

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 9 - 13 August 1957		2. LOCATION Bakersfield, California		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☒ Was Astronomical Meteor ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT - - - -		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION - - - -		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS - - - -		9. COURSE - - - -	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Letter requesting information regarding sighting objects that were believed to be meteors.				11. COMMENTS Persieds meteor shower during the period of 9 - 13 August. No report in file.	

AFCIN-484

Mr. [REDACTED]
Route [REDACTED]
Bakersfield, California

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

Your letter of 12 September, addressed to the Department of the Army concerning a report of an unidentified aerial object, has been referred to the Air Force for review and comment.

A careful study of your report indicates that you observed a seldom seen form of a meteorite, generally referred to as "bolides" or "fireballs". Between the 9th and 13th of August the earth intersected a meteoric swarm called the Perseids. Past experience with meteoric swarms of this nature shows that a larger number of meteorites, "shooting stars", and fireballs are observed during this period.

Your description of the object is so similar to a description of these bodies given by a well known astronomer that a portion is given here:

"....A majority of people never see one in their lifetime. Fireballs differ from ordinary meteors in that they appear like a magnesium flare hurtling through the lower atmosphere. They are predominantly greenish in color, but often have blue, yellow or orange tints intermixed. Unlike meteors which become visible and burn out at high altitudes, fireballs do not burn out in the air but generally persist until they crash to earth, sometimes breaking into smaller sections and an array of sparks before doing so..."

Your reporting of this incident to the authorities and the interest shown in the matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Deak

4049

FILE CLASS: _____
OFFICIAL FILE COPY

OFFICE OF RECORD

421/3apt Gregory/lto/
69216 10-22-57 2 OCT 1957

ROUTING	COORDINATION
	AFOIN-4
	AFOIN-4X2b
	AFOIN-4X2c
	AFOIN-4X3
	AFOIN-4X4
	AFOIN-4A
	AFOIN-4B
	AFOIN-4C
	AFOIN-4D
AFOIN-4E	
AFOIN-4F	
OTHERS	

AFCIN-4EA

SUBJECT: (U) Copies to Replies to [redacted] and [redacted]

TO: Secretary of the Air Force
Headquarters, USAF
ATTN: Major Tacker *SAFIS*
Washington 25, D. C.

1. Attached are copies of reply correspondence to subject persons who contacted the Department of the Army and the FBI regarding UFO incidents.
2. Copy of your forwarding letter also attached.

FOR THE COMMANDER

- 3 Incls:
1. Cy ltr to Mr. [redacted]
 2. Cy ltr to Mr. [redacted]
 3. Cy ltr fr SAFIS

WILLIAM W. ELWOOD
Captain, USAF
Assistant Adjutant

*File: PIO-SAFIS
File*

421/3apt Gregory/lto/ 22 Oct 57

DISPATCHED
14 43
OCT 13 1957

PERM	
TEMP	
90 DAYS	
INITIAL	

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

← SAFIS

8 October 1957

Dear Captain Elwood:

Inclosed, please find letter from Mr. [REDACTED] regarding unexplained aerial phenomena in the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania area, on 9 and 10 September 1957.

Mr. [REDACTED] has been advised of this referral.

Also inclosed is a letter from Mr. [REDACTED] of Bakersfield, California reporting a sighting of an Unidentified Flying Object.

These letters are forwarded to your Headquarters for possible investigation and/or evaluation.

Sincerely,

2 Inclosures

1. ltr fr Mr. [REDACTED]
2. ltr fr Mr. [REDACTED]

LAWRENCE J. TACKER
Major, USAF
Executive Officer
Public Information Division
Office of Information Services

Captain Wallace W. Elwood, USAF
Assistant Adjutant
Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

Encls