

LABRANCHE, W.E. Capt

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 13 Dec 60		2. LOCATION 4044N 6440W ESE of Nantucket Island, Massachusetts		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☒ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☒ Probably Astronomical Meteor ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1849 GMT 13/2249Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☐ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5 sec		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE WSW	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Appeared elliptical (football type), size of dime, blue-white changed to red. More trail to either side than to rear. Trail began at nose and fanned out rapidly until it was 2 times as large as object at the tail. Very slight trail behind object, about 1/4 length of object. Appeared approx 20° declination and azimuth 300°T. No maneuvers. Sighted from a/c at altitude of 8000 ft, heading (magnetic) 291°, TAS of 210 knots.				11. COMMENTS Object moving in wrong direction for a satellite reentry. Duration and description similar to meteor. The earth is passing through a number of meteor showers this time of year, and the object sighted was probably from one of these showers.	

RECEIVED

TELEPHONED
TO 070
NO. 71223
TIME 0800Z
Date 17 Dec 60
By: 23

19 DEC 60 09 49

19 DEC 17 02 59

ATIC

NNNNECZCSQB393ZCJYA499

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJEZDC 42

P 152130Z ZEX

FM HQ 551ST AEWCONWG OTIS AFB MASS

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJEZSN/26ADIV SAGE HANCOCK FLD NY

RJEDSQ/ATIC WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC

RJEZHQ/SECRETARY OF THE AF WASH DC

BT

UNCLAS 5510IN 6338.

ACTION ADC, 26ADIV (SAGE), ATIC, AFCIN, SAFIS. UFO REPORT. PER

PARAGRAPH 15, AFR 200-2, UFO SIGHTING IS REPORTED AS FOLLOWS

A. OBJECT DESCRIPTION (1) APPEARED TO BE ELLIPTICAL (FOOTBALL TYPE)

(2) SIZE OF DIME (3) BLUE-WHITE WHEN FIRST SIGHTED, BRIGHT RED ON

DISAPPEARANCE (4) ONE (5) NONE (6) NONE (7) MORE TRAIL TO EITHER

SIDE THAN TO THE REAR OF OBJECT. TRAIL BEGAN AT NOSE AND FANNED

OUT RAPIDLY UNTIL IT WAS 2 TIMES AS LARGE AS OBJECT AT THE TAIL.

VERY SLIGHT TRAIL BEHIND OBJECT, ABOUT 1/4 (ONE-FOURTH) THE LENGTH

OF OBJECT. (8) NONE (9) NONE B. (1) UNUSUAL BRIGHTNESS AND

PAGE TWO RJEZDC 42

SPEED OF OBJECT (2) APPROXIMATELY 20 DEGREES DECLINATION AND TRUE

AZIMUTH 200 DEGREES (3) APPROXIMATELY 3 DEGREES DECLINATION

AND TRUE AZIMUTH 300 DEGREES (4) NO MANEUVERS, OBJECT TRAVELED

STRAIGHT IN WSW DIRECTION, DEECENDING. (5) BEHIND DECK OF STRATUS

CLOUDS TO THE NORTH AND BELOW OF AIRCRAFT HEADING (6) 5 SECONDS

C. (1) AIR-VISUAL (2) NO OPTICAL AIDS (3) RC-121D NUMBERED

523422 AT ALTITUDE OF 8,200 FEET, HEADING (MAGNETIC) 291 DEGREES,

TAS OF 210 KNOTS, HOME STATION OTIS AFB, MASSACHUSETTS. D. (1)

PAGE TWO RJEZDG 42

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CLOUDS TO THE NORTH AND BELOW OF AIRCRAFT HEADING (6) 5 SECONDS
C. (1) AIR-VISUAL (2) NO OPTICAL AIDS (3) RC-121D NUMBERED
523420 AT ALTITUDE OF 8,000 FEET, HEADING (MAGNETIC) 291 DEGREES,
TAS OF 210 KNOTS, HOME STATION OTIS AFB, MASSACHUSETTS. D. (1)
DATE-TIME GROUP 132249Z (2) NIGHT E. LOCATION: 40 DEGREES 44
MINUTES NORTH, 64 DEGREES 40 MINUTES WEST, ABOUT 240 N.M. ESE OF
NANTUCKET ISLAND F. OBSERVER: WILLIAM E. LABRANCHE, CAPTAIN,
551ST AEW&CON WG, PILOT, RELIABLE. G. WEATHER AND WINDS: (1)
ON TOP OF STRAUS DDECKKKKECK TOPPED AT 7,500 FEET SLIGHTLY HIGER TO
THE NORTH (ABOUT 8,000 FEET (2) NOT AVAILABLE (3) NO CLOUDS
ABOVE (4) UNLIMITED (5) 10/10 UNDERCAST 500 FEET BELOW AIRCRAFT
(6) NONE (7) FREE AIR TEMPERATURE (CORRECTED) MINUS 5 DEGREES
CENTIGRADE H. METEOR ACTIVITY PREDICATED FOR PERIOD 12-13 DECEMBER
IN H.O.-249 I. NONE J. NONE K. CAPTAIN KEITH H. MOREHOUSE, WING IN-
TELLIGENCE OFFICER, 551ST AEW&CON WG. COMMENT: NO KNOWN ASSOCIATED
SIGHTINGS REPORTED. 1. NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OR PHOTOGRAPHS.

BT

16/2318Z DEC RJEZDG

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19 DEC 60 08 49 00 19 DEC 17 02 59

TELEPHONED
TO 070
NO. 71227
TIME 0300Z
Date 17 Dec 60
By: 22

NNNNECZCSQB393ZCJYA499

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJEZDG 42

P 152130Z ZEX

FM HQ 551ST AEWCONWG OTIS AFB MASS

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

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