

Colonel

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 20 Sep 60		2. LOCATION Louisville, Kentucky		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 2150 GMT 21/0350Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 12 min		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS three		9. COURSE NW	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Air observation at 9000 ft. A/c heading of 79° observed object at high altitude and speed cross in front on heading from SE to NW. Two smaller objects trailing and parallel. In sight for 12 min with intensity varying from bright to dim. Larger object being brighter.				11. COMMENTS Probable a/c refueling operation.	

MEMORANDUM

21 September 1960

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Object

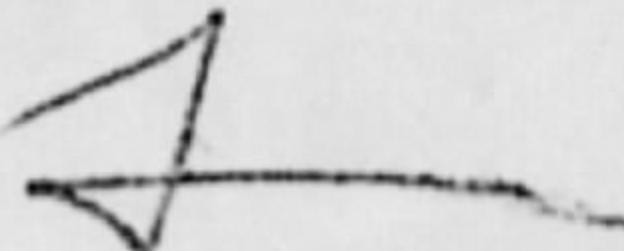
TO: Base Operations Officer

1. At approximately 2150 hours 20 Sept 1960 I witnessed what I believe was an unidentified flying object.
2. While cruising in a C47 aircraft above an overcast at 9,000 ft and about 25 miles west of Louisville, Ky., a bright object appeared in the direction of 135°. My heading at the time was 79°. This object continued on a straight course SE to NW. Traveling at extreme speeds and high altitude the object crossed above and in front of my aircraft proceeding to the NW. This object had ~~the~~ characteristics of a star and was similar to a Sputnik which I had previously witnessed.
3. After the first object appeared, two similar objects traveling in the same general direction appeared. These objects were flying parallel to each other. The two (2) objects trailed in the same path behind and to each side of the object first seen. These objects did not have quite the brightness as the first. My co-pilot (Capt. Cross) and I witnessed the objects in the sky from first citing to vanishing for approximately twelve (12) minutes. All objects could be seen simultaneously after they passed the aircraft bow and proceeded NW. The intensity of their appearance varied from bright to dim and off as they crossed the sky.
4. Immediately upon citing subject objects and more or less discounting them as aircraft, I contacted Indianapolis Center and inquired whether any other aircraft was known to be in the area. Their reply was negative--no aircraft in our vicinity. Although the objects appeared to be some sort of Satellite, there is a remote possibility that I could have mistaken the objects for aircraft being refueled. I have however, personally discounted that idea because I do not believe it would have been possible for me to see an aircraft across the sky for a twelve minute period of time without the navigation lights and rotating beacon becoming extinct. Further the speed and altitude of these objects greatly exceeded the capability of the B52 or KC135s performance.

Lester T. Davis
LESTER T. DAVIS
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Weapons Guidance Branch
Directorate of Equipment & Services

24234

ATTC

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS		ACTION	
1 TO	Bouen -	INITIALS		CIRCULATE	
		DATE		COORDINATION	
2				FILE	
				INFORMATION	
3				NOTE AND RETURN	
				PER CON-VERSATION	
4				SEE ME	
				SIGNATURE	
REMARKS					
Prob Aircraft - REFUELING - _____ WHEN HE WAS TOLD NO AIRCRAFT IN HIS VICINITY - FAA AND CONSIDERS ALTITUDE AND HORIZONTAL DISTANCE - . THEY WERE NO WHERE NEAR HIM -					
FROM		DATE			
		PHONE			

DD FORM 95
1 OCT 60

Replaces DD Form 94, 1 Feb 50 and DD Form 95, 1 Feb 50 which will be used until exhausted.

☆ GPO: 1960-O-562294