

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 20 March and 4 April 53	2. LOCATION 21/0730Z Anchorage, Alaska
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION Astronomical (JUPITER)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	Bright light was in the approximate position of Jupiter.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not Reported	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Bright lightx observed in the vicinity of Mt Susitna at approximately 23 deg elevation. Estimated to be about 70 miles away and the size of a basketball. MX was clear with visibility 20 miles. Two additional witnesses. On 4 April the MX was 8,000 scattered and visibility 15 miles.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Stationary	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

ATIC document 120744 (A), Anchorage, Alaska

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At approximately 0730Z 21 March 1953 and again at 0730Z 5 April 1953, a civilian special investigator employed by the Alaskan Railroad observed from his residence in Anchorage a bright light in the vicinity of Mt. Susitna. This light was approximately 23° above the horizon and was described as about the same size as a basketball and estimated to be 70 miles away. Weather at the time of sighting on 20 Mar was clear with 20 miles visibility. On 4 Apr there were scattered clouds at 8000', visibility 15 miles. On both occasions the light was observed by two other persons.

ATIC COMMENT: The preparing officer states the following: Investigation of data has not definitely established the cause or source of the light. Possibility exists that the source observed Planet Jupiter which appears very bright in the approximate position of observed light.

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

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