

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 14 August 1957		2. LOCATION Severna Park, Md		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 1953 GMT 15/0053Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION few seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS two		9. COURSE ENE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Two maneuvering brilliant lights about like the showers from a sky rocket if two were separated from the rest. The lights held a steady insensity.				11. COMMENTS Objects were seen near an area of known air operations activities, which is scanned 24 hrs a day by radar. No other report of anything unusual. It is concluded that obj was a/c reflecting sun's slant rays.	



HEADQUARTERS
1001ST AIR BASE WING, HEDCOM
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ANDREWS AFB, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OCT 1 1957

WOP-1

SUBJECT: Report of Unidentified Flying Objects

TO: Commander
Air Defense Command
Ent Air Force Base
Colorado

1. The inclosed statements, relative to a sighting of unidentified flying objects, are forwarded in accordance with Air Force Regulation 200-2.

2. A detailed report, as outlined in Air Force Regulation 200-2, is not being submitted due to the time lapse between sighting, 14 August 1957 and receipt of these statements by this headquarters 26 September 1957.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

3 Incls

1. Statement - Mrs. [REDACTED]
2. Statement - Mr. [REDACTED]
3. Statement - Reverend [REDACTED]

RICHARD M. WEST
Major, USAF
Adjutant

ABODI-B

1st Ind

8 OCT 1957

Headquarters, Air Defense Command, Ent Air Force Base, Colorado

TO: Commander, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: AFCIN 4E4,
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

3 Incls
n/c

See photographs
in Special report
by Douglas a/c
"Great Balls of Fire"
15 August 1957
RST case
"Observers appear
to be seeing
helicopters"

Recd AFM-454g.

15 OCT 57

Severna Park, Md.

August 15, 1957

Commander 1401 Airbase Wing
Attn: WOP - 1
Andrews Air Force Base
Camp Springs, Maryland

Subject: Two maneuvering brilliant lights sighted in the sky
on August 14, 1957 at 7 minutes to 8 in the even-
ing over Severna Park, Maryland. ~~1957~~ 1953

Mrs. [redacted] and myself were taking an evening stroll around the block with the children and stopped at the [redacted]'s new house on Hatton Drive to talk for a few minutes. Dot, my wife, had gone around to the side of the house to talk through the window to Mrs. [redacted] who was not feeling well and was in bed. [redacted] (Rev. [redacted]) and I were standing in the driveway talking about some of my work when I noticed that he was looking intently over my shoulder into the distance. I turned around to look but didn't see anything and asked what it was that he saw. He said that he was watching two lights traveling across the sky but that they had disappeared behind a light thin cloud which was alone in the sky and was nearly overhead. It was still very bright, no stars were yet showing, the sky was all clear daylight blue except for one wisp of a thin cloud.

The lights had completely disappeared but we kept on scanning the sky for about a half minute. Sid said that he had now developed so many spots that he doubted if he would be able to find them again. Before scanning the sky, I had been looking down into the baby carriage which was dark inside and then when looking up into the bright sky noticed that I also had little circles and dots moving in my vision. However, we both suddenly saw a light appear again from the vicinity of the cloud and then it was followed by a second one. There was no mistaking it for the usual spotty vision effect, it was as bright as a magnesium flare. We called Dot to come look and she picked them up immediately. While watching one of us asked if the reflection of sunlight from a plane could possibly be that bright and while watching and judging the light all of us agreed that it was much brighter than that. There was no sound, no tail, no trail, no smoke, only the very brilliant balls of light. They looked whiteish. They were between east and north-east direction and about 60 to 70 degrees up from the horizon.

ATC Comment: Note: no size, shape, color or configuration given - only that she saw one or two lights, very bright and white, maneuvering around in the sky

Not So! When the Sun is near the horizon as it is in this case (7:53 PM EST) specular reflections are

The first one seemed to come down to what I guess may have been about 10,000 feet then seemed to level off and move in about a north direction. While doing so a second one appeared behind and on the port side of the first one (almost 45° to the path) and they moved fast, about like fighter planes, then the first one went up and cut back over the second one as part of a loop. The second one then went up and both moved up rapidly and disappeared. The light did not blink but held steady intensity; I could not tell whether they were spherical or flat; they looked round, about like the showers from a Fourth of July sky rocket if one or two of the little fire elements could be separated and maneuvered but they were much brighter and were seen in broad daylight.

They both came down again, the second one in position following the first one and again proceeded in the north direction for I guess about 2 or 3 degrees of arc and then went straight up to disappear.

I am not sure whether they appeared a third time or not. I went into the house to report the sighting and I think that they were in view when I went in. After getting the Baltimore operator she suggested the ARDC and I reported the incident to the Duty Officer there.

Very truly yours,

Lt. [redacted] at Andrews requested that this report be accompanied by some personal information so that the authenticity of the report can be evaluated.

I am 35 years old, a registered professional engineer in the State of Maryland, at present doing consulting work as a private practice. I was a 1st Lt. in the Ordnance Department during World War II. Graduated from Lehigh in mechanical engineering, have a master degree from Cornell in mechanical engineering and taught and did three years of advanced graduate study at Hopkins mostly in aerodynamics. While employed by the Cornell Aeronautical Laboratory on the Bumblebee project I witnessed ram jet combustion experiments at Forest Grove Station (APL) with Propylene Oxide, Heptane, Kerosene fuels burning with high heat release rates from burner test tail pipes. While employed by the Ballistics Research Laboratory I was sent to the Bureau of Mines in Pittsburgh (1950) and witnessed a solid fuel burner test (wore dark glasses). I have watched 40mm tracers from behind the gun fired, also some 40mm rounds loaded with high energy ^{release} solid fuels burning in flight. The lights that I saw in the sky on August 14th appeared to be brighter than intensity seen in the tail pipe jet of liquid fuel ram jet combustion experiments. From memory I would estimate the temperatures to be about like the solid fuels.

All this from two bright, white streaks moving against the sky.

Severna Park, Md.

20 September 1957

COMMANDER 1401 AIRBASE WING
Attention: WOP - 1
ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE
CAMP SPRINGS, MARYLAND

SUBJECT: Sighting of two unidentified flying objects in sky on 14 August 1957 at 7:53 pm (Daylight Saving Time) from Severna Park, Maryland.

As a minister I am accustomed to believing on evidence I consider sufficient and I have therefore become used to getting along good naturedly with those who have had more rigid scientific training and consider it their duty to suspend all decision till all the facts are in hand. When my friend [redacted], a keenly intelligent engineer and one of the most clear-thinking members of my congregation, was explaining to me as well as he could to my clerical mind some of the difficulties involved in building the reactors for the new atomic-powered merchant ship, he was leaning against my car, parked in our drive, and I was sitting on the curb looking up at him intent on absorbing this information outside my field. He was just discussing the possibilities of some of the newer metals, which can withstand up to 2500 degrees fahrenheit, when I saw in the sky just past his head, high and apparently very far away - no sound could be heard - two large brilliant lights. Instinctively I knew no airplane could have lights that bright that early in the evening when the sky was still perfectly light. Half joking because of my full expectation of skepticism on the part of my scientist friend, but instinctively feeling I was correct in saying it, I exclaimed, "Hey, there're a couple of flying saucers!"

I have never before seen "flying saucers" but having read of so many sightings of round objects with brilliant lights which could not be identified with conventional aircraft, and by a number of people who need not be considered incapable of knowing they saw what they saw, I knew of no other conclusion to come to, whether at the first impulse or on deliberate consideration. My engineer friend turned immediately, saying, "Where?" I tried to point out to him but by the time he had focused in the right direction the two lights, which had been flying smoothly in formation in a northerly direction, disappeared behind a thin, high wispy cloud. My friend ran into the house to call his wife, and we all three gazed up in the sky a little north of where I had sighted the lights. In a moment they reappeared, this time one above the other rather than in the horizontal formation in which I had first spotted them. One dropped fast as though looping and then climbed fast. The other repeated the same maneuver and then both climbed out of sight behind the high, distant clouds.

My friend [redacted] in the accompanying statement gives the approximate direction in which the three of us sighted the lights, the angle to the horizon, and other details. I would substantiate what he has recorded.

For whatever interest it may be in checking my reliability as a witness, I am a [redacted] minister 38 years of age, and my sanity can be checked with members of my church and community and the members of Baltimore [redacted] of which I am a member!

Respectfully submitted,

[redacted] pastor

[redacted] Church

Agree, bright lights in the sky

Two bright lights in the sky do not constitute a "saucer" i.e. extraterrestrial vehicle!!!

No one is questioning what I saw.

Agree, bright lights in the sky. See. Rich Report done on Severna Park, Md. - 15 Aug 1957, and photographs of a/c in the distance which look like maneuvering.

Sparkling magnesium flares.

This was a independent report within knowledge of the [redacted]

Range of the setting sun against a/c fuselage does produce very weird light

Encl #3

Aug. 30, 1957

Dear Sir:

I too saw the "objects" in the sky on Aug. 14th. Mr. [REDACTED] has written the incident very fully. I saw them only once, but they were the brightest objects I have ever seen in the sky.

I'm a 35 yr. old housewife who formerly thought such things as flying saucers might be imaginary.

Yours truly,
[REDACTED]

Encl #1

W. (Type)

Memo for File
(Brilliant "moving lights" case)
Case Incident: 14 Aug 1957, Severn
Park Maryland. Observers: Mr. & Mrs.
~~_____~~ and Rev. ~~_____~~

1. The following comments are considered pertinent:

a. The question may be asked bluntly:
"Just what is it that these people actually observed?"

b. Although both parties, and with due respect to the Right Reverend Crane - all that was seen was two very bright spots of light! No actual size, shape, configuration or details given: just memorable lights.

c. Under such circumstances, it's very odd that there be an implication from all that there may be something mysterious, sinister or unusual about them. Nor is any reference to "flying saucers" valid, since no saucer or disc shape was seen by any - only "lights." The seeming emphasis approaching somewhat to the hysterical over "moving lights" in a day-light sky - reported by no one else, (Radar units, civil & military agencies, GOC, posts, or others) in the area again is puzzling.

2. A chart plot indicates that (from the limited data given on direction) the objects were seen near or over an air of known air operations activities.

3. Check with Radar units, (which scan that area 24 hours a day), Airline and military aircraft, GOC observer posts, and others in the area - show no one observed what they would consider a UFO in that area within 2 hours of that time.

4. Conclusions: See Special Rsch Report, prepared by Douglas Co. independent, of Air Force's knowledge, in "Montene Case File - 15 August 1950", particularly the photographs.

1. Missing lights.
2. Sun was near the horizon and very bright.
3. Proven repeatedly that slant rays of setting sun against a/c produces results in immensely bright specular reflections.
4. Aircraft were in that area.

(Aircraft)