

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 27 August 1958		2. LOCATION Old Bridge, New Jersey		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☒ Was Astronomical Mars ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 28/0200Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 3 hours		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE - - -	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Obj observed near the NE horizon. Had erratic movement, fm side to side for short distances, as well as disappearing & reappearing in the same location. Very bright. Occasional circular movement.				11. COMMENTS Planet Mars appeared on the NE horizon at the time of sighting. Description of obj is that of a planet viewed through unusual atmospheric conditions in industrial areas or when inversions are present.	

4/11/58

August 28, 1958

Technical Intelligence Branch
Wright Patterson Air Force Base
Fairview, Ohio

To Whom It May Concern:

Last evening about 9:00 a few friends and I were observing an object in the sky for about 3 hours. We would like to know what it was.

Our location is Central Jersey, and the object appeared not very far above the North East horizon. It seemed to follow the same pattern of movement, going from side to side, covering a short distance. It would appear in the same place and disappear in the same place. It was very bright. Once it seemed to move in a complete circle.

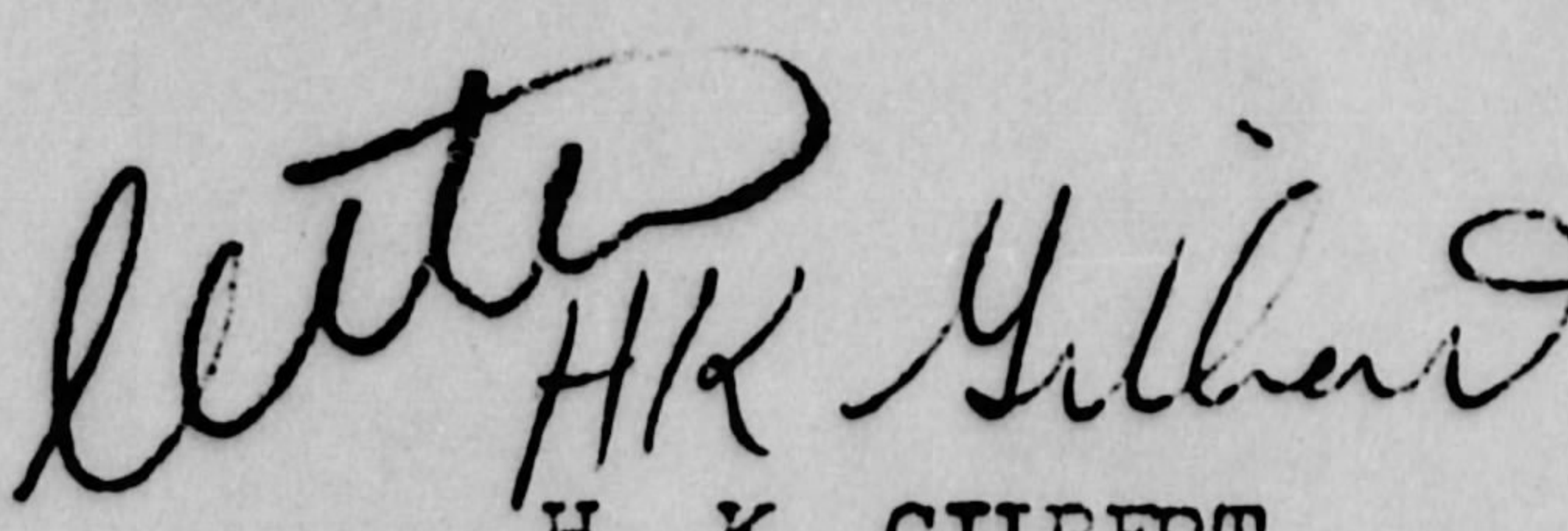
We are all very curious and anything you can tell us would be appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

(Mr. & Mrs.)

[REDACTED]
Old Bridge, N.J.

OVER SHEET										SUSPENSE				
ORIGIN OF BASIC										DATE				
										ASSIGNED BY				
DATE					TYPE					NO.				
SUBJECT														
Unidentified Flying Object														
ROUTING														
Initial "IN" column to denote review prior to action. Initial "OUT" column to denote review of completed action. (X for action; ✓ for coordination.)														
IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT	IN	OFFICE	OUT
	OIN-1			OIN-2			OIN-3			OIN-4			AFOIN	
	OIN-1X			OIN-2X			OIN-3X			OIN-4X			AFOIN-X	
													AFOIN-X	
													AFOIN-X1	
													AFOIN-X2	
													AFOIN-X3	
													AFOIN-X4	
													AFOIN-X5	
													AFOIN-Z	
													CABLES	
													FILE	
													DISPATCH	
TO: SAFIS-3, Attn: Major Tacker										DATE 4 Sept. 1958				
FROM: AFCIN-4E4										COMMENT NO. 1				
COMMENTS (Use reverse, if necessary) AFCIN-4E4/T/Sgt Bolieu/ac Ext 6-9216/Bldg 828 1. There is very little information in Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED]'s letter on which to base a valid conclusion. However, the following is submitted on which to base a reply: ✓ a. At 9:00 P.M., EST, 27 August 1958, the star Alpheratz, which is a second magnitude star, was in the northeast, approximately 30 degrees above the horizon. ✓ b. At 9:00 P.M. EDT, same day, the planet Mars was just beginning to appear above the northeastern horizon. c. In an area where there are a lot of exhaust fumes of all types, as in the observer's case, the heavenly bodies appear to play all sorts of tricks. d. It is the opinion of this office that the observers were looking at one of the bodies mentioned above.  H. K. GILBERT Colonel, USAF AFCIN-4E 1 Incl. 1. Ltr dtd 28 Aug 58 fr [REDACTED]														

28/02002
Astr (Mars)

27 Aug

17 September 1958

Dear Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED]

This is to acknowledge your letter of 28 August 1958 concerning an unidentified flying object observed by you at Old Bridge, New Jersey, on 27 August 1958.

There is insufficient data on which to base a valid conclusion. However, the following is offered as a possible solution:

At 9:00 p.m., EST, 27 August 1958, the star Alpheratz, which is a second magnitude star, was in the northeast, approximately 30 degrees above the horizon.

At 9:00 p.m., EDT, same day, the planet Mars was just beginning to appear above the northeastern horizon.

In areas such as central New Jersey where industrial haze or exhaust fumes are present in the atmosphere, heavenly bodies can be mistaken for unconventional or unidentified flying objects. Therefore it is quite possible that you observed either the planet Mars or the star Alpheratz on that date.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. and Mrs. [REDACTED]

Old Bridge, New Jersey

RECEIVED

SEP 18 10 22

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