported sighted. I have known TOTTEN for nearly a year and have played chess often with him including in two station chess tournaments. TOTTEN is a very reliable person and a person I believe who would not report something unless it was true. It is my opinion that TOTTEN saw something, however, it is unusual that some one either in the aircraft in the immediate vicinity or Air Control Tower did not observe this light or object.

Concur!

④ On basis of these facts, tentatively evaluated as OTHER (misinterpretation of conventional object) pending more details.

① The observer probably saw some conventional object that he probably mistook for something unusual or something new, but in his line-of-sight.

② Strange aspect of case. Unusual lights or objects are generally noticed in small island, especially at night.

③ Object in sight for 20 minutes yet the numerous units + persons in the area failed to see the same thing.

25 April 1958

At approximately 0430X on 25 April I got up to give the baby her bottle which had fallen on the floor. I was on my hands and knees looking for the bottle when I noticed a sudden flare of light outside. There is a street lamp on a telephone pole across the road from the house. I thought that maybe the lamp was rocking in the wind. I looked up and saw a bright blueish white light in the sky behind the street lamp. I thought that it was the landing light of an aircraft and stood up to watch it. After a few seconds I saw that the light was apparently motionless. I then thought of a parachute flare.

The light was very clear and distinct even though I did not have on my glasses. I am rather near-sighted and have astigmatism and should wear my glasses constantly. I returned to my bedroom momentarily for my glasses. After watching the light for several minutes I noted the time as 0435X. I considered the light unusual and decided to try a simple experiment to see if the light was moving. I placed my nose on one of the vertical cloth strips on the venetian blinds. There was another strip of cloth on the other side of the blinds directly in front of the first. I could easily see the light with one eye on each side of the cloth strip. After a couple of minutes the light momentarily dimmed and appeared fuzzy. By alternately closing my eyes I determined that the light had shifted several degrees to the left. The front cloth strip prevented my seeing it with my right eye. A couple of minutes later the opposite effect happened. The light had shifted several degrees to the right of its original position. I watched the light until approximately 0440X.

At that time I heard my wife crying and talking in her sleep. I returned to our bedroom to waken her and comfort her. I told her what I had seen but she wanted to sleep.

At approximately 0445 I returned to the baby's room to watch the object. It had moved considerably from its original position. After several seconds I spotted it moving inland and almost ready to disappear inland over the edge of the roof. I ran downstairs and outdoors. The light was moving slowly inland while rising rapidly. At approximately 0450X I could no longer see the light. It appeared overhead at an extreme altitude.

While the light was moving inland, I noted 2 "marker lights" moving in a peculiar pattern. One appeared close to the right edge and even with the top edge of the light. It moved to the left. When it was directly over the large light another "marker light" appeared on the right. Both lights moved slowly to the left and disappeared. 10 or 15 seconds later the cycle was repeated. The cycle lasted for about 15 seconds. After a couple of minutes the object was too far away to see the smaller lights.

I have looked at a chart of Sand Island. The original sighting was bearing about 250° T from my quarters, EMFH 16-A. I estimated the distance as 1 to 2 miles and the altitude at 4000 or 5000 feet. While moving inland the light was tracking about 045° T. The inclination of the light when it disappeared was 65° or 70° .

The wind direction was 125° and the velocity 9 knots. I noted that the stars were clearly visible and the sky clear. This was to the west and in the area overhead where the light disappeared. I did not look elsewhere.

The light was a steady blueish-white color like some fluorescent lights. No flaring, sparks or trails were noted. Neither was any fuselage or other shape than the 3 round lights noted. The circumference of the large light was fuzzy due to the intensity of the light. The 2 small lights had rather

(Enclosure 2)

distinct edges except when they passed over the large light. Then they sort of faded out due to their lesser intensity.

The only inside light was the orange glow from a heater in the baby's room. I turned it off when I went to get my glasses. The only outside lights were the street lamp and the reflection from the rotating beacon.

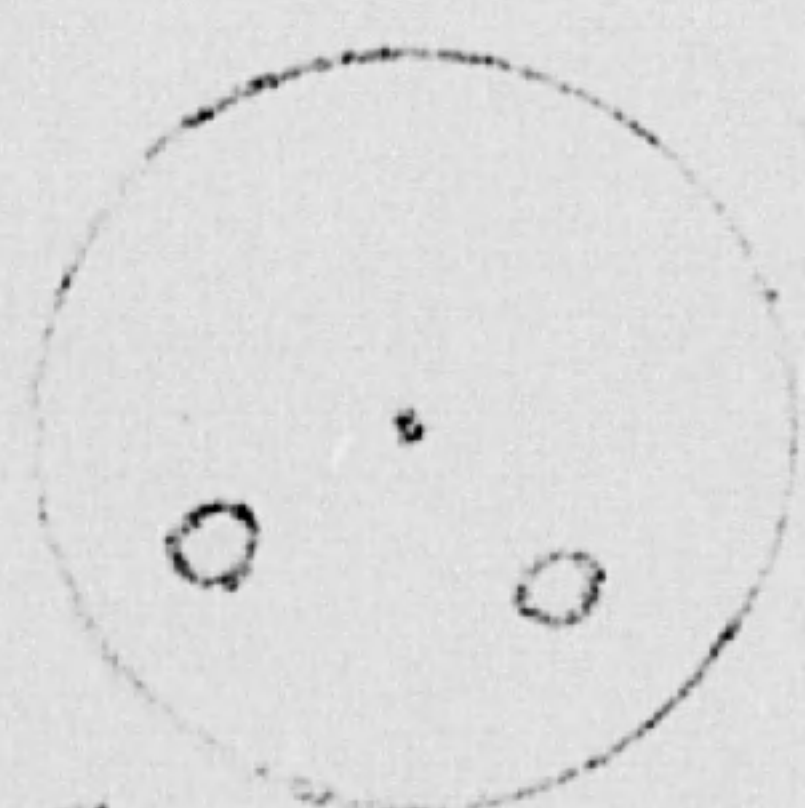
Aerology did not have a weather ballon up in the area, nor did I notice any aircraft.

I would not have noticed this object except for the first brilliant flash. No sounds or other unusual occurrences were noted.

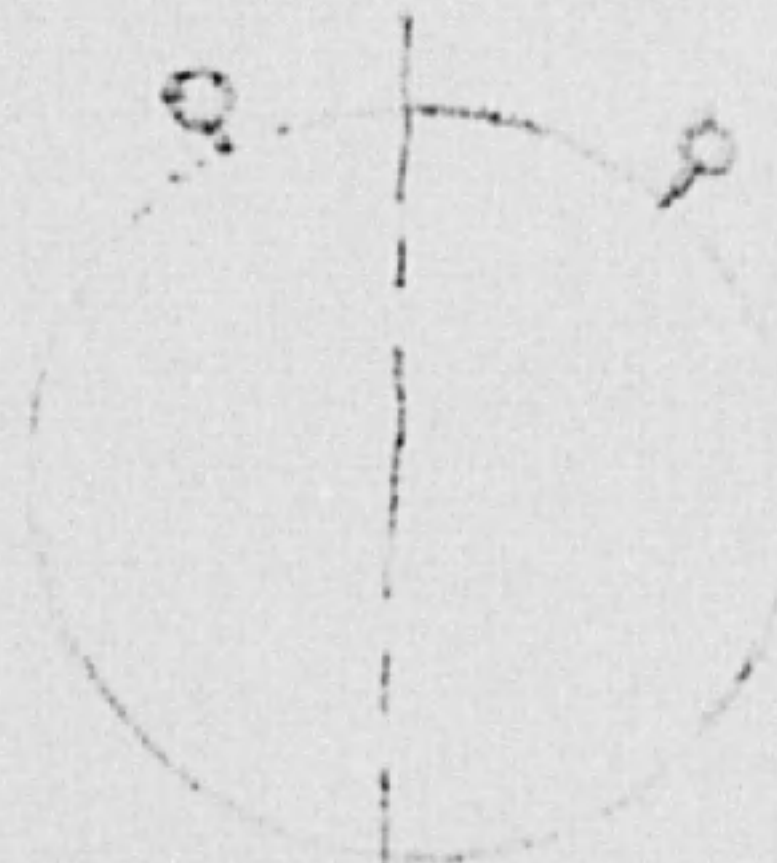
Since I was not dressed at the time, do not yet have a home telephone, and did not want to take the time to get dressed for fear that I might miss something, I did not notify anyone at the time but my wife.

Due to the peculiar movements of the little lights, the following shape has suggested itself to me:

TOP VIEW



SIDE VIEW



John P. Totten
AD 2, 277-50-63, USN

*Reliability
check.*

*Source stated he
was 1 1/2 miles away -
and the object was
between 5000 - 6000 feet
(as this at night - looking
through mountain hills). Yet,
here he gives a top view -
when he was a mile behind the
object.*

(Enclosure 2)

April, 26, 1958

I Jerry L. Word AN, USN saw on the 25th of April between 0430 and 0630 an object in the sky that I couldn't describe. It went through a strange procedure of changing colors. When I first saw it, it seemed to be about (4) or (5) miles out. Then it moved in gradually. And during this time it was changing colors. First from a real "bright" seemingly fluorescent light, to a glowing red light, and then to a Navy blue color. I watched it for about (40) minutes and at the end of this time it had moved in to a distance of about a mile to a mile and a half from west end of runway 6-24. And after that I steady watched it for ten or fifteen more minutes and it seemed like it didn't move any more. But it kept on changing colors. And after that, I didn't watch it any more.

Submitted

Jerry L. Word

USN AN ~ 511-59-22

25 April 1958

Between the time of 251104Z and 251807Z I was on watch in the Air to Ground booth of Radio Control. Up until 1500Z radio reception was extremely good, but at this time it commenced fading until Hickham was the only readable station.

At approximately 1530Z an unusual and reoccurring type of interference was experienced. It resembled the sound resulting when a vacuum cleaner is plugged into the same outlet as a commercial circuit. This sound repeated itself at approximately one minute intervals and lasted about thirty seconds on each occurrence. This interference ceased at about 1600Z and reception gradually improved. During the three months I worked Air to Ground this is my first experience with interference of this type.

Robert D. Haunhorst

ROBERT HAUNHORST
RM 3, 572-62-96, USN

*No evidence that radio interception
interference, and sightings by TOTTEN
and WOOD are related.*

(Enclosure 4)

26 April 1958

MEMORANDUM:

From: Weather Service
To: Whom It May Concern

Subj: Weather Observation and Winds Aloft.

1. The following weather conditions existed during the period 0400X to 0500X 25 April 1958. This is an official extract from the weather records as observed by the Weather Service Office, U.S. Naval Station, Midway Islands.

Cloud Coverage: 5/10
Type Clouds: Cumulus
Temperature: 65 degrees F.
Wind Direction: East Southeast
Wind Velocity: 10 knots
Visibility: 12 miles
Present Weather: Scattered

Winds Aloft	Direction	Velocity	Direction	Velocity
1000 Ft.	050 NE	<u>12</u>	18,000 Ft.	300 06
2000 "	110 ESE	<u>12</u>	20,000 "	300 11
3000 "	080 E	<u>09</u>	25,000 "	310 17
4000 "	100 E	<u>03</u>	30,000 "	310 24
5000 "	030 NNE	<u>02</u>	35,000 "	290 30
6000 "	060 ENE	<u>03</u>	40,000 "	310 30
7000 "	310 NW	<u>02</u>	45,000 "	310 22
8000 "	340 NNW	<u>02</u>	50,000 "	290 30
9000 "	290 WNW	<u>03</u>	55,000 "	280 20
10,000 "	310 NW	<u>04</u>	60,000 "	310 08
12,000 "	350 N	<u>05</u>	65,000 "	080 06
14,000 "	030	<u>02</u>	70,000 "	090 10
16,000 "	020	<u>02</u>		

S. R. Harvey

S. R. Harvey, Ltjg., USNR
Weather Service Officer

(Enclosure 5)