UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

(PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD) (Incident #121)

ATIC NO. - - -

DATE OF INFO 9 Jan 1948

AF NO. - - -

LOCATION Cartersville, Ga.

REPORT NO. - - -

SOURCE Pilot (EAL)

DATE OF REPORT - - -

DATE IN TO ATIC - - -

TIME OF SIGHTING 2230

COLOR Light, Sky-blue

SHAPE Circular with Flat Top

SPEED 400 mph Estimated / Measured / Estimated

SIZE - - -

ALTITUDE 3,000' Measured

COURSE 175° M

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED - - -

NO. IN GROUP 1

TYPE OF OBSERVATION Aerial

SOUND - - -

MANEUVERS Crossed path of source, then turned earthward.

PHOTOS - - - SKETCHES - - -

Temporary ATIC Form 329
(2 Jan 52)

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Cut Meteor

RESTRICTED

Incident #121 -- Cartersville, Georgia -- 9 January 1948

While the possibility of this object's being a meteor is not ruled out, it seems unlikely. Meteors are not known to be "light sky blue," nor to travel so slowly as indicated. However, report also states that color was an "intense blue," and, if speed were underestimated (or if object had a large radial velocity component -- coming largely "head-on"), it might possibly be interpreted as a fireball.

G-2-4143

RESTRICTED

the top quarter which was flat, pot-shaped. The witness states that the object definitely did not have the curved trajectory of a wingless missile. Shortly after crossing his path, the blue flame sputtered and turned immediately earthward. The flame then died altogether but nothing was seen hitting the ground. Witness states that the flame was not of the long trailing type, but rather gave the impression that you were looking down a long exhaust stack at a short but concentrated mass of blue flame and further stated that his connections with RAF pilots in England during the war leads him now to believe this object looked the same as the "Buzz Bombs" chased by those RAF pilots at night. [redacted], purser on this flight 9 January 48, also saw the object, the flame only, but can give no further evidence for its identification.

Mr. [redacted] stated on April 29 that seventy-five cattle had died of an unknown disease on the farm of a Mr. [redacted] at Newnan, Georgia, and expressed concern over a possible connection between the unidentified object he reported and this unusual fatality among healthy cattle. However, the Atlanta Office of the Animal Industry Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, advises that this "unknown" disease has persisted for over a year and other cases repeated elsewhere in the country for some time back. There apparently remains no basis for connection between the object Mr. DuBose reports and the death of seventy-five cattle at Newnan, Georgia.

CHECK-LIST - UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS

1. Date 9 January 1948 Incident # 121

2. Time 2330

3. Location Cartersville, Georgia, 34° 10' N, 84° 49' W

4. Name of observer [redacted]

5. Occupation of observer Pilot (EAL)

6. Address of observer N/S

7. Place of observation Air

8. Number of objects One

9. Distance of object from observer N/S

10. Time in sight N/S

11. Altitude 3000 feet

12. Speed 400 mph

13. Direction of flight 175° M

14. Tactics None

15. Sound N/S

16. Size N/S

17. Color Light, sky-blue

18. Shape Circular, except for the top quarter which was flat, pot-shaped

19. Odor detected N/S

20. Apparent construction N/S

21. Exhaust trails None

22. Weather conditions N/S

23. Effect on clouds N/S

24. Sketches or photographs None

25. Manner of disappearance 10° below the horizon

26. Remarks: When object crossed the path of the witness all that could be observed was an intense blue flame, in a shape circular except for

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[redacted]

5-721
5-734

MAFCO/SL/fo

24 May 1948

SUBJECT: Incident Report

TO: Commanding General
Air Materiel Command
Wright-Patterson AF Base
Dayton, Ohio
Attention: TSDIN

Commanding General
Air Defense Command
Mitchel Field, N. Y.
Attention: AS/S, Intelligence

1. On January 10, 1948 one [redacted], Eastern Air Lines pilot, reported to the Atlanta office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that shortly before midnight 9 January 1948, he had observed an unidentifiable object crossing the path of his aircraft in the area of Cartersville and Acworth, Georgia.

2. Mr. [redacted] was on a heading of about 130° Mag. enroute from St. Louis, Missouri, to Atlanta at altitude of about 3000 feet, flying an EAL DC-3, when this object crossed his path on an approximate heading of 175° Mag. at the same altitude. All he could observe was an intense blue flame (light, sky-blue) in a shape circular except for the top quarter which was flat (i.e. pot shaped). Mr. [redacted] states the object was on a course about 10° below horizontal, but definitely did not have the curved trajectory of a wing-less missile.

3. Mr. [redacted] estimates the speed of the object as being in the neighborhood of 400 MPH. Shortly after crossing his path, the blue flame sputtered and turned immediately eastward. The flame then died altogether and Mr. [redacted] could not see anything hitting the ground.

4. Mr. [redacted] states that the flame was not of the long trailing type but rather gave the impression that you were looking at it down a long exhaust stack at a short but concentrated mass of blue flame, and further stated that his connections with RAF pilots in England during the war leads him now to believe this object looked the same as the "Buzz Bombs" chased by those RAF pilots at night.

[redacted]

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

5. Mr. [redacted], purser on Mr. [redacted] flight 9 January 1948, also saw the object (the flame only, that is), but can give no further evidence for its identification.

6. Army Flight Service reported no jet aircraft in the vicinity that night.

7. Neither Headquarters, Third Army nor the FBI has had further evidence of an unidentified object in the air or crashing on that date.

8. Mr. [redacted] advised this office on April 29 that seventy-five (75) cattle had died of an unknown disease on the farm of a Mr. [redacted] at Newnan, Georgia, and expressed concern over a possible connection between the unidentified object he reported and this unusual fatality among healthy cattle. However, the Atlanta Office of the Animal Industry Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, advises that this "unknown" disease has persisted for over a year, and other cases repeated elsewhere in the country for some time back. Although they admit no cure has yet been found and the disease remains incompletely diagnosed, there apparently remains no basis for connection between the object Mr. [redacted] reports and the death of the seventy or more cattle at Newnan, Georgia.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

STEVE LATHAM
Major, USAF
Executive Officer

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED 12 January 1948

Summary of Information:

A reliable government agency advised that an unidentified burning object was sighted North of Cartersville, Georgia, at midnight, January 9, 1948. [redacted], pilot, Eastern Airlines, advised that on the night of January 9, at midnight, that he and [redacted], co-pilot, and [redacted] purser on Eastern Airlines run between Charlotte, North Carolina, and Atlanta, Georgia, observed, at the time indicated, an object flying past their plane going approximately 360 m.p.h. The incident occurred North of Cartersville, Georgia, at approximately 4,000 ft. The object which was brightly lighted, slanted down at a ten degree angle. No one had a good look at the object but Duboss felt it was a rocket of some type inasmuch as it was moving parallel with the plane and had bluish flame coming out of the rear.

Let's get a more complete report

How about get age. Anyway to

checking flight control office -

at both ends on the time indicated

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DOD DIR 5200.10

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[redacted]

Collection Branch

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

Ltr fr Wright-Patterson Flt Sv Ctr, Dayton, Ohio dtd 3 Feb 48, subj: Jet Aircraft North of Cartersville, Ga.

DXN 311.5 2nd Ind RL:lar

Maxwell Flight Service Center, Maxwell AF Base, Montgomery, Ala. Oper Locn 33-6. 13 February 1948.

TO: Commanding Officer, Wright-Patterson Flight Service Center, Wright-Patterson AF Base, Ohio. Oper Locn 33-9.

1. Reference paragraph 1, 1st Ind, a thorough check of records, flight plans and forms 23 for 8, 9, and 10 January 1948 at this Center fails to reveal any information on jet aircraft or reports of fires or explosions in the vicinity of Cartersville, Georgia. Personnel on duty in the Maxwell Flight Service Center on 8, 9, and 10 January were questioned but none recalled any information on incidents of jet aircraft or reports of fires or explosions in the Georgia area.

2. A check with Base Weather personnel also failed to reveal any information on this subject.

3. For further possible explanation, it is suggested that this matter be referred to Headquarters, Field Office of the Air Inspector, Langley Field, Virginia, ATTN: Flying Safety Division.

RICHARD LOOMIS
Lt Colonel, USAF
Commanding

1 Incl: n/c

cc: CO, Flt Sv, Wash. D.C.

311.5 3rd Ind. DEM /RLN/deg

Wright-Patterson Flight Service Center, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio 13 February 1948

TO: Chief, Analysis Division, Intelligence Department, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio (MCIA)

1. Information requested in basic communication can not be furnished by this Center. Therefore it was forwarded to Headquarters Flight Service Washington, D.C. and thence to Maxwell Flight Service Center, Maxwell, Field, Alabama for any information available.

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

311.5 3rd Ind (cont'd) 3 Feb 48
Subject: Jet Aircraft North of Cartersville, Ga.

2. Second indorsement to this communication is all available information that can be furnished by Flight Service.

1 Incl
R&R

DE ARMOND E. MATTHEWS
Major, USAF
Commanding

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

B/Ltr f/Wright-Patterson FS Center, Dayton, Ohio, subj: "Jet Aircraft North of Cartersville, Ga", dtd 3 February 1948

FSA3 311.5 1st Ind

Headquarters Flight Service, Washington 25, D. C. 9 Feb 1948

TO: Commanding Officer, Maxwell Flight Service Center, Maxwell Air Force Base, Montgomery, Alabama, Operating Location 33-6

1. Request you check for information regarding jet aircraft or reportsof fires or explosions in the vicinity of Cartersville, Georgia, during the hours of darknesson 8, 9, or 10 Jan 1948.

2. If any information is discovered which warrants further clarification, attempt to obtain additional information from reliable sources.

3. Forward information as expeditiously as possible to Commanding Officer, Wright-Patterson Flight Service Center with an information copy to this Headquarters. A negative report will be submitted.

BY ORDER OF COLONEL POWEL:

1 Incl: n/c

ALVIN ISRAEL
1st Lt., USAF
Asst Adjutant

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

WRIGHT FLIGHT SERVICE CENTER
Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio

3 February 1948

311.5

SUBJECT: Jet Aircraft North of Cartersville, Georgia

TO: Commanding Officer
Flight Service
Washington 25, D. C.

Request that your headquarters furnish this Center any available information relative to the inclosed R&R and attached paper in order that this correspondence may be complied with as soon as possible.

1 Incl
R/R dtd 29 Jan 48
with 1 Incl.

CLARK L. MILLER
Lt Colonel, USAF
Commanding

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

Jet Aircraft North of Cartersville, Georgia

TSXMF MCIA 29 Jan 48 1.

1. This office is interested in determining the nature of theobject described in the inclosed "Summary of Information" dated 8 Jan 1948. At present, the possibility of theobject being a jet aircraft is being investigated. Since the object was traveling downward at a ten degree angle, it may be possible that there are reports available of a crash, fire or explosion in the vicinity indicated.

2. It is requested that information be obtained and furnished this office relative to the presence of jet aircraft in the vicinity at the time indicated. Also any information available regarding a crash, fire or explosion should be forwarded.

1 Incl
cy "Summary of Info"
d/ 12 Jan 48

W. R. CLINGERMAN
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Analysis Division
Intelligence Department

EHL/amb
2-1204
Bldg 11A
Rm 258

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[redacted]

Dr HYNEK'S EVALUATIONS EXTRACTED FROM PROJECT GRUDGE REPORT.

INCIDENT INDEX

1. Astronomical

a. High probability:
#26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 48, 49, 59, 60, 66, 69, 70, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 101, 102, 103, 104, 116, 119, 132, 136, 140, 147, 148, 158, 174, 184, 185, 187, 197, 203, 204, 208, 216, 219, 238.

b. Fair or low probability:
#19, 20, 23, 24, 28, 35, 36, 46, 50, 63, 67, 80, 82, 93, 100, 112, 120, 121, 129, 130, 144, 153, 165, 166, 167, 175, 192, 199, 202, 205, 220, 230, 240.

2. Non-astronomical but suggestive of other explanations

a. Balloons or ordinary aircraft:
#3, 11, 22, 41, 42, 53, 54, 73, 81, 83, 91, 92, 113, 114, 115, 126, 131, 138, 141, 145, 155, 156, 157, 159, 160, 161, 163, 169, 171, 173, 178, 180, 182, 188, 190, 194, 195, 196, 198, 200, 201, 209, 210, 217, 222, 235, 237, 239.

b. Rockets, flares or falling bodies:
#4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 25, 56, 65, 78, 106, 107, 108, 109, 133, 170, 211, 218.

c. Miscellaneous (reflections, auroral streamers, birds, etc.):
#39, 89, 123, 124, 128, 146, 164, 181, 189, 214, 221, 231, 234.

3. Non-astronomical, with no explanation evident

a. Lack of evidence precludes explanation:
#38, 44, 45, 47, 55, 57, 72, 86, 87, 88, 90, 99, 110, 117, 118, 125, 127, 137, 139, 149, 150, 177, 179, 191, 206, 212, 213, 229, 232, 233.

b. Evidence offered suggests no explanation:
#1, 2, 10, 17, 21, 29, 37, 40, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 64, 68, 71, 75, 76, 77, 79, 84, 105, 111, 122, 135, 151, 152, 154, 162, 168, 172, 176, 183, 186, 193, 207, 215, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 236, 241, 242, 243, 244, 134.