

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 15 Jan 61		2. LOCATION SE of Paine Field, Washington		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical <i>METEOR</i> ☒ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2227 GMT 160627Z		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 1		9. COURSE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Brilliant white object size of basketball. Resembled a strong spot-light. Then it exploded and a large part of the sky was lit up. There was considerable orange and some blue coloring in explosion. No sound heard. Object appeared level with pilot flying at 35,000'.				11. COMMENTS No satellites reentering at this time. Description and duration are characteristic of a meteor. Brightness and explosion suggest that object was a fireball which exploded before it reached the earth's surface.	

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

COUNTRY USA		REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT			
SUBJECT UFO			
AREA REPORTED ON Paine Field, Wash		FROM (Agency) 64th Ftr Intcp Sqd b	
DATE OF REPORT 16 Jan 61	DATE OF INFORMATION 16 Jan 61	EVALUATION (1) Time was 0037. 10 Jan 61.	
PREPARED BY (Officer) 1st Lt W B McDonald		SOURCE Capt R E Dawson .night (S)	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)			
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 118-Part II.) UFO. I am in doubt whether to call my sighting an object or an airborne explosion; however, I will assume the sighting was on object before it exploded. a. Discription: (1) Fireball first, and then a large portion of sky was lit up as if an explosion had occurred. There was considerable orange and some blue coloring in explosion. (2) Fireball was basketball size. (3) Fireball was brilliant white. It resembled a strong spotlight. (4) Only one. (5) Only one. (6) My first impression was that a large landing light had been turned on in my face. (7) No tail visible to me. (8) No sound, I was flying in a T-33 aircraft. b. Discription of object: (1) The intense light which appeared to be approaching rapidly. My first thought was that I was about to collide with something and I initiated evasive maneuvers. (2) Object appeared level with me. (3) Object was in my nine o'clock, and my magnetic heading was 290°. My altitude was 35,000 feet, my ground speed 330. (4) Appeared to be gaining altitude. (5) The sequence was this: brilliant white, fireball; then a brilliant colorful explosion (which silhouetted the cloud tops), and returned to darkness. (6) Approximately five seconds. c. Manner of observation: (over)			
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COUNTRY USA		REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
(1) I was airborne in a T-33 aircraft number 56-1594. My call sign was Air Force Jet 1. I was flying on a magnetic heading of 290° at 35,000 feet, and my ground speed was 330 knots, and was ten minutes southeast of the Paine TVOR. My home station is Paine Field, Washington.			
AREA REPORTED ON Paine Field, Wash.		DATE OF REPORT 16 Jan 61	PREPARED BY (Name) 1st Lt W B McDonald
d. Time and date of sighting 0410		DATE OF INFORMATION 16 Jan 61	SOURCE Capt R E Dawson
(1) Time was 0627Z, 16 Jan 61.		(2) Night.	
e. Location of observers: (1) I am in doubt whether to call my sighting an explosion; however, I will assume the sighting was an explosion. I am tracking inbound TVOR of the Paine TVOR tracking inbound explosion.			
f. Identifying information on observers: (1) Fireball first, and then a large portion of sky was lit up as explosion had occurred. There was considerable orange and some blue coloring in explosion. Capt Robert E Dawson, (Pilot) 1st Lt James L Fulk Jr (Pilot)			
g. Weather and Winds. (1) We were at 35,000 feet and flying on top of the uncast. The entire area was covered with clouds. We were seeing cloud tops. My first impression was that a large landing light had been turned on in my face.			
And this was only a beginning—for on <u>January 15, 1961</u> a so-called meteor flashed across the sky in southern Oregon and northern California, lighting up Eureka, California almost like daylight.			
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(2) Object appeared level with me.			
(3) Object was in my nine o'clock, and my magnetic heading was 290°. My altitude was 35,000 feet, my ground speed 330.			
(4) Appeared to be gaining altitude.			
(5) The sequence was this: brilliant white, fireball; then a brilliant colorful explosion (which silhouetted the cloud tops), and returned to darkness.			
(6) Approximately five seconds.			
c. Manner of observation: (over)			
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