

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 25 Apr 62	2. LOCATION Baker Lake, Canada		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 _____ CMT 26/0500Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Civilian		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Short	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE West	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Obj moving fm East to West apparently meteor like. Luminosity as a bright light on an a/c only larger. Elongated shape, orange to green color. Observers facing South. Sky clear. Rpt relayed fm Eskimoos at location 64.18N 96.04W.		11. COMMENTS Obj evaluated as a meteor due to short duration & observable characteristics.	

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TD-E/Lt Col Friend

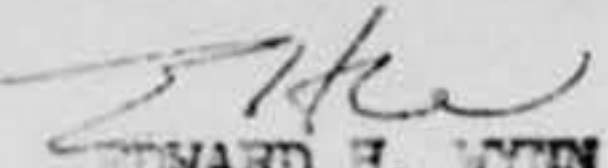
Evaluation of Unidentified Flying Object (Northern
Canada, 25 April 1962)

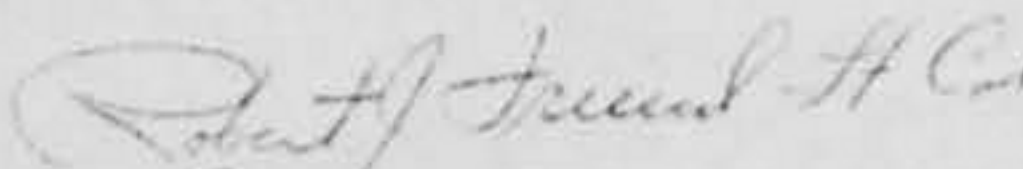
JUN 4 1962

Hq USAF
AFCEW-1b (Col Levering)
Wash 25 DC

1. Reference your letter, subject "Evaluation of Unidentified Flying Object", dated 25 May 1962 and the attachment thereto requesting the evaluation of an unidentified flying object which was sighted in Northern Canada on 25 April 1962.
2. Review of the decay record of artificial satellites and related objects reveals that the sighting was not due to a re-entry.
3. It is the FTD opinion that the sighting was due to the observation of a meteor of the fireball class. Fireballs are rare, occurring in the ratio of approximately 1 to every 258 meteors in the visual range which are encountered by the earth. Usually an individual will experience this spectacular event only once in a lifetime.
4. Fireballs are defined as any meteor as bright or brighter than -3 magnitude, this is bright enough to cast shadows on a dark night. There are actually cases on record where meteors of this type have been bright enough to activate photocells used to automatically operate street lights. In the usual description of these meteors one finds white, blue, green, red and yellow mentioned. The color is usually a good indication of the relative speed of a meteor, those of higher speeds tending toward the blue and those of lower speeds tending toward the red. Meteor speeds, relative to the earth, range from approximately 7 to 44 miles per second. The major cause for this speed range is the earth's orbital velocity of 18.5 miles per second. Depending upon the relationship of the earth's and meteor's vectors when they meet, the absolute velocity of the meteor is either reduced or increased by an amount equal to the earth's velocity or some fraction thereof.
5. A fireball moving toward the west at 2300 hours would be generally meeting the earth and would therefore have a relatively high velocity. Such a meteor would display colors tending toward the blue-green, be very bright and the event would be of very short duration. These factors are consistent with those contained in the report of the UFO sighting which took place in Northern Canada at 2300 hours on 18 April 1962.

FOR THE COMMANDER


EDWARD H. WITTEN
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science
and Components


1 June 1962

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: AFCIN-1B

SUBJECT: Evaluation of Unidentified Flying Object

MAY 25 1962

TO: AFSC ITD Wright-Patterson AFB Ohio

1. Attached is a letter from Air Commodore R. A. Cameron, Canadian Joint Staff to Maj Gen Breitweiser, ACS/I, USAF, concerning the sighting of an unidentified flying object sighted in Northern Canada on 25 April 1962.

2. Request your evaluation of this report as a basis for reply by General Breitweiser to Air Commodore Cameron.

FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

John R. Levering
JOHN R. LEVERING
Colonel, USAF
Directorate of Collection
ACS/Intelligence

1 Atch
Ltr, Canadian Joint
Staff, dtd 18 May 62,
repro cy

18 May 1962

Dear Bob:

As a result of our conversation earlier this year concerning the decay of satellites, the following account of a fireball sighting in Northern Canada last month is provided for your information.

Eskimos and [REDACTED] at Baker Lake reported sighting a meteor-like object at approximately 11 p.m., 25th of April. The duration of the sighting was very short. The observers were facing south and the object was streaking across the sky from an east to west direction. The sky condition at the time of the sighting was clear. The luminosity of the object resembled a very bright aircraft light but it appeared slightly larger. It had an elongated shape and the colour ranged from bright orange to green. The trajectory appeared at approximately 45 degrees elevation above the horizon. The co-ordinates of Baker Lake, NWT., are $64^{\circ} 18' N$, $96^{\circ} 04' W$.

3 This information may be of interest in the event that your records show that any satellite is known to have entered the atmosphere on the date mentioned.

Yours sincerely,

(R. A. Cameron)
Air Commodore

Major General Robert A. Breitweiser,
Assistant Chief of Staff Intelligence,
Headquarters, United States Air Force,
Room 4A932 - The Pentagon,
Washington 25, D.C.

Rich