

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 61 Jan 51		2. LOCATION Artesia, New Mexico		12. CONCLUSIONS	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT Not Given		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☒ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 40 seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 2		9. COURSE NE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Dull gray in color. Objects larger than balloon. Both objects were moving equal distance apart & appeared to make an abrupt turn & dissappeared at a very fast rate of speed. Day was clear. Objects would fly around & above the balloon & then fly off in NE direction. No way to estimate the speed of the objects. Shape like round disc. See case 22 Jan 51, Hollman AFB)				11. COMMENTS Insufficient data for evaluation. Do not know exact relationship to the balloon on such items as positional data and also no time concept.	

7-3712-34

UNCLASSIFIED

Following is a report of the sighting by the undersigned of an unidentified aerial object in the Oak Ridge Area. On the evening of 16 January 1951 the following personnel were returning home from their work at WPA Division, Fairchild Engine and Airplane Corporation, in the S-50 Area, Oak Ridge, Tennessee:

Mrs. [REDACTED]
Miss [REDACTED]
Miss [REDACTED]
Miss [REDACTED]
Miss [REDACTED]

Mrs. [REDACTED], driver, and Miss [REDACTED] were riding in the front seat; Misses [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were in the rear.

At approximately 1645 while driving Northeast on the turnpike approximately two miles inside the restricted area, Miss [REDACTED] sighted a brilliant object through the right rear window. Believing this to be a plane, Miss [REDACTED] called the attention of every one in the car to the object which was observed by each of the undersigned. Although the unusual brilliance of the object could not be explained, the group was about to agree that it must be a plane when at approximately 1647 someone exclaimed that the object was apparently stationary. After watching the object for a total of approximately five minutes, the group concluded that it must be some sort of weather balloon, although no one in the crowd was especially familiar with such an apparatus. No accurate estimate of the size or location of this object is possible.

The observation was reported to Mr. [REDACTED], Assistant to the AF Plant Representative for Security, on the morning of 17 January 1951, who investigated the possibility of this object being a part of some project sponsored by an AMC contractor. However, it was determined that no weather balloon or similar apparatus was or had recently been up in this area.

A CERTIFIED TRUE COPY:

Patrick W. Hayes
Lt. Colonel, USAF

UNCLASSIFIED

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

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON**

**THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
8TH DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, MAXWELL FIELD, ALABAMA**

24-109

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

17 FEB 1957

SUBJECT: Unconventional Aircraft

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters, U. S. Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

Report
Filed in
16 Jan 51 - Oak Ridge
Folder

1. SYNOPSIS: An airborne object was sighted by five (5) persons on 16 January 1951 while driving in the Controlled Area, Atomic Energy Project, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

2. DETAILS: Attached hereto is a statement by five (5) civilian employees of the NEPA Division, Fairchild Engine and Airplane Corporation, Oak Ridge, Tennessee concerning the sighting of a brilliant, stationary airborne object in the Controlled Area, Atomic Energy Project, Oak Ridge at 1645 hours on 16 January 1951. A check of the log of the 663rd ACW Squadron, McGhee-Tyson Airport, Knoxville, Tennessee reveals that no aircraft were in the vicinity of the controlled area at the time of observation. A check at the Knoxville and Oak Ridge weather stations revealed that no weather balloons were aloft at the above time.

As reported by the U. S. Weather Bureau, Knoxville, Tennessee, the weather conditions on 16 January 1951 at 1600 hours were as follows: clear, visibility 20 miles, temperature 37 degrees F, wind SW at 5 miles per hour, winds aloft 2000 ft 240 degrees at 3 knots, 3000 ft 210 degrees at 3 knots and 4000 ft 209 degrees at 5 knots.

3. ACTION: Will report any further incidents of this type.

1 Incl.
Statement of 5 civilian
employees of NEPA Div.
cc: NEPA Division
Hq. AEC
Attn: NCIS

PATRICK W. HAYES
Lt. Colonel, USAF
District Commander

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7-3712-34

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

DATE

1 February 1951

PREPARING OFFICE

1114th AF Station, P.O. Box 379, Knoxville, Tennessee

SUBJECT

OBJECTS SIGHTED OVER OAK RIDGE,
TENNESSEE
(16 & 21 January 1951)

CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION

OF SOURCE:

COMPLETELY RELIABLE A
USUALLY RELIABLE B
FAIRLY RELIABLE C
NOT USUALLY RELIABLE D
UNRELIABLE E
RELIABILITY UNKNOWN F

OF INFORMATION:

CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES 1
PROBABLY TRUE 2
POSSIBLY TRUE 3
DOUBTFULLY TRUE 4
IMPROBABLE 5
TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED 6

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

(Refer S/I Subject as above dated 20 January 1951 pertaining to the sighting at 2145 hours on 16 January 1951)

At approximately 1645 hours on 16 January 1951, an unusually brilliant object was sighted by five persons driving in the "Control Zone" of the Atomic Energy Project, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Attached hereto is the statement concerning this phenomenon. The weather at the time of this sighting is substantially the same as reported in the previous report for 16 January 1951, as referred to above.

Records of the 663rd AC & W Squadron, (Radar), McChes Tyson Airport, Knoxville, Tennessee reveal that no aircraft were in the vicinity at the time of the observation, and the radar site was receiving no interference.

At 1620 hours on 21 January 1951, a radar sighting of an unidentified object over Oak Ridge, Tennessee was made by the airborne radar equipment installed in an F-42 fighter aircraft of the 5th AF Fighter Squadron, 52nd AF Fighter Group, McChes Tyson, Airport, Knoxville, Tennessee. This radar interference was received by the airborne radar as the aircraft approached the X-10 Plant area in the "Controlled Zone" of the Atomic Energy Project, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The fighter aircraft attempted interceptions of this target from various angles and found that the source of the interference originated from the area of the X-10 Plant. No visual reference to anything in the sky was reported by either the pilot or the radar operator of the F-42 aircraft.

The weather at the time of this incident is reportedly: "Partly cloudy, with East winds at seven (7) miles per hour. Temperature 56 degrees, and dewpoint 19 degrees. No balloons or other weather apparatus was in the sky at this time. Between the hours 1545 and 1625, the wind was variable from south to northeast at from calm to eleven (11) miles per hour.

Attached hereto is a copy of the letter submitted by [redacted], 1st Lieutenant, U.S.A.F., concerning this phenomenon. (NOTE: The letter "th" used in this letter denotes "thousand").

SOURCE: 663rd AC & W Squadron, McChes Tyson Airport, Knoxville, Tenn.;
1st Lt [redacted], 5th AF Fighter Squadron, Knoxville, Tenn.;
Atomic Energy Commission Weather Bureau, Oak Ridge, Tennessee;
Five persons listed on inclosure, Oak Ridge, Tennessee;
CGI Office, Knoxville, Tennessee

DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVAL
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 10 YEARS
EXPIRATION DATE 1961

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1949-34306-1

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