

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 27 Aug 52		2. LOCATION Meridian, Miss.		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	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2015 GMT		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE 2 F-51 pilots			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 10 seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE W and N	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Pale green color. Light shape.				11. COMMENTS Experienced pilot saw object for 10 seconds. Possible connection with Birmingham, Ala. sighting of similar object 2 minutes afterwards.	

~~Restricted~~
(CLASSIFICATION)

COUNTRY U. S. A.	REPORT NO. 12-50-52	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT FLYOVER		
AREA REPORTED ON Meridian, Mississippi	FROM (Agency) Headquarters, 3615th Pilot Training Wing, Craig Air Force Base, Ala. (Int. Sec)	
DATE OF REPORT 5 September 1952	DATE OF INFORMATION 27 August 1952	EVALUATION B-2
PREPARED BY (Officer) JAMES R. MIDKIFF M/Sgt.	SOURCE 1st Lt. LOUIS F. BECHTOLD AO 707 643 1st Lt. ROBERT J. KRISS AO 2059796	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) AF Ltr 200-5 dtd 29 April 1952		
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)		
On the night of 27 August 1952, the two officers listed as the source of this information were flying an F-51 airplane at 7,000 feet above the airport at Meridian, Mississippi. Their speed was 200 MPH and their heading was 120 degrees. At 2015 hours they saw a pale green light moving west at about 10,000 feet. Source states that this light resembled an airplane's navigation light. It was traveling at great speed and left no trail. No sound was audible and no method of propulsion could be seen. The object remained in view for no more than ten seconds. Source states that at first it was above and to the right. It immediately turned north and accelerated quickly out of sight. The weather at the time was slightly hazy with ceiling unlimited. The wind was from 60 degrees and about 15 MPH. This sighting cannot be explained by any known meteorological or other condition or activity. There are no photographs or other material evidence of the nature or existence of the object. No effort was made to intercept it. Students in F-51 aircraft appeared at intervals of approximately 3 minutes. They were easily distinguished from the object reported. No other aircraft were reported in the vicinity. These officers seem to be men of sound judgement and stable emotions. There is no apparent reason to doubt their report.		
James R. Midkiff JAMES R. MIDKIFF M/Sgt., USAF HCOIC Int Sec APPROVED: James H. Hunter JAMES H. HUNTER Lt. Col., USAF Wg Tng & Opn Officer		
2 INCL. 1. Statement Robert J. Kriss 2. Statement of Louis F. Bechtold		
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR 6 Cys Headquarters, Flying Training Air Force, Waco, Texas		
88581		

NOTE: THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, 50 U. S. C.—31 AND 32, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART, BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AGENCIES, EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, USAF.

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Headquarters, 3615th Flt Tng Wg, Craig AFB, Alabama	REPORT NO. IR-52-52	PAGE 1	OF 1	PAGES
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STATEMENT

The following statement is submitted in accordance with paragraph 7, c, AF letter 200-5 dated 29 April 1952.

1. The object seen was a pale green light resembling the navigational light of an aircraft. Its size was undetermined but it appeared to be 2,000 to 3,000 feet higher than our own aircraft which was at 7,000 feet. There was no sound or exhaust. The object was traveling at a great rate of speed.

2. The object was first observed at 2015 hours, 27 August 1952, and observed for a period of about 5 to 10 seconds.

3. The object was observed with the naked eye from an F-51 aircraft. Our speed was 200 MPH at an altitude of 7,000 feet.

4. The object was seen over Meridian, Mississippi. It was observed heading west and passed over at about 10,000 feet to our right. It turned to the north and rapidly accelerated until it was out of our view.

5. I have been a rated pilot in the USAF since May 1944 and flew combat in the Pacific in World War II. I was separated from the service in January 1946 and recalled in May 1951. I have 1,500 hours most of it single engine time.

6. The weather at the time was slightly hazy, and the wind was from 60 degrees at 15 MPH.

7. There were no activities or conditions meteorological or otherwise that can account for the sighting.

8. No photographs or other physical records were made.

9. No attempt was made to intercept the object.

10. Only F-51 airplanes flown by students in cross country were in the area. They could not be confused with the object reported.

Robert J. Kriss
ROBERT J. KRISS
1st Lt., USAF

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Headquarters, 3615th Flt Tng Wg, Craig AFB, Alabama	REPORT NO. IR-59-52	PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES
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STATEMENT

1. The following statement is submitted in accordance with paragraph 7, c, A.F. 200-5 dated 29 April 1952.

1. The object I sighted was a pale green light of unknown size, somewhat resembling a navigation light of an aircraft. There was no sound or exhaust and the object was traveling at great speed.

2. It was sighted at 2015 on 27 August 1952, for a period not longer than 10 seconds.

3. I was flying as control aircraft in a F-51 for a student round robin cross country, and sighted the object visually.

4. At the time of sighting I was flying at 7,000 feet on a heading of 120 degrees at an indicated air speed of 200 M. P. H. I observed this object heading west at what appeared to be about 10,000 feet altitude (above and to my right). My location at the time of sighting was directly above the airfield at Meridian, Mississippi. Almost immediately after initially sighting this object it began a turn to the right or north and rapidly accelerated out of sight. As previously mentioned in this report it was not in sight for over 10 seconds.

5. I have been a rated pilot since January 1944. I was separated in December of 1945, and recalled May 1951. I flew 53 combat missions in F-47 Fighter Bomber in the European Theater of Operation in World War II and served 6 months as instructor in fighters. Since recall in May 1951, I have been an advanced single engine instructor. I have approximately 1,600 hours total flying time of which 720 hours is fighter time.

6. At the time of sighting the weather was slightly hazy with unlimited ceiling and the wind was from approximately 60 degrees at 15 M. P. H.

7. To my knowledge there was no activity or condition of any kind which could account for the sighting.

8. I have no physical evidence of any kind supporting existence of this object.

9. I took no interception action.

Only F-51 airplanes flown by students in cross country were in the area. They could not be confused with the object reported.

Louis F. Bechtold
LOUIS F. BECHTOLD
1st Lt., USAF

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Comparison of

① MERIDIAN (2045)

pale blue light

10 miles

1200

F

F-51



② BIRMINGHAM (2045)

pale blue light

on the horizon

over Birmingham

about 5,000 ft 15,000 ft (2045)

Dir NE



12 miles from Birmingham

$$\frac{38}{60} = \frac{122}{x}$$

$$28x = \frac{122}{60}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 259 \\ 28 \overline{) 7320} \\ \underline{56} \\ 172 \\ \underline{153} \\ 190 \end{array}$$

= 260 knots

object must 260 knots to travel 12 miles in 28 minutes.

R

12 miles from Birmingham (2045)

PROJECT 10073 WORKSHEET

I. GENERAL

1. DATE <i>27 Aug 52</i>	2. LOCATION <i>Meridian, Miss</i>	3. TIME Local: <i>3:15</i> Zebra: <i>02:15</i>
4. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED FROM THE GROUND?		
☐ Yes ☐ Naked Eye ☐ Binoculars ☐ Telescope ☐ Theodolite		☒ No
5. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED BY GROUND RADAR?		
☐ Yes ☐ By One Set ☐ By Two Sets ☐ By Three Sets		☒ No
6. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED FROM THE AIR?		
☒ Yes ☒ A/C Observed Object ☐ Interception Attempted ☒ No Intercept Attempted		☐ No
7. WERE AIRCRAFT SCRAMBLED TO INTERCEPT?		
☐ Yes ☐ A/C Scrambled ☐ Visual Contact Made ☐ A/I Contact Made ☐ No Contact Made		☒ No
8. DID OBJECT CHANGE DIRECTION AT ANY TIME?		
☒ Yes ☐ Normal ☒ Violent		☐ No
9. IF OBJECT WAS A "LIGHT", WAS IT:		
☐ Blinking ☒ Steady		
10. LENGTH OF TIME IN SIGHT:		
☒ 1-15 Seconds ☐ 1-5 Minutes ☐ Over 10 Minutes		<i>3</i>
11. REPORTING AGENCY (Unit Number and Mailing Address)		
<i>Hq 3615th Pst. Twp. Wg. Bldg H.F.R. Williams</i>		

II. ASTRONOMICAL DATA

12. WHAT ASTRONOMICAL ACTIVITY WAS NOTED?		
<i>No</i>		
13. DID OBJECT APPEAR TO ARCH DOWNWARD?	☐ Yes	☒ No
14. DID OBJECT HAVE A TAIL?	☐ Yes	☒ No
15. DID OBJECT APPEAR TO DISINTEGRATE?	☐ Yes	☒ No
16. TIME OF SIGHTING RELATIVE TO SUNRISE OR SUNSET (Data From Air Almanac)		
☒ Night ☐ Day ☐ Sunrise ☐ Sunset		

III. AIRCRAFT DATA

17. WERE AIRCRAFT NOTED IN AREA?	☒ Yes	☐ No
☐ One Aircraft ☒ More Than One Aircraft		
18. WAS ANY SOUND HEARD?	☐ Yes	☒ No
19. WERE THERE INDICATIONS OF HIGH BACKGROUND NOISE?	☒ Yes	☐ No
20. WAS THE OBJECT VIEWED ABOVE 45° ELEVATION?	☒ Yes	☐ No

IV. BALLOON DATA

21. WERE BALLOONS RELEASED IN AREA? ☐ Yes ☒ No						
22. TIME SINCE SCHEDULED BALLOON RELEASE: _____ Minutes						
23. POSSIBLE BALLOON LAUNCH SITES DOWNWIND OF SIGHTING:						
	Location	Type	Launching Agency	Lighted?		Describe Lighting
				Yes	No	
a.						
b.						
c.						
d.						

(attach overlay)

V. EVALUATION

21. EVALUATION OF SOURCE: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Unreliable ☐ Extremely Doubtful ☐ Hoax	22. DETAILS OF REPORT: ☐ Good ☒ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Insufficient to Evaluate		
23. FINAL EVALUATION: <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="257 1199 970 1532"> ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft </td> <td data-bbox="970 1199 1678 1532"> ☐ Was Astronomical ☒ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other: _____ ☐ Insufficient Data For Evaluation ☐ Unknown </td> </tr> </table>		☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft	☐ Was Astronomical ☒ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other: _____ ☐ Insufficient Data For Evaluation ☐ Unknown
☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft	☐ Was Astronomical ☒ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other: _____ ☐ Insufficient Data For Evaluation ☐ Unknown		
24. COMMENTS:			

(PROJECT 10073 WEATHER DATA SHEET)

1. DATE OF OBSERVATION <i>October</i>		2. TIME OF OBSERVATION <i>11:00 AM</i>		3. STATION OBSERVING <i>10073</i>	
4. WINDS ALOFT:					
ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)	ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)
0	<i>2</i>	<i>60</i>	25,000		
1,000			30,000		
2,000			35,000		
3,000			40,000		
4,000			45,000		
5,000	<i>2</i>	<i>80</i>	50,000		
6,000	<i>14</i>	<i>100</i>	55,000		
7,000	<i>15</i>	<i>130</i>	60,000		
8,000	<i>13</i>	<i>140</i>	65,000		
9,000	<i>9</i>	<i>120</i>	70,000		
10,000	<i>5</i>	<i>80</i>	75,000		
12,000			80,000		
14,000	<i>17</i>	<i>90</i>	85,000		
16,000			90,000		
18,000			95,000		
20,000			100,000		
5. WAS AN INVERSION LAYER NOTED? (If yes, at what altitude? _____)			☐ Yes ☒ No		
6. WERE ANY THUNDERSTORMS NOTED IN AREA? (If yes, at what quadrant? _____)			☐ Yes ☒ No		
7. CLOUD COVER:				8. VISIBILITY WAS	
_____ tenths at _____ feet.		_____ tenths at _____ feet.		_____ MILES.	
_____ tenths at _____ feet.		_____ tenths at _____ feet.			
9. COMMENTS:					
					