

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE <u>16 March, 1960.</u>		2. LOCATION <u>Nome, Alaska</u>		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☒ Was Astronomical Meteor ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT <u>07/0727Z</u>		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE <u>Civilian</u>			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION <u>20 seconds</u>		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS <u>one</u>		9. COURSE <u>NW</u>	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Round, firey orange-red object, appearing as blue flash and exploding into two pieces made a swishing noise, while travelling in a straight path from SE to NW.				11. COMMENTS The object was probably a large meteor of the "bolide" type.	

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BRIGHT BLUE FLASH! SPLIT INTO TWO PIECES THEN DISAPPEARED IMMEDIATELY. (6) THE GIRL REPORTED TWENTY SECONDS, BUT THE TIME IS BELIEVED TO BE MUCH SHORTER. C. (1) GROUND VISUAL. (2) NONE. (3) NONE. D. (1) APPROXIMATELY 0727Z, 07 MAR 60. (2) NIGHT - VERY CLEAR. E. NOME, ALASKA. F. (1) [REDACTED], 14 YEARS OLD, NOME, ALASKA, STUDENT. G. (1) VERY CLEAR. (2) 5,000-^{20/110}0PRQP 20,000-350/50 50,000-320/20 10,000-340/20 30,000-MISSING 80,000-UNKNOWN 15,000-340/30. (3) NONE. (4) 15 PLUS. (5) CLEAR. (6) NONE. H. NONE. I. N/A. J. NONE. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED: (1) MR. [REDACTED] TECHNICIAN AT ANVIL MOUNTAIN, FOUR MILES NORTH OF NOME, ALASKA, REPORTS THAT HE WAS WORKING IN A LUMINATED BUILDING AND THAT HE OBSERVED A WHITE LIGHT OF SUCH BRIGHTNESS THAT HE COULD SEE THROUGH A WINDOW A BLACK ANTENNA 150 FEET FROM THE BUILDING. MR. [REDACTED] REPORTED THAT HE THOUGHT THERE WERE FOUR FLASHES. TOTAL ELAPSED TIME WAS APPROXIMATELY 10 SECONDS. SINCE ANTENNA IS DUE NORTH OF BUILDING MR. [REDACTED] BELIEVES THE LIGHT WAS FROM THE SOUTH. (2) [REDACTED] OF NOME, ALASKA STATED HE WAS IN HIS HOME AND OBSERVED TWO FLASHES OF LIGHT APPROXIMATELY TWO SECONDS IN DURATION SEPARATED BY ONE SECOND. MR. [REDACTED] STATED THAT THE FLASHES OF LIGHT RESEMBLED ARC WELDING.

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HE LIKEWISE OBSERVED THE FLASHES OF LIGHT THROUGH HIS WINDOW.

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P 090300Z ZEX

FM COMDR 11 AD

TO RJWFAL/COMDR ADC

RJKDAG/COMDR AAC

RJEDSQ/ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB/

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE WASH DC

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UNCLAS FROM DOI 18100-C. ACTION ADC, AAC ACS/I, ATIC, HQ USAF
AFCIN, SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE SAFIS. CONTINUED INVESTIGATION OF
THE UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT IN THE NOME, ALASKA AREA REVEALS THAT
TWO ESKIMOES MADE INDIVIDUAL SIGHTINGS AT TELLER, ALASKA. THE TWO
INDIVIDUALS, ~~REDACTED~~ DIFFERED ON THE SHAPE OF
THE OBJECT, ONE STATED IT WAS ELONGATED, THE OTHER STATED IT WAS
ROUND. THE TIME OF THE SIGHTINGS CHECK WITH THE PREVIOUSLY REPORTED
TIME, HOWEVER THE DIRECTION OF FLIGHT WAS FROM THE NORTH WEST TO THE
SOUTH EAST. BOTH OBSERVERS STATED THEY SAW THREE FLASHES OF WHITE
LIGHT AND BELIEVE THE OBJECT HIT THE GROUND SOUTH EAST OF TELLER IN

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THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF NOME. THE OBSERVERS FURTHER STATED THAT A NOISE SIMILAR TO THUNDER WAS HEARD AT THE TIME THEY BELIEVE THE OBJECT HIT THE GROUND. THE ABOVE INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED FROM MR. [REDACTED] OF NOME ALASKA WHO IN TURN INTERROGATED THE TWO INDIVIDUALS OVER THE TELEPHONE. INVESTIGATING OFFICERS COMMENTS: THAT THE OBJECT WAS AN EXTREMELY BRILLIANT METEOR OF THE TYPE COMMONLY KNOWN AS FIREBALLS. FIREBALLS ARE KNOWN TO EXPLODE, THUS PRODUCING THE FLASHES THAT WERE OBSERVED AND ALSO TO PRODUCE A THUNDER LIKE SOUND UPON EXPLODING. THE ALASKA AIRLINES PILOT WHO FLIES A BUSH PLANE BETWEEN NOME AND TELLER HAS BEEN CONTACTED TO OBSERVE FOR ANY UNUSUAL OBJECT. COMMENTING OFFICER: MAJOR MILTON JT. KARELL. CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE, 11TH AIR DIVISION (DEFENSE).

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09/0310Z MAR RJKDNPA

INF

Unidentified Flying Objects

Secretary of the Air Force (SAFOI-3)
Wash 25 DC

1. On Sunday 14 February 1960 an unidentified flying object was sighted in the sky between Nome and Unalakleet, Alaska by a number of civilians and reported to this Headquarters through 11th Air Division (D), Ladd Air Force Base. Immediate investigation was begun and reports forwarded in accordance with AFR 200-2.
2. The Office of Information, Headquarters Alaskan Air Command, was queried as to whether or not these sightings had been reported and the information was given that they had. News media within the ZI contacted NORAD Headquarters and also received confirmation that the reports had been received. The resulting press story was so written it left an inference that an object had been sighted by the Air Force presumably by radar.
3. The investigation of the sighting conducted by personnel at Ladd Air Force Base identified this object as a meteor and local press speculation as to the sources and identity of the object was so intense we locally released the fact that it was a meteor. Subsequently, letters have been received from the civilian populace concerning this object and in accordance with paragraph 8, AFR 200-2 these letters are being forwarded. (Attachment 1 & 2.)
4. With reference to the letter from Mr. [REDACTED], (Attachment 3), the [REDACTED] initiated correspondence to Mr. [REDACTED] thanking him for reporting the object and getting it into Air Force channels. (Attachment 3)
5. In addition to his letter to Colonel Isbell, Mr. [REDACTED] provided the local press with a statement concerning his disagreement with the published identification of this object (Attachment 4). All subsequent letters regarding this particular sighting will be forwarded in accordance with AFR 200-2.

On 6 March 1960 an additional unidentified object was reported in the same general area between Nome and Unalakleet, Alaska. This report originated with an airline pilot and was described as being a bright flash seeming to result from an explosion behind the aircraft flying at about 4500 feet altitude, 86 miles south of Nome. Both the pilot and co-pilot reported that the flash was so bright that they were both blinded for approximately 2 seconds. However, they heard no sound. The only passenger aboard the aircraft was asleep and heard or saw nothing. Two individuals on the ground reported seeing a flash, a 14 year old girl in Nome, and the ~~investigation was~~ *documented* by Ladd Air Force Base, the nearest Air Force establishment to this area and reports are being forwarded in accordance with ~~AFM 200-2.~~

6. The initial press inquiry on this latest sighting was received 8 March 1960. The man quoted as reporting this incident to the press was Mr. ~~_____~~ referenced above who has not been mentioned in any of the reports concerning this object. We did confirm the fact to the press that this unidentified object was reported to us and that we have forwarded this report to Headquarters, United States Air Force.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

ROY L. HAYNES
Major, USAF
Chief of Information

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