

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 28 December 1951		2. LOCATION Alexandria, Va		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☒ Was Aircraft helo ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 28/2335Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 15 minutes		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Shape—Genrally round with a hazy inverted truncated cone on top. Size 3 ft diameter, - Color Blue white soft light. No trail or exhaust. Speed was stationary to 110 knots. No sound. Object first reported stationary 7,000 ft moved SSW reducing altitude one thousand ft, then moved NNW for 10 mi. and moved in arc SE to E to NE to N to NW. Lost from view while switching fuel tanks.				11. COMMENTS Evaluated as a/c (helo) in view of maneuvers and description of object. Confirmed as helo testing new lighting system.	

121ST FIGHTER-INTERCEPTOR SQUADRON
ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

40 EJR-3 Jan 52
28 December 1951

SUBJECT: Report of Information on Unconventional Aircraft

TO: CG, Air Materiel Command. Attn: MCIS
CG, Air Defense Command, Attn: Director of Intelligence
INFO: CG, EADF
CG, 26TH AIR DIV.

Report of Information on Unconventional Aircraft in accordance
with ADCL-200-1;

a. Brief description of object:

Shape-Generally round with a hazy inverted truncated cone on top

Size-3 Feet diameter

Color-Blue white soft light

Number- 1

Aerodynamic Features-None observed

Trail or Exhaust- None observed

Propulsion system- None observed

Speed- Stationary to 110knts

Sound- None heard

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

Maneuvers- Object first reported estimated 7000 ft about 10mils
west of the Capitol Dome and stationary, it then moved SW for about
8mils reducing altitude to about 1000 ft, then it moved NW for about
10 miles still at 1000 ft, there it moved in a great arc SE changing to
E to NE to N to NW which placed it a few miles SW of the center of
Alexandria Va.

Matter of disappearance- Object disappeared while observers were
changing fuel tanks.

UNCLASSIFIED

ATTC 33836

UNCLASSIFIED

- b. Time sighted- 2335Z to 2350Z
- c. Manner of observation-Visual, aircraft C-45 No 4359364 at 7,000 feet, 140 knots.
- d. Location of observer- 10 to 15 miles WSW of Capitol. Distance from object at sighting was about 15 to 18 miles, point of nearest approach was some 6,000 feet below. (see also (a) and (c))
- e. Identification on observers were Hersberger, Robert A. Capt., 13728A and Davis, Donald Stetson, Major, AC-742974, these Officers appear perfectly normal, rational and unexcitable, Officers are assigned to Headquarters USAF Bolling Air Force Base, Washington 25, D. C.
- f. Weather and wind conditions. Visibility unrestricted, winds at 7,000 feet, were from 330° at 48 knots. Temperature at this altitude-15°C.
- g. Any activity or condition, meteorological or otherwise. (None observed)
- h. Existence of any physical evidence. (None)
- i. Interception or identification action taken- One F-94B scrambled. This pilot did not sight object in question.
- j. Local aircraft airborne at the time for sighting. Aircraft inbound and out bound Bolling period 2330Z to 2400Z, Air Force 7688, pilot Artwohl, AF 6159 pilot Glassebrook, AF 8379, pilot Bone, AF 1475, pilot Pruitt, AF 5312, Payon. Aircraft inbound and outbound Andrews between same period, AF 9745 C-47, pilot Williams, Lt Col AF 4222, F-51, pilot Smith, Capt, AF 5415, F-94B pilot Kester, Capt, AF 0429, B-25, pilot workman, Major.

FOR THE COMMANDING OFFICER:

John R. Hughes
JOHN R. HUGHES
Capt, USAF
Exec. Officer

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

UNCLASSIFIED

FROM A STANDING START. NO TRAIL OBSERVED, NO
NOISE HEARD. LOST SIGHT OF WHILE SWITCHING FUEL
TANKS, MANNER OF DISAPPEARANCE UNKNLWN.

OTHER OCCUPANT OF C-45 NOT AVAILABE
UNTIL THIS AFTERNOON. WILL QUESTION HIM
AT THZT TIME. ALEXANDRIA POLICE AND WASHINGTON

NEWSPAPERS HAVE NO REPORTS OF OTHER SIGHTINGS
THIS NATURE. WEATHER BUREAU STATES NO ILLUMINATED
WEATHER BALLONS RELEASED THIS VICINITY
DURING PERIOD YESTERDAY IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING
THE INCIDENT. REQUEST YOUR COMMENTS SOONEST
AND CONTMPLATED ACTION.
END CSAF IEM 3 (RESTRICTED)

2,

IN ITEM E WHEE IT IS IN LETTES IT HOULD READ HAVE ABILITY
RPT HAVE ABILITYZUJEEESSSS

F

IRST LINE, FIFTH WORD SHOULD READ FLIGHT
FIFTH LINE, FIRST WORD SHOULD READ ACFT
SEVENTH LINE SHOULD READ "ACFT HAD THE ABILITY"
TENTH LINE SHOULD READ " PILOT WHO SAW ACFT"
LINE TWENTY SEVEN LAST WORD SHOULD "RAPIDLY"
IN ITEM 3 RPT IN ITEM 3N
NOTHER HERE

MTTTTT

CSAF ITEM 3 (RESTRICTED)

SECURITY INFORMATION

TO RUPPELT FROM AFOIN-V/TC FOURNET

TT-314

28 Dec 51

CSAF ITEM 3

FOLLOWING MSG RECEIVED FROM LIGHT SERVICE

SECTION OLMSTEAD AFB, DATE GROUP 280155Z

DEC: "AT APPROX 1910E TWO PILOTS ON LOCAL

OUT OF BOLLING OBSERVED AN ODD LOOKING

AACFT CIRCLING AND HOOVERING OVER ALEXENDRIA

VIRGINIA BETWEEN 1000 AND 6000 FT . THE

ACFT ^{HAD} THE ABILITY TO GO STRAIGHT UP OR STRAIGHT

DOWN OR IT COULD HOOVER. IT WAS ODD SHAPED

AND IT GLOWED ^{Making} IT VERY VISIBLE.

PILOT WHO ^{SAW} ACFT WAS CAPT HERSBERGER."

CONTACTED CAPT HERSBERGER AND OBTAINED

FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: OBJECT WAS

IN FORM OF WHITE LIGHT WITH FAINT YELLOWISH

CAST, APPROXIMATELY 3 FEET DIAMETER SPHEROID,

NOT TOO WELL DEFINED AND FUZZY ABOUT EDGES.

OBSERVED FOR ABOUT TWO MINUTES FROM C-45

AT 7000 FEET ALTITUDE OBJECT AT NEAREST POINT

WAS BELOW AND SLIGHTLY IN FRONT OF C-45

AT ALTITUDE OF ABOUT 1000 FEET. CAPT

HERSBERGER THROTTLED BACK TO 110 MILES PER

HOUR INDICATED AND WAS ABLE TO FOLLOW OBJECT.

OBJECT ALTERNATELY MOVED ABOUT AND HOVERED

OVER ALEXANDRIA COVERING TOTAL OF ABOUT 20

MILES DURING ENTIRE PERIOD OF OBSERVATION.

CAPABLE OF MANEUVERING IN MANNER

SIMILAR TO HELICOPTER AND APPEARED TO ~~HAVE ABILITY~~

ACTION

1. Length of Time seen
2. Flight path of object and C-45
3. Angular measurements when closest

ATIC 55 01

CSAF ITEM 4 ~~RESTRICTED~~ UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECURITY INFO~~

TO RUPPELT ATIAA-2C FROM AFOIN-V/TC FOURNET

REF ITEM 5 AMC, THIS TT.

WILL AWAIT YOUR COMMENTS ON CSAF ITEM 1

THIS TT BEFORE TAKING ACTION YOU REQUEST.

PLEASE ADVISE.

END CSAF ITEM 4 (RESTRICTED)

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

ACTION

*no control to given
reference to CSAF item 1*

NOTE:

CSAF ITEMS 2 AND 3 ABOVE ARE CORRECT VERSIONS

OF MESSAGES PREVIOUSLY TRANSMITTED AS

CSAF ITEM 2 AND 7 RESPECTIVELY OF TT 312

DTD 27 DEC 51.

Ruppelt T. Stange

UNCLASSIFIED

ITEM 5 AMC ~~RESTRICTED~~
FROM LT E J RUPPELT ATIAA-2C
TO AFOIN-V/TC

UNCLASSIFIED

SECURITY INFO

REQUEST NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PILOTS MENTIONED
IN TT-314, CSAF ITEM NR 3, DATED 28 DEC 51.
THE 4TH DISTRICT OSI WILL BE REQUESTED TO
INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF HELICOPTER IN
AREA AND OBTAIN DETAILED STATEMENTS FROM PILOTS.

END ITEM 5 AMC / ~~RESTRICTED~~

UNCLASSIFIED

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

TT-01
2 Jan 52
AMC ITEM 5
ATIAA-2C/RUPPELT

INFORMATION

CSAF ITEM 1 (RESTRICTED)

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

UNCLASSIFIED

TO RUPPELT FORM AFOIN-V/TC FOURNET

REFERENCE: CSAF ITEM 3, TT 314, DATED 28
DEC 51.

TT-01
2 Jan 52
CSAF ITEM 1

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AS A RESULT
OF FUTHER INVESTIGATION THIS INCIDENT IS
AS FOLLOWS: HELICOPTER WITH EXPERIMENTAL
LIGHTING SYSTEM FROM PATUXENT NAVAL AIR
STATION WAS OVER ALEXANDRIA AT TIME OF
SIGHTING. EVALUATION HERE THAT THIS HELICOPTER
WAS SOURCE OF SIGHTING.
END CSAF ITEM 1 (RESTRICTED)

ACTION

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

AMC ITEM 6/R E S T/
FROM LT E J RUPPELT, ATIAA-2C

TT-04
4 Jan 52

TO AFOIN-V/TC ATTN FOURNET UNCLASSIFIED

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

REFERENCE CSAF ITEM 1, TT-01, 2 JAN 1952.
SINCE DESCRIPTION OF MANEUVERS OF UNIDENTIFIED
OBJECT CLOSELY RESEMBLES A HELICOPTER,
FURTHER INVESTIGATION SUCH AS DETERMINING
FLIGHT PATH OF HELICOPTER, OBJECT, AND AIRCRAFT
IS THOUGHT TO BE UNNECESSARY. ATIC CONCLUSION,
VERY PROBABLY HELICOPTER FROM PATUXENT.

END AMC ITEM 6/R E S T/

INFORMATION

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

EXTRACT FROM STATUS REPORT # 2

DATE: 28 Dec 51

TIME (Local): 1910

LOCATION: Alexandria, Va.

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: 2 Min.

SOUND: None

SPEED: Unknown

ALTITUDE: 1000-6000 ft.

HEADING: Unknown

SOURCE: USAF Pilot

ACTION OR COMMENTS: Proved to be experimental helicopter from Patuxent Naval
Air Station.

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: Pilot saw object glowing which circled and hovered.