

MILITARY AIR

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 22 Aug 60		2. LOCATION NNW of Lebreville, Africa		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 221751Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 4 sec		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE S	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Round, orange object, size of volley ball. Object exploded in a brilliant flash at an estimated 20-30,000 ft altitude. After explosion a bluish green trail was observed which lasted about 2 sec, then changed into a whitish gray cloud which lasted for 9 min.				11. COMMENTS Witnesses probably saw a type of meteor called a "bolide."	

UNCLASSIFIED

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1960 AUG 23 21 40

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJFXHD 67

P 231630Z

FM 3906CSG SIDI SLIMANE AB MOR

TO RJWFAL/AIR DEFENSE COMMAND ENT AFB COLO

RJEDSQ/AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO ✓

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF AFCIN WASHINGTON 25 DC

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE SAFIS WASHINGTON 25 DC

INFO RJWXBR/SAC OFFUTT AFB NEBRASKA

RJFXBN/16AF TORREJON SPAIN

RJFXNO/4310ADIV NOUASSEUR AFB MOR

RJFPBAP/4TH MATS TRANSPORT PROVISIONAL SQUADRON CHATTERAUX AS FRANCE

BT

FROM BDCOI 23-H-37. SUBJECT: UFO

(U). A. DESCRIPTION

(1) ROUND BALL

(2) VOLLYBALL SIZE AT ARMS LENGTH

(3) ORANGE

(4) ONE

(5) NA

(6) NONE

(7) NO TRAIL, TAIL OR EXHAUST

(8) NONE HEARD FROM COCKPIT

PAGE TWO RJFXHD 67

(C) MANNER OF OBSERVATION

(1) AIR-VISUAL

(2) NA

(3) C-124, AF 17276, 10,500 FEET, 299 DEGREES TRU HEADING,
210 KNOTS. AIRCRAFT'S HOME STATION, DDONALDSON AFB SOUTH
CAROLINA, CREW'S HOME STATION, 85TH ATS, TRAVIS AFB CALIF

(D) TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING

(1) 22/1751Z

(2) DUSK

(E) LOCATION OF OBSERVER

(00'52' NORTH, 08 DEG44' EAST) 85 NM EAST SOUTHEAST OF PRINCIPE
ISLANDS, NORTH NORTHWEST OF LEBREVILLE, WEST AFRICA COAST

(F) IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ON OBSERVERS

(1) NA

(2) MAJ WARREN L. CARRUTHERS, 16348A, 1/LT JAMES J. WOOD EAD
A0307894

(G) WEATHER AND WINDS, ALOFT CONDITIONS AT TIME AND PLACE OF
SIGHTINGS

(1) EXCELLENT FOR OBSERVATION

(2) NONE

PAGE THREE RJFXHD 67

(3) 1/10 CIRRHUS AT 30,000 TO 30,000 FEET

(4) UNLIMITED

(5) SOLID UNDERCAST TOPS ESTIMATED AT 9,000 FEET

(6) NONE

(7) PLUS 13 DEGREES "C"

(9) OBJECT EXPLODED IN A BRILLIANT FLASH AT ESTIMATED ALTITUDE 20,000 TO 30,000 FEET AFTER FOUR SECONDS OBSERVATION ON ITS COURSE. SIZE OF FLASH WAS AT LEAST TWO FEET IN DIAMETER AT ARMS LENGTH. AFTER EXPLOSION A BLUISH GREEN TRAIL WAS OBSERVED IN AN ARC OF APPROXIMATELY TWENTY DEGREES WHICH LASTED APPROXIMATELY TWO SECONDS AND CHANGED INTO A WHITISH GREY THICKER ILLUMINATED CLOUD ESTIMATED FIVE FEET LONG AND ONE FOOT HIGH WHEN HELD AT ARMS LENGTH. OBSERVATION OF THIS CLOUD WAS OBSERVED BEING DISAPATED BY THE WINDS ALOFT. THIS CLOUD LASTED FOR A PERIOD OF NINE MINUTES. POSITION OF THE FLASH AND CLOUD FORMATION WAS ESTIMATED AT 50NM FROM OBSERVERS POSITION.

(B.) DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECT

(1) AIRCRAFT COMMANDER FIRST OBSERVED OBJECT IN SKY DUE TO POSITION, COLOR AND SIZE AND SPEED OF OBJECT FROM DIRECTLY IN FRONT TO APPROXIMATELY A TEN O'CLOCK POSITION IN A DOWNWARD

PAGE FOUR RJFXHD 67

ARC

(2) TWELVE O'CLOCK POSITION WITH 80 DEGREES ELEVATION AT
FIRST SIGHTING

(3) TEN O'CLOCK POSITION WITH 45 DEGREES ELEVATION END
OF SIGHTING

(4) OBJECT'S FLIGHT PATH WAS IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION

(5) BY EXPLOSION AND CLOUD FADEOUT

(6) OB3:5, FOUR SECONDS, CLOUD RESULT, NINE MINUTES

(H) NONE

(I) NA

(J) NA

(K) PREPARING OFFICER: JAMES F, WOOD, CAPT, USAF, BASE
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER, HQ 3906TH COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP APO 117,
NEW YORK, NEW YORK. THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WAS
RECEIVED FROM THE CREW MEMBERS: (1) CREW ARRIVED AT FLASH
POSITION OF 50NM FROM AIRCRAFT BY TIMING RELATIVE MOTION OF
CLOUD AS IT MOVED FROM TEN O'CLOCK TO NINE O'CLOCK POSITION
DURING NINE MINUTE OBSERVATION. (2) CREW REPORTED SIGHTING
TO CONGO AIRWAYS AT 22/1754Z AND RECEIPT WAS ACKNOWLEDGED. AT
22/1800Z, CONGO AIRWAYS AGAIN CONTACTED AND ADVISED CLOUD HAD

DISAPATED. CONGO AIRWAYS ACKNOWLEDGED. APPROXIMATELY 22/1820Z
CONGO AIRWAYS REQUESTED AND RECEIVED AIRCRAFT POSITION AT TIME
OF SIGHTING. (3) APPROXIMATELY 22/2200Z, SIDI AIRWAYS REQUESTED
VERIFICATION OF INFORMATION GIVEN CONGO AIRWAYS AND ASKED IN
ADDITION, FOR COLOR, DIRECTION, ALTITUDE AND DID THE OBJECT HIT
THE WATER? THIS WAS ASKED IN RELAY FOR CHATERAUX. INFORMATION
WAS GIVEN AT THIS TIME. (4) CREW FIRST LANDING AFTER SIGHTING
WAS SIDI SLIMANE AB MOROCCO, AT 23/0955Z. COMPLETION OF
INTERROGATION WAS AT 23/1400Z. COMMENT: DUE TO AIRCRAFT
COMMANDER'S ELEVEN THOUSAND FLYING HOURS AND HIS DEFINATE
STATEMENTS; (1) THAT THIS OBJECT WAS NOT A METEOR SIGHTING AS
HE HAD PREVIOUSLY OBSERVED METEORS, BUT RATHER LIKE THE SIZE
AND APPEARANCE OF THE SOVIETS FIRST SPUTNIK WHICH HE HAD OBSERVED.
IT IS BELIEVED POSSIBLE THIS SIGHTING COULD HAVE BEEN A MISSILE
SIGHTING THAT WAS OFF COURSE FROM THE FRANCE MISSILE RANGE IN NORTH
AFRICA. IF FURTHER INFORMATION IS DESIRED, THE CREW MEMBERS CAN BE
CONTACTED AT 4TH MATS TRANSPORT PROVISIONAL SQUADRON, CHATTERAUX
AIR STATION, FRANCE. THE CREW IS ON AN INDEFINITE TDY THERE
FOR CONGO AIR LIFT.

23/1800Z AUG RJFXHD

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DOWNCAST EYES AT THE HEAR EXHIBITS
DELA. JURY IN 12 HOURS
LOS ANGELES

Description cont;

Size of the flash was at least 2 feet in diameter at arms length. After explosion a bluish green trail was observed in an arc of about 20 deg which lasted about 2 seconds and changed into a whitish grey clout estimated 5 feet long and 1 foot high when held at arms length. The clout was observed being disipated by the wind. The cloud lasted for 9 minutes, the ~~flash~~ object 4 seconds. The flash and cloud was estimated to be about 50 NM from observers position.

UFO ANALYSIS SHEET

26

Location NNW of Lebrville, West Africa (airborn)

Date 22 August 1960 Hour (Z) 1751Z

WX Wis unl, solid undercast, scattered clouds ~~xx~~ above

Description Round, size of volly ball at arms length, orange, first seen dead ahead (299 deg) 80 deg elev, last seen at 240 deg 45 deg elev, object moved south in a downward arc, it exploded in a brilliant flash at an estimated 20,000 to 30,000 ft altitude after about 4 seconds of obs on ~~xx~~ its course (over)

Direction of Motion South

Satellite: (AFCIN-4F3, Phone 69219) Ruled out

Astronomical Phenomena (Meteor, Comet, Planet, etc) Prob meteor (bolide)

Radar Analysis (AFCIN-4E1) None

Natural Phenomena (Ball Lightning, etc) -----

Aircraft, Balloons, Airships, etc. Ruled out

Other _____

Evaluation of Source Reliability Prob reliable

Analysis and Conclusions: The apparent size, shape and speed of the object rule out a missile such as reporting officer suggested. There was no satellites reentering at this time. The description of the object is very similar to that of a meteor as seen in the daylight hours. When a meteor enters the atmosphere in the daytime, the burning substance leaves a ~~trail of smoke~~ trail of smoke that cannot be seen at night. The witnesses probably saw a type of meteor called a bolide enter the earths atmosphere and explode.