[redacted]

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE
7 Apr 60

2. LOCATION
5 mi E of Ocoll, Tennessee

3. DATE-TIME GROUP
Local
GMT 080010Z Apr 60

4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION
☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar
☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar

5. PHOTOS
☐ Yes
☒ No

6. SOURCE
Civilian

7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION
15 min

8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS
one

9. COURSE
SE to NW

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING
Round object with long trail, size of full moon or basket ball, reddish white. Object had blinking light. Moved behind dark cloud then emerged beyond the cloud turning a dark red instead of the almost white color it had been before.

11. COMMENTS
It is highly probable that the witnesses observed the vapor trail of a high flying aircraft.

12. CONCLUSIONS
☐ Was Balloon
☐ Probably Balloon
☐ Possibly Balloon
☐ Was Aircraft
☒ Probably Aircraft
☐ Possibly Aircraft
☐ Was Astronomical
☐ Probably Astronomical
☐ Possibly Astronomical
☐ Other
☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation
☐ Unknown

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 25 SEP 52)

1960 APR 13 02 19 (34)

RF038

SCF844ZCVYB607

RR RJEDSQ

DE RJESDB 2A

R 122130Z

FM 2589TH AB GP-Dobbins AFB, Ga.

TO RJWFAL/ADC

RJEDSQ/WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF

RJEZHQ/SAF

BT

UNCLAS FM SUPOP 834. ATTN: ATIC, (AFCIN), (SAFIS).

UFO. FOLLOWING REPORT IS SUBMITTED IAW PAR 15, AFR 200-2. A. (1) ROUND, WITH TRAILING EXHAUST OR TAIL. (2) FULL MOON OR BASKETBALL HELD AT ARMS LENGTH. (3) REDDISH WHITE. (4) ONE. (5) N/A. (6) NONE. (7) TAIL LENGTH TEN TIMES LENGTH OF OBJECT. (8) NONE. (9)NONE. B. (1) BLINDING LIGHT OF OBJECT. (2) UNKNOWN. (3) UNKNOWN. (4) FROM SOUTHEAST RELATIVELY STRAIGHT TO NORTHWEST. (5) MOVED BEHIND DARK CLOUD. (6) TWENTY (20) MINUTES. C. (1) GROUND VISUAL. (2) NONE. (3) N/A. D. (1) 3010Z, 8 APRIL 1960. (2) NIGHT. E. 35 20N 84 38W NEAR LAKE OCOEE BETWEEN DUCKTOWN, TENN AND CLEVELAND, TENN. F. [redacted]

ATIC

[redacted] 66 C/O CHATTANOOGA TIMES, [redacted], 55 C/O CHATTANOOGA, TIMES, CHATTANOOGA, TENN, [redacted] G. (1) UNKNOWN. (2) UNKNOWN. (3) 20,000 FT. (4) GOOD. (5) SCATTERED. (6) NONE. (7) UNKNOWN. H. NONE. I. NONE. J. NONE. K. SGT DEAN, DUTY NCO, 367TH ACW SQ, LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN, TENN., REPORT WAS SUBMITTED TO 32ND AD (SAGE). L. NONE.

BT

13/0130Z APR RJESDB

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

36 B
19 Apr 2 pm C

PRECEDENCE
ACTION: ROUTINE
INFO:

TYPE MSG (Check)
GROUP: 19
TWX:
SPECIAL: X

ACCOUNTING SYMBOL: AF

ORIG. OR REFERS TO: SUPOP 834

CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE: UNCLAS

FROM:
ATIC, W-P AFB

TO:
DOBBINS AFB, GA.

RTSDC

/UNCLAS/FROM: AFCIN-4E2

ATTN 2589 ABGP. YOUR MSG SUPOP 834, DTD 12 APR 60. WAS THE SIZE OF THE OBJECT APPARENTLY THE SIZE OF THE MOON OR COMPARATIVELY THAT OF A BASKETBALL AT ARM'S LENGTH? IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE SUN IS APPROX $\frac{1}{2}^{o}$ WHILE A BASKETBALL AT ARM'S LENGTH IS APPROX 24^{o}. DID THE BLINDING LIGHT ILLUMINATE THE SURROUNDING AREA? DESCRIBE THE LIGHT. WHAT WAS THE ELEVATION AND AZIMUTH OF THE OBJ WHEN FIRST AND LAST SEEN? WHAT WAS THE ESTIMATED DISTANCE FR OBSERVERS TO THE OBJ? WHAT WAS THE APPARENT ANGULAR OR LINEAR SPEED OF THE OBJ? CONFIRM THE REPORTED DURATION OF SIGHTING. DETERMINE IF THERE WERE ANY OTHER WITNESSES.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

DATE: 15
TIME: 0745
MONTH: APR
YEAR: 1960

ORIGINATOR
AFCIN-4E2
TYPED NAME AND TITLE
Maj Robert J. Friend
PHONE: 69216
COPY NO: 1
NO. OF COPIES: 1
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
UNCLASSIFIED

SIGNATURE
TYPED OR PRINTED NAME AND TITLE
PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4E2

DD FORM 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 NOV 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED.

TELEPHONED
TO
NO.
TIME
Date
BY

SUSPECTED DUPLICATE OF MESSAGE
PREVIOUSLY RELEASED. CHECK
BEFORE TAKING ACTION.

1960 APR 20 23 26

RJEDSQ

ZFD

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJESDB 28A

P 202130Z

FM 2589TH AB GP

TO ATIC WPAFB

BT

UNCLAS FM SUPOP 905.

UFO. YOUR MESSAGE AFCIN-4E2 RAQWYRAE. SIZE OF OBJECT BEST DESCRIBED BY A BASKETBALL HELD AT ARMS LENGTH. TIME OF SIGHTING WAS IMMEDIATELY AFTER SUNSET WHILE STILL PRACTICALLY DAYLIGHT. OBJECT DID NOT NOTICEABLY ILLUMINATE THE AREA. ELEVATION FROM INITIAL SIGHTING UNTIL OBJECT DISAPPEARED WAS APPROXIMATELY THAT OF THE SUN ONE HOUR PRIOR TO SUNSET. WITNESS UNABLE TO ESTIMATE DISTANCE FROM OBSERVERS OR SPEED OF OBJECT. WEATHER AT TIME OF OBSERVATION VERIFIED AS TWELVE THOUSAND SCATTERED AND VISIBILITY BETTER THAN THIRTY MILES, REMARKS VIRGA WEST THROUGH NORTH. DURATION OF SIGHTING APPROXIMATELY

FIFTEEN MINUTES. ONLY OTHER KNOWN WITNESSES A MRS [redacted] OF THE CHATTANOOGA TIMES STAFF AND THE WIFE OF THE OWNER OF THE [redacted] PHARMACY ON [redacted] AVENUE IN CHATTANOOGA. (NAME UNKNOWN). ALL INFORMATION GATHERED BY LETTER OR TELEPHONE CONVERSATION. IF PERSONAL INTERVIEW COULD BE OF ANY ASSISTANCE WE CAN ARRANGE A VISIT TO CHATTANOOGA.

BT

28/2215Z APR RJESDB

HEADQUARTERS
2589TH AIR BASE GROUP
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
DOBBINS AIR FORCE BASE, GEORGIA

REPLY TO
ATTN OF: SUPOP

19 APR 1960

SUBJECT: UFO

TO: ATIC
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

Reference our T.C. from SUPOP 834. The attached letter received indirectly fro[redacted] is submitted for your information.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

W. L. Cochrane

W. L. COCHRANE
Lt Colonel, USAF
Assistant Administrative Officer

1 Atch
Ltr, 10 Apr 60, w/
[redacted]

ESTABLISHED 1869

The Chattanooga Times

DAILY AND SUNDAY

Sunday p.m. April 10, 1960

Lt. Thos. L. Bates,
Operations Officer,
Flintstone Air Force Station,
Lookout Mountain, Tenn.

Dear Sir:

Attached are my thoughts on the burning object seen in the sky April 8, at 7:10 p.m. I knocked this off about two hours after seeing the object while the whole thing still was fresh in what I laughingly call my mind.

Mrs. [redacted] and [redacted], who owns and operates [redacted], out from Parksville, Tenn., agree with me almost completely on details, although Mrs [redacted] doesn't believe we watched it as long as I thought we did. Anyway, from two minutes after sundown until almost full dark, the object was in view from Lake Ocoee, before it disappeared a second time behind a distant cloud.

The object was so large, so bright and so almost in our laps that I didn't bother about the whole thing very much, figuring that any number of others must have seen it also. But 7:10 p.m. is dinner and radio-TV time, and most folks must have been in their houses.

If you should have any confirmation of the whole thing, I'd appreciate it if you'd have someone let me know. And thanks for the patience of you and your men in listening to me the tale. Honestly, no one else believes that we saw anything unusual at all.

Kindest regards,

[redacted]

[redacted]
Chattanooga Times

ROUGHLY. THE WAY IT LOOKED IN THE SKY

From Tellico Plains we cut back through the foothills on Highway 30 to Lake Ocoee to spend the night with the [redacted] at Lake Ocoee Inn, since there was work to be done the next morning early in the Ocoee Wildlife Management Area (Turkey Season opened there Thursday).

As we came out of Highway 30 onto the lakeside highway (411) from Ducktown [redacted] discovered what we both thought to be one of the Sputniks doing a burn in the sky somewhere between Ocoee Inn and Cleveland. It was just a moment or so after sunset, the sky in that immediate area clear, and it was evident that whatever the object was it was burning itself out in the atmosphere. The height could not be judged, but later--possibly 15 minutes or so, although [redacted] thinks less)--it disappeared behind a long thin and black cloud formation, so it had to be higher than the clouds. It could have been 30 or 40 or 50 miles up. I'm no judge of such things, any more than you can look at the moon and say how high it is.

The object was brilliant against the evening sky, possibly the size of the moon at its largest, but much brighter than any moon you have ever seen. Strung out behind it was a fiery tail the width of the diameter of the object. The tail held this width for its entire length--about 10 times the diameter of the object itself--then petered out in a curved finish at the end. (Curve in tail)

The object was moving from approximately North to approximately South at a pretty fair rate of speed. [redacted] remarked that it was ~~travelling~~ mighty slow, which would be the impression at the height it must have ~~ma~~ been traveling. The object did not seem to be falling, but was moving away from us at an angle that caused it to become smaller by slow degrees.

I stopped the car on the pavement to watch the show for a minute or two, realized that this was really something--[redacted] had said immediately that it must be the Sputnik we'd been reading about that was going to strike the atmosphere and burn itself out. But she remembered that this was to have been early that morning and the first moment we saw this one, she looked at her watch and it showed 7:10 p.m. (official time was 7:08)

After a moment on the pavement with cars and trucks whizzing by in the other direction I pulled off the ~~pavement~~ shoulder, cut the motor and watched out the window where I had a fine view of this lit-up baby. I still think we watched it for 15 minutes, but [redacted] says not that long. Finally the object reached the elongated stretch of black cloud and disappeared behind it, ~~number~~ the long way, and ~~sp~~ possibly for good, so I restarted the motor and we headed for the Lowe's lodge, several miles down the road.

As we turned into the parking area there the object reappeared beyond the cloud which had by then changed shape somewhat and thinned out. The object now was much farther away, getting smaller, and was turning a dark red instead of the almost white color it had been before, the change possibly caused by the atmospheric in the vicinity of the cloud.

We stepped out of the car and watched it again for a minute before I went in the Inn and told [redacted] what we were watching, thinking it to be the said Sputnik. [redacted] thought he was being kidded and was a bit reluctant about coming out to look at it, but was finally persuaded to do so. We watched it together for several minutes before the object, getting smaller and redder as it moved away toward the south, again moved in behind a large cloud and we gave up on it, figuring that by the time it could emerge on the other side it would be so far away and dim through the sky mist that we'd be unable to see it any more.

I phoned my paper about it, but my [redacted] editor, ~~who brought somebody was kidding the teacher. He said it couldn't be a sputnik because it travelled much faster than that and could not have seen it so many long.~~ He asked if I'd evr seen a comet. I had, from Halley's right on down. They had curved tails, mostly, that broaded as they left the comet head and appeared wide and thin at the end. The tail on this object of ours was the same all the way back until it suddenly rounded off at the end. [redacted] said several times later that the tail must have been a mile long, judging from the distance the object must have been from us in the sky. This I don't know. for I've still no idea how high, or how far away the thing was.

I know this--it was much brighter --from head to tail-- than any moon either of us has ever seen on the brightest night; it travelled much faster, apparently, than the fastest jet plane high in the sky--and we see plenty of them in the Chattanooga area, since they seem to use the TVA lakes as their turning points on training trips,--and this baby was so apparently burning itself

out in the atmosphere that there could be little ~~about~~ doubt about it. Nor about its size, its height, its apparently level flight, or ~~its speed or its~~ its effort to get wherever it was going in a gosh-awful hurry.

To all of which [redacted], a very serious minded gentleman indeed, agreed completely. "If you like I'll sign affidavits to all of it," he said.

UFO ANALYSIS SHEET

Location 5 Miles E. of Ocoll, Tennesee

Date 8 April 1960 Hour (Z) 0010Z

WX 12,000' scattered, vis 30 pl miles

Description Round w/tail, size of basketball at arms length, reddish-white, much brighter than any moon eaver seen, while watching it the first time it moved behind a cloud. several minutes it reappeared from behind the cloud, it began to turn dark red, finaly disapp to the south behind a cloud, seen for about 15 minutes (?)

Direction of Motion SE to NW (N to S ?)

Satellite: (AFCIN-4F3, Phone 69219) Ruled out

Astronomical Phenomena (Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc) Ruled out

Radar Analysis (AFCIN-4E1) None

Natural Phemomena (Ball Lightning, etc) Ruled out

Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc. Ruled out

Other Aft contrail

Evaluation of Source Reliability Unreliable

Analysis and Conclusions: It is highly probable that these witnesses observed the vapor trail of a high flying aircraft, illuminated by sunlight. The reason the aircra ft was still in sunlight (after official sunset for the longitude and latitude) was due to its altitude. An aircra ft at 30,000' would have approximately 12 minutes more sunlight than a point on the ground corresponding to its position. The red appearance of the object just before it dissapeared is probably due to sunset at the aircrafts altitude and the associated reddening of the sun due to increased scattering of the blue light by the atmosphere. This is an increased effect at sunset and sunrise due to the longer path through the denser portion of the atmosphere.