

MULTIPLE SIGHTING

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 28 Sep 60		2. LOCATION SW of Wichita Falls, Texas		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical Meteor <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 0423 GMT 28/1000Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		6. SOURCE Military and Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION varied fm 2 sec to 30-35 sec		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE descending	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING A white light, more brilliant than usual shooting star, falling to the SW of Wichita Falls, with no noise.				11. COMMENTS Description is that of classic meteor. Meteor, probably of fireball class, was very startling and probably a first-time experience for the witnesses. There was some material recovered, supposedly in conjunction with the sighting. The material has been turned over to the Smithsonian Institute for analysis, but as yet no answer. ATIC opinion is that recovered material had no connection with the sighting.	

4E2

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

AFCIN-4E2x

UFO Sighting, Sheppard AFB, Texas

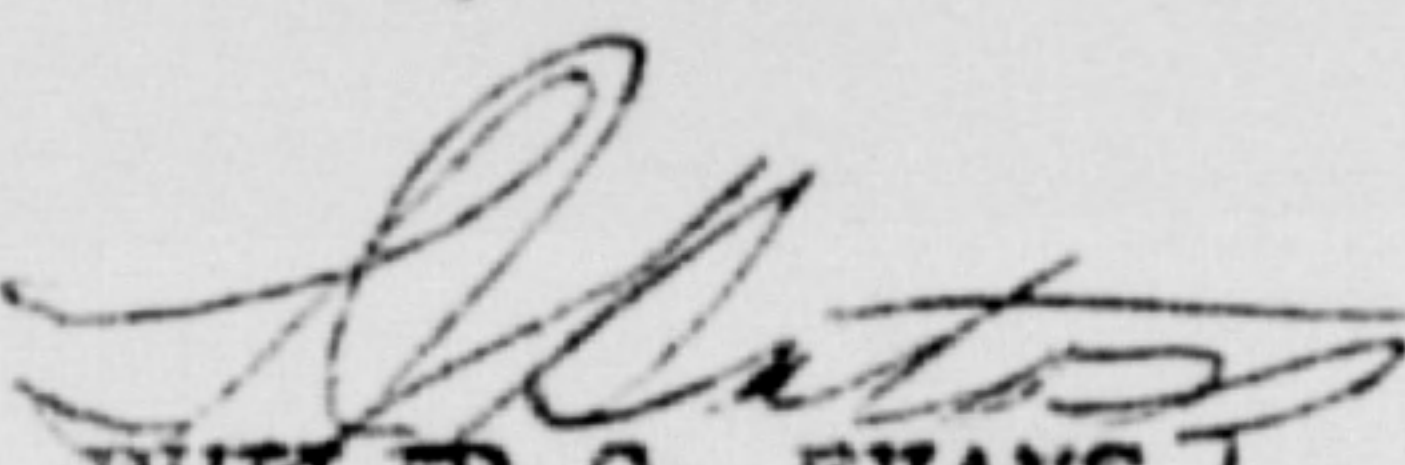
28 OCT 1960

U. S. National Museum

Attn: Dr. [REDACTED]

Washington 25, D. C.

1. Attached is a copy of the Air Force report of investigation of an unidentified flying object sighting which occurred in the vicinity of Wichita Falls, Texas on 28 September 1960. Accompanying the report is a sample of material which was recovered from the area.
2. This report is being forwarded to your agency for analysis in accordance with a telephone request made by Dr. [REDACTED] on 26 October 1960.
3. It is requested that ATIC be provided with a copy of the results of your analysis and that the sample be returned unless analysis requires its destruction.
4. As requested by Dr. [REDACTED] ATIC will notify your agency of all future sightings which give indication of being meteoritic, and telephone contact will be accomplished in those instances where the object is reported to have struck the ground.


PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science and Components

1 Atch:
Cy AI Rpt #1419297, dtd
18 Oct 60, w/1 Atch

COORDINATION:

AFCIN-4E2x Robert J. Friend Major Date 26 Oct 1960AFCIN-4E2 H. E. Martin Date 10/27/60

file 150
11

Something was reported as having hit the ground ~~at~~ Sheppard AFB. Was seen all over that area. Reports coming to ATIC with great frequency. the 1127th Group from Ft. Belvois has been sent to scene. First report to ATIC said it was seen in the early morning of 28 September and that a search would be started by Sheppard at daybreak.

In addition to personnel at Sheppard investigating, press is on scene, also radio and TV. Nothing on the space track. ATIC has no positive information, but does not believe it to be a moon dust item (this is their vernacular for the refuse of any earth launched satellite, or what have you). People at Sheppard claim they know that it fell in a nearby area. ATIC believes that is meteoric.

Major Cooper may be contacted Tel 3225621, ext 516.

Mr. [redacted]
Smithsonian
leaving Wash. 30 Sept
to investigate

det 5-2th was gp

1028

L. Zucker, duty forecaster at Sheppard
AFB, called at 0600, on hot line to
forecaster on duty at W-P Mtgt.

Harry F. Harris 4th WOP Bldg 206

Time of sighting 1100Z. Believed carrier
of Sputnik I rocket fell to ground
about 10 miles from Sheppard.

Local Police is searching for the object.

THE HORIZON TO THE WEST, APPEARED TO HIT THE GROUND, BRIGHT FLARE OF LIGHT AND MADE THE GROUND TREMBLE. (6) ONE MINUTE.

C. MANNER OF OBSERVATION: (1) GROUND VISUAL. (2) NONE. (3) N/A.

D. TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING: (1) 28/1000Z (2) NIGHT. E. LOCATION

OF OBSERVERS: EAST AND WEST SIDE WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS; VERNIN,

TEXAS; ARCHER CITY, TEXAS; PAMPA, TEXAS; LAWTON, OKLAHOMA; CLINTON-

SHERMAN AFB, OKLAHOMA. F. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ON OBSERVERS:

(1) FOUR WICHITA FALLS POLICE OFFICERS, [REDACTED] AND

[REDACTED]. RELIABILITY: GOOD. MR. [REDACTED], 7 MANCHESTER ROAD, WICHITA

FALLS, TEXAS. RELIABILITY: GOOD. MR. [REDACTED] VERNON, TEXAS.

RELIABILITY: GOOD. (2) A2C [REDACTED], 3763RD SCHOOL SQUADRON

SHEPPARD AFB, TEXAS, USAF. RELIABILITY: UNKNOWN. TOWER OPERATORS,

CLINTON-SHERMAN AFB, OKLAHOMA. RELIABILITY: GOOD. G. WEATHER AND

WINDS-ALOFT CONDITIONS: (1) CLEAR. (2) SURFACE 8 KNOTS, 6000-5 KNOTS,

10000-20 KNOTS, 16000-15 KNOTS, 20000-10 KNOTS 30000-29 KNOTS,

50000-18 KNOTS, 69000-6 KNOTS. (3) CEILING UNLIMITED. (4) 15

MILES PLUS. (5) NONE. (6) NONE. (7) 60 DEGREES F. H. NONE. I. NONE.

J. NONE. K. PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS INDICATES OBJECT SIGHTED TO BE

EITHER A METEORITE OR METEOR, WITH A POSSIBILITY OF IT BEING A

REENTERING SATELLITE. SIGHTINGS WERE MADE OVER A VAST AREA OF

UNCLAS

PL

RECEIVED

LEWNCZCSQB057ZCWYB698

29 SEP 60 07 51

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJWFS 49A

ATIG 1960 SEP 29 02 49

P 282244Z ZEX

FM SHEPPARD AFB TEX

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJWFNK/33AIRDIV OKLA CITY AF STN OKLA

RJEDSQ/AIR TECH INTEL CEN WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC

RJEZHQ/SEC AF WASH DC

AF GRNC

BT

UNCLAS FROM AG 26841. UFO. FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED

UNDER PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPH 15, AFR 200-2:

A. DESCRIPTION OF OBJECT: (1) ROUND. (2) GRAPEFRUIT/BASKET BALL.

(3) BLUISH, BLUE WHITE, TURNING ORANGE. (4) ONE. (5) N/A.

(6) NONEJM KUL NONE. (8) NONE. (9) ALL OBSERVERS STATED THAT THE

OBJECT GAVE OFF A BRIGHT LIGHT. B. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF

OBJECT: (1) A BRILLIANT LIGHT. (2) OBSERVERS STATED FIRST SEEN

APPROXIMATELY 60 DEGREES ABOVE HORIZON TO THE WEST. (3) ZERO

DEGREES TO THE WEST. (4) APPEARED TO GO INTO THE GROUND TRAVELING

EAST TO WEST. (5) THE OBJECT DISAPPEARED INSTANTANEOUSLY BELOW

39

Handwritten notes and signatures, including a large checkmark and the number 39.

THE STANDARD REGISTER CO., DAYTON 1, OHIO, U. S. A. DAYTON 1, OHIO, U. S. A.

NNNN

RECEIVED

28 SEP 60 09 49

ATIC

1-HA
4E2
4X2A
7-3

ZCZCSQP004CZCSQB976ZCWYA898

OO RJEDSQ

DE RJWFSA 10A

O 281320Z ZEX

FM DET 5 8 WEA GP SHEPPARD AFB TEX

TO RJEZHQ/HQ USAF CINIBI

RJEDSQ/ATIC AFCIN 4A WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJEXDH/ SPACE TRACK HANSCOM FLD MASS

INFO RJEDAA/HQ AWS AWSSS SCOTT AFB ILL

AFGRNC

BT

UNCLASS FR DET 5, 8WGC 28-J-2.

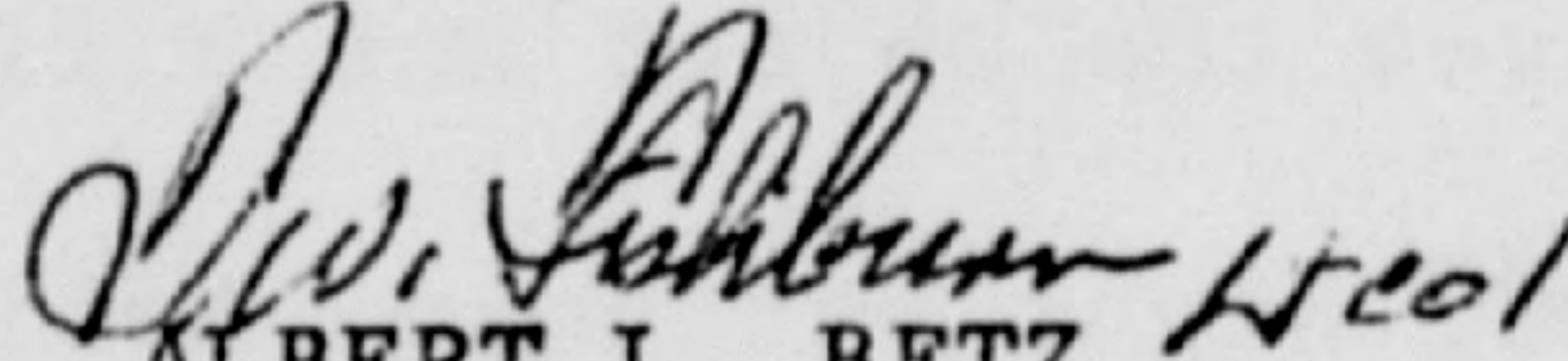
MOON DUST SIGHTED BY LCL POLICE TO HAVE LANDED IN FLD TEN
MILES SSW SHEPPARD AFB, TEXAS AT 28/1025Z. SEARCH WILL BEGIN
AT DAYBREAK.

BT

28/1341Z SEP RJWFSA

28 SEP 60 09 01

JOINT MESSAGEFORM				SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED					
SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER									
PRIORITY				<div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">78E/58</div> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">29/23452</div>					
PRECEDENCE		1960 SEP 29 22 27		ACCOUNTING SYMBOL		ORIG. OR REFERS TO		CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE	
ACTION PRIORITY		TYPE MSG (Check) BOOK MULTI SINGLE		AF		ORIG			
INFO									
FROM:						SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS			
ATIC, W-P AFB						<div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">ZNR</div>			
TO:									
1127 USAF FLD ACTY GP FT BELVOIR VA						<div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">RWEPBL</div>			
AFGRNC /UNCLAS/FROM: AFCIN-4E2x <u>9-2920-E</u>									
<p>CONFIRMING TELEPHONE CONVERSATION BETWEEN MAJ FRIEND, ATIC AND CAPT ALEXANDER, 1127TH ON 28 SEP 60. ON 28 SEP 60, AN UFO WAS RPTD TO HAVE FALLEN IN THE VICINITY OF SHEPPARD AFB, TEX.</p> <p>MAJ COOPER, PROVOST MARSHALL, CALLED ATIC TO RPT THAT THE INCIDENT WAS GETTING OUT OF HAND AND TO REQ AID IN THE INVESTIGATION. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE 1127TH INVESTIGATE THIS SIGHTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF PAR #6c OF AFR 200-2, DTD 14 SEP 59.</p>									
						DATE		TIME	
						29		1015	
						MONTH		YEAR	
						SEP		1960	
SYMBOL				SIGNATURE					
AFCIN-4E2x				<div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Philip G. Evans</div>					
TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature if required)				TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE					
Major Robert J. Friend				PHILIP G. EVANS					
PHONE 69216				Colonel, USAF					
PAGE 1				Deputy for Science and Components					
NR. OF PAGES 1									
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION									

COUNTRY OF ACTIVITY REPORTING USA		REPORT NO. 1419297	(Leave blank)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
COUNTRY OR AREA REPORT CONCERNS USA		DATE OF INFORMATION 28 Sep 60	
ACTIVITY SUBMITTING REPORT 1127th USAF Field Activities Group Fort Belvoir, Virginia		DATE OF COLLECTION 29 Sep-3 Oct 60	SRI STATUS (If applicable) SRI NO. CANCELED/COMPLETE
PREPARING INDIVIDUAL Captain Gregory Alexander		DATE OF REPORT 18 Oct 60	SRI NO. CANCELED/INCOMPLETE
NAME OR DESCRIPTION OF SOURCE (See contents of report)		EVALUATION (See report)	SRI NO. ACTIVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON (Date)
REFERENCES (BAIR Subject, previous reports, etc., as applicable) TWX AFCIN-4E2X 9-2920-E dtd 29 Sep 60			
SUBJECT (Descriptive title. Use individual reports for separate subjects) (UNCL) Unidentified Flying Object Observed West of Wichita Falls, Texas on 28 September 1960			
SUMMARY (Give summary which highlights the salient factors of narrative report. Begin narrative text on AF Form 112a unless report can be fully stated on AF Form 112. List inclosures, including number of copies) I. <u>Summary</u> : This report is on an Unidentified Flying Object (UFO) observed by many persons on 28 September 1960 at 4 A.M. (local time) in the vicinity West of Wichita Falls, Texas. Attached as inclosure is a sample of material which floated down from the sky into Wichita Falls at 0800 on the same day. Evaluation of the UFO: Probably meteorite. Evaluation of the material: Possibly spider web, having no connection with earlier sightings. II. <u>Distribution</u> : ATIC			
APPROVED: <div style="text-align: center;">  ALBERT L. BETZ Colonel, USAF for: Chief, Operations Branch </div>			
1 INCLS Spider web like material			
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR (Except USAF and file. Indicate Dupl M/Os and copies w/o inclosures, if applicable) 711C			
WARNING: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Section 793 and 794. Its transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to			

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CLASSIFICATION

(SECURITY INFORMATION when filled in)

SUPPLEMENT TO AF FORM 112

ORIGINATING AGENCY

1127th USAF Field Activities Gp
Fort Belvoir, Virginia

REPORT NO.

1419297

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I. Unidentified Flying Object Observed West of Wichita Falls, Texas on 28 September 1960

1. At 1024Z (0424 local), 28 September 1960, a large white streak of light was observed falling through the sky SW of Wichita Falls, Texas. Times of observation by a number of witnesses coincide to such an extent that a conclusion can be made that the same object was observed by all.

2. Statements of Witnesses:

a. [REDACTED] A/2C, AF 16616628, 3763rd School Squadron, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. Age, 20 years. 2½ years of service. RELIABILITY: Good. Seated in [REDACTED], Wichita Falls, Texas, Airman [REDACTED] observed through the NW window of the restaurant at about 0400 A.M. local a bright light falling to the ground. Object was seen through venetian blinds and maintained a fall parallel to the vertical edge of the window, indicating a perpendicular fall of the object and establishing a direction of due SW of Wichita Falls. Based upon the observer's position within the restaurant and the existence of an awning on the window, the arc of observation could not have exceeded 25° (from 30° to 5° elevation), although the Source estimated a 50° arc. Total time of sighting was estimated to be 3-4 seconds. The object was described as circular, like a ball, without tail, white light with bluish cast similar to phosphorous flare, of an intensity in excess of a falling star and sufficient to light up the sky. No noise was heard. Source estimated that object fell ½ mile from his position, although buildings across the street would have obstructed his view of the horizon. Source believes the object was a flare.

b. [REDACTED], Night Watchman, Robinson Construction Co, Age 48, RELIABILITY: Fair. While on duty at a construction site approximately 5 miles SW of the center of Wichita Falls, Mr. [REDACTED] stepped out from his guard shack between 4:10 and 4:20 A.M. local and observed a green-blue reflection of light on a chemical tank due West of his position. Thinking that it could have been caused by welders, he turned to face a large storage tank NE of his position. After gazing upon this tank for about 5 seconds and seeing nothing, he turned to the tank West of him and observed a bright green flash of light which appeared to be 30-40 feet above the ground. Total time for the observation was estimated to be 20-25 seconds. No noise was heard. Source stated that had the flash of light lasted longer it would surely have blinded him. Source described the color of the flash to be similar to that of a white light seen through blue-green glass. Source believed the object had fallen about ¼-½ mile due West of his position. He was met shortly thereafter by Patrolman Miles, described below.

c. [REDACTED], Patrolman, Wichita Falls Police Department, Age 23, 18 months service with WFPD. RELIABILITY: Good. At 4:24 A.M. local, while cruising North at 5 MPH on Fairway Boulevard just north of the Wichita Valley Railway track intersection, Patrolman [REDACTED] observed through the glass of the left rear window of his patrol car a bright blue-white light the size of a volley ball held at arms length. The object was seen to turn yellow before falling behind the weeds along the roadside. Total time of sighting was estimated at 2 seconds. [REDACTED] window was open, but no sound was heard. Two newsmen, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from the Wichita Falls Record News were in the patrol car and also witnessed the sighting. After reporting the incident by radio to Police Headquarters, they proceeded to a point SW of their position and joined Mr. [REDACTED] in a search of the area, finding nothing to establish that an object had landed or crashed.

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of Seymour, Texas.

i. [REDACTED] Sergeant, Control Tower Operator, Clinton-Sherman Air Force Base, Oklahoma. RELIABILITY: Unknown. Contacted by telephone, Sergeant [REDACTED] stated that a bright white light was observed falling NE to SW at 0423 A.M. local. Source observed the object for 20-25 seconds.

j. [REDACTED] Archer City, Texas. Age 56, unemployed. RELIABILITY: Unknown. Contacted by telephone, Mr. [REDACTED] stated a round, white light, larger than the moon, fell WSW of Archer City. Source observed the object through 30° of elevation. About 1/3 of the way down, a piece of the object split off and appeared to burn out, while the main object continued its fall. Object became smaller as it fell.

k. MRS. [REDACTED] housewife, [REDACTED], Apt C, Wichita Falls, Texas. RELIABILITY: Good. At about 0830 A.M. local, 28 Sep 60, Mrs. [REDACTED] observed from the balcony of her apartment a large quantity of billowing matter in long streaks flowing through the sky from SW to NE at an indetermined altitude. A smaller piece of the material appeared to break from the larger mass, taking the form of a ball with string-like streamers. Mrs. [REDACTED] watched while the material descended and observed a quantity of the material falling in her front and back yards as well as on the apartment roof. She managed to catch a piece of the material about 3½" x 2½" before it hit the ground. The material had a rubber-like quality and upon contact with her hand, shrank to the size of a 25 cent piece. Mrs. [REDACTED] observed the material for approximately 45 minutes. Mrs. [REDACTED] stated she was unaware of the earlier sightings of the falling light when the material was observed.

3. A search of the area 2½ miles SW of Wichita Falls was conducted from 4:20 to 6:40 A.M. by Patrolman [REDACTED] (par 2c) with negative results. A helicopter from Fort Sill, Oklahoma joined in the search spending most of the day (28 Sep) in the general area covered by Patrolman [REDACTED] and extending progressively more SW of the city, with negative results. On 30 September, the helicopter, with investigators, searched the area in the vicinity of Mabelle and Seymour, Texas to check out the statement of the truck driver (par 2e), without locating an object. Triangulation of the location of fall was made, using sightings from Wichita Falls and Vernon, Texas, the point falling in the vicinity of Seymour, Texas.

4. Comments of Investigators:

There can be little doubt that an object was observed, based simply upon the large number of witnesses. Although individual reports appear to be variations upon a theme, there is assurance that the time was 0423-0424 A.M. local, based upon fairly precise time checks by Clinton-Sherman AFB, and by a recording of the sighting by Patrolman [REDACTED], upon which the time of the report was recorded in Police Headquarters as 0424 local, 28 Sep 60. Further, certain features appear fairly consistently through most witnesses' statements: a white light, more brilliant than the usual shooting star, falling to the SW of Wichita Falls, with no noise. All reports received place the direction at SW of witnesses' location, except the report from Vernon, Texas (par 2h) which could have been in error. The consensus is therefore SW, allowing for no triangulation. Most witnesses believed the object had fallen a short distance from them, yet the observers were scattered in a triangle with approximately 30 miles to a side. The report from Iowa Park (par 2d) is especially valuable because of the witnesses experience and because he was the only person not preoccupied with driving, talking to someone else, etc.

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d. [REDACTED] Captain, USAF, Procurement Officer, Sheppard AFB, Age 47. Eight years experience as Intelligence Officer. RELIABILITY: Very Good. While walking South on Farm Road 368, one mile N of Highway 287 in Iowa Park, Texas, Captain [REDACTED] observed at about 4:30 A.M. local, a large light 30° above the horizon at an azimuth of 225°. He watched while the object within 3-5 seconds fell to an elevation of 10-20° and an azimuth of 240° at which point the light appeared to burn out. Source was certain the light did not go beyond the horizon. Size of the light was estimated to be equivalent to a thumbnail held at arms length. Color was that of a magnesium flare, with a yellowish tint. The intensity was sufficient to light the ground weakly. No noise was heard. Object appeared to possess a conical tail of a length approximately that of the object.

e. D. [REDACTED] Wichita Falls, Texas. Age 50 years, Independent Truck Driver. RELIABILITY: Fair. While hauling a load of pipe traveling W on US Routes 82/277, 3/4 of a mile W of Mabelle, Texas, between 4:15 and 4:30 A.M. local, Mr. [REDACTED] observed through the driver's open window a bright light falling to the ground. Source estimated the object fell for 10-15 seconds, hit the ground about 1/2 - 3/4 mile SW of his position, burned like a glowing coal on the ground for 20 seconds before going out. During flight, object was of such brilliance to light up the fence wires along the road. No sound was heard. Source believes object fell near the road, since he was traveling at about 40 MPH and had to look progressively more behind him to see the glowing object on the ground. A companion, [REDACTED], viewed the object in flight but saw nothing on the ground.

[REDACTED], Age 22, Patrolman, Wichita Falls Police Department, 1 1/2 years experience. RELIABILITY: Good. [REDACTED] had parked his patrol car in a parking lot on the SE corner of 15th and Lamar Streets, facing south and in such a manner as to converse with Patrolman [REDACTED] who came along side in his car facing north on [REDACTED] left. The object was brought to [REDACTED] attention by [REDACTED] observed a bright white light through his front window behind a one story building on the SW corner of 15th and Lamar. [REDACTED] stated he did not see the object in the sky, but only observed the glow behind the building. Source stated the light was "bright as the sun," but white. The glow was observed for about 5 seconds and was of intensity sufficient to read a newspaper by. Source observed the glow to fade at the end of the sighting period. No noise was heard.

g. [REDACTED] Age 24, Patrolman, Wichita Falls Police Department, 1 1/2 years experience. RELIABILITY: Good. [REDACTED] was conversing with [REDACTED] through respective open windows of their patrol cars. [REDACTED] viewed the object in the sky over the roof of [REDACTED] car. Object was described as a white ball, to the SW of town, falling at a constant rate and angled (7°) to the West in its fall, about the size of two finger tips held at arms length, without tail or smoke. Source first observed the object at 60° elevation, watched until it fell behind the building across the street after 6-8 seconds. A glow was observed around the building, lasting another 6-8 seconds. Source at first thought his car trembled when the object came down, but at the time of interview, he was uncertain about this point.

h. [REDACTED] Arnon, Texas, operator of furniture store. RELIABILITY: Unknown. Contacted by phone, Mr. [REDACTED] stated that the object fell perpendicularly due South of Vernon, Texas as he viewed it through a window of his home. Object was the color of the moon, much larger than a star and fell behind some trees after 3 seconds of observation. Source did not see the ground lit up. Source believes the object fell in the area

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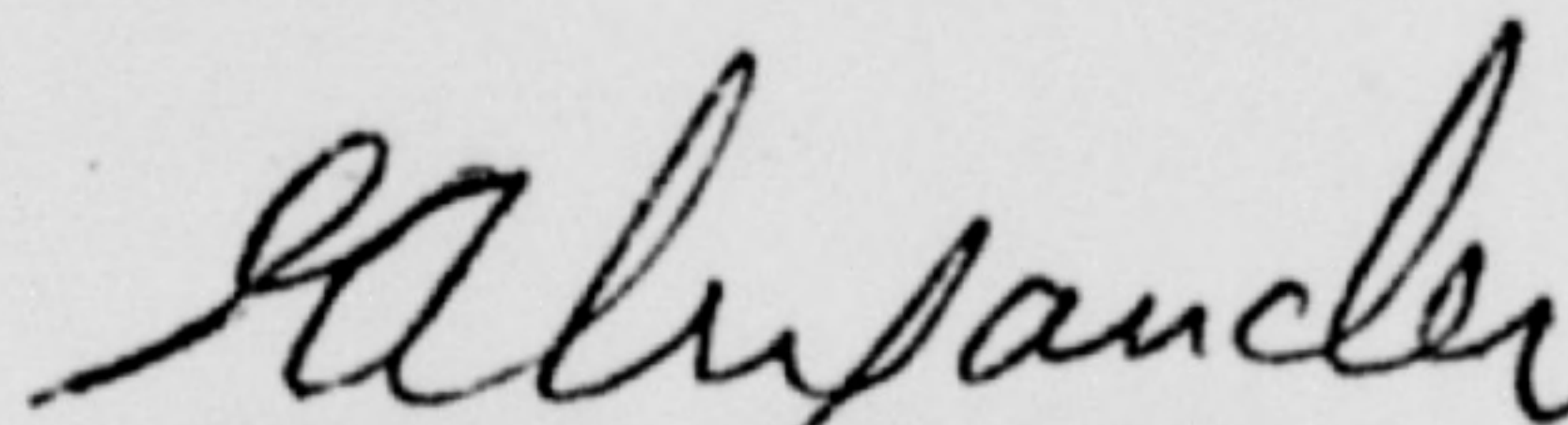
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That he was walking and was able to devote full attention to the sighting, viewing it in relatively open country, lends support to the hypothesis that the object did not land, but burned up in the atmosphere, as he reported. Further, the absence of noise, reported by all observed, suggests that distance to impact, if in fact an impact occurred, was considerably in excess of estimates. The customary tendency of some observers to overestimate duration of sightings was also noted.

5. Evaluation:

a. It is the preparing officer's opinion that, based upon analysis of the witnesses' reports, the object seen was probably a meteorite of unusual brilliance which probably burned up completely in the atmosphere, but possibly could have landed considerably to the SW of Wichita Falls, perhaps in the vicinity of the Texas/New Mexico border.

b. The material recovered by the Wichita Falls housewife and attached to this report can only be given a tentative evaluation: Possibly floating spider web material. It is felt that the material recovered bears no connection to the meteorite sighted earlier in the morning.



GREGORY ALEXANDER
Captain, USAF