

USAF RADAR

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 2 Apr 62		2. LOCATION Goose Bay, Labrador, Canada		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 _____ GMT 02/0530Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☒ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☒ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Military			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 hr 54 min		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE E	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING No visual sighting. Picked up by ground radar. Speed of about 72 kts to E. Altitude of approx 47,000 ft. 2 F-102 a/c scrambled and picked up object on their radar and lock-on obtained for several passes. No visible contact. Observed by 10 military personnel on ground radar. Picked up by both airborne radars. Wind at 47,000 ft was from heading of 240° at 90 kts. No inversion in area. Tropopause at 38,000. All other weather normal at altitude.				11. COMMENTS Definite object picked up on 3 separate radars. Only remote possibility of weather as the cause. Believed to be solid object by radar analyst. Wind would carry balloon released from Loring AFB, Maine at 0000 to the above location. Faulty inflation or slight leak would cause balloon to level off at 47,000 ft instead of usual maximum altitude. Speed of object together with the wind direction indicate a lighter-than-air object. Also no visible identification indicates that balloon was probable cause.	

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

AF IN : 35623 (2 Apr 62) N/sc page 1 of 3

INCOMING

ACTION: CIN-17

INFO : OOP-2, OOP-CP-1, SAFS-3, DIA-2 (26)

SMB A200

ZCZCHQE981ZCOJA765

PP RJEZHQ

DE RJEOBP 15

ZNR

P R 022020Z

FM GOOSE NORAD SECTOR MELVILLE AS LABR

TO RJWFALB/HQ ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJZKN/64 AIRDIV STEWART AFB NY

RJEDJK/AIRTECHINTELL CTR WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/OSAF WASC DC

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC

RFEMC/NNR ST HUBERT PQ

INFO RJECDL/GADS GOOSE AB LABR

AF GRNC

BT

UNCLAS GNOCC 0109.

SUBJ: UFO. THIS MESSAGE IS IN 10 PARTS. PART I. DESCRIPTION OF
OBJECT: ONE OBJECT DETECTED BY AIR DEFENSE RADAR. NO VISUAL SIGHTING.
SIZE, SHAPE, COLOR UNKNOWN. PART II. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:
THE OBJECT WAS INITIALLY OBSERVED AS A RADAR RETURN WITH A MEASURED
HEIGHT OF 47 THOUSAND FEET. LOCATION WAS 110 NAUTICAL MILES SSE
OF MELVILLE AS, LABRADOR. (51 DEGREES, 40 MINUTES NORTH; 59 DEGREES,
10 MINUTES WEST). RADAR CONTACT WAS MAINTAINED FOR 1 HOUR AND 54
MINUTES. THE OBJECT MOVED GENERALLY EASTERLY AT 72 KNOTS. IT FAD-
ED AT 52 DEGREES, 10 MINUTES NORTH; 56 DEGREES, 10 MINUTES WEST

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

I N C O M I N G

AF IN : 35623 (2 Apr 62)

page 2 of 3

PAGE TWO RJEOP 15

(175 NAUTICAL MILES ESE OF MELVILLE). PART III. MANNER OF OBSERVATION: THE OBJECT WAS OBSERVED BY GROUND ELECTRONICS (FPS 20 AND FPS 6B) AND AIRBORNE FIRE CONTROL RADAR (MG10). PART IV. DATE AND TIME: INITIALLY DETECTED 02/0530Z APRIL. FADED AT 02/0724Z APRIL. PART V. LOCATION OF OBSERVERS: MELVILLE AIR STATION. LABRADOR. PART VI. OBJECT OBSERVED ON RADAR BY APPROXIMATELY TEN MILITARY PERSONNEL ON DUTY IN THE 641ST ACWON OPERATIONS. THE SENIOR DIRECTOR WAS 1ST LT GEORGE W MCKELLAR, A03097163. ALL OBSERVERS CONSIDERED RELIABLE BEYOND DOUBT. PART VII. WINDS AND WEATHER: ALL WEATHER VALUES QUOTED ARE ESTIMATES, DUE TO THE LACK OF REPORTING STATION IN THE AREA OF SIGHTING. SURFACE - 090/10 6000 FEET - 240/40 10000 FEET - 240/60 16000 FEET - 240/70 20000 FEET - 240/70 30000 FEET - 230/120 40-47000 FEET - 240/90 50000 FEET - 250/60 80000 FEET - 280/20. CEILING: ONE THOUSAND FEET OVERCAST WITH LAYERED CLOUDS ABOVE. ESTIMATED TOPS 30000 FEET WITH HIGH THIN SCATTERED ABOVE. VISIBILITY TWO TO THREE MILES IN SNOW, RAIN AND FOG. NO THUNDERSTORMS IN AREA. NORMAL TEMPERATURE LAPSE RATE WITH NO SHARP INVERSIONS. TROPOPAUSE AT 38000 FEET. PART VIII. INTERCEPTION ATTEMPTED BY 2 F102'S. PILOTS ESTABLISHED RADAR CONTACT WITH THE OBJECT ON EACH OF THREE SEPERATE PASSES. THE RADAR RETURN

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

I N C O M I N G

AF IN : 35623 (2 Apr 62)

page 3 of 3

PAGE THREE RJEOBP 15

WAS SUFFICIENT TO ENABLE THE PILOTS TO "LOCK ON" EACH TIME. HOWEVER, NO VISUAL CONTACT WAS MADE. THE PILOTS STATED THAT THEIR OVERTAKE SPEED INDICATED A TARGET THAT WAS NEARLY STATIONARY. PART IV. WEATHER BALLOONS RELEASED IN THE NEW ENGLAND STATES WOULD HAVE BEEN BORNE BY THE WINDS ALOFT TO THE AREA OF THE SIGHTING. THE WIND VELOCITY WOULD HAVE PLACED THE 0000Z RELEASE FROM LORING AFB, MAINE IN THE VICINITY OF THE SIGHTING AT APPROXIMATELY 0530Z. ALTHOUGH PROGRAMMED TO REACH GREATER ALTITUDES, FAULTY INFLATION OR A SLIGHT LEAK COULD RESULT IN A BALLOON LEVELING AT 47000 FEET. PART X. THE PREPARING OFFICER IS CAPTAIN BILLY B FORSMAN, SENIOR CONTROLLER, GOOSE NORAD SECTOR DIRECTION CENTER. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO POSITIVELY DETERMINE THE IDENTITY OF THE OBJECT. COMPARING ITS DIRECTION AND VELOCITY WITH THE WINDS ALOFT, HOWEVER, WOULD CERTAINLY INDICATE IT TO BE A WIND-BORNE, LIGHTER-THAN-AIR OBJECT. THE COUPLED WITH THE TIMING LEADS ONE TO BELIEVE IT TO PROBABLY BE THE 0000Z WEATHER BALLOON RELEASED FROM LORING AFB.

BT

02/2048Z APR RJEOBP