

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 7 Jun 62	2. LOCATION Hallett Station, Antarctica		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☒ Was Astronomical Jupiter ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 071000Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Military		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION more than 5 mins	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE Southerly	☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING on 7 Jun 62 at 0105Z witnesses at Hallett Station, 72-20S & 170-00E observed an obj which they described as brighter than a 1st mag star. This obj was sighted on a true bearing approx 250dgr fm Hallett. The elev was rptd to be approx 30dgr & the obj was obsvd for more than 5 mins. This sighting probably resulted in the misidentification of the planet Jupiter due to distortion of that body by inconsistencies in the atmos. The rptd azimuth of obj & that of planet at the time of the sighting are very nearly same. The witnesses rptd the obj moved slowly in a Southerly direction which is the same as the apparent motion of Jupiter when viewed fm Hallett at this time & date. At the time of the sighting Jupiter was the brightest astro body -2.0mag, which could be seen fm Hallett. Jupiter's elev at the time of the sighting was less than 5dgr, far fm the thirty dgrs rptd by the witnesses. For they indicated that the obj passed behind a mount peak & as far as can be determined the nearest mount peaks have elevs of less than 5dgr when measured fm Hallett. It is the RFD opinion that the witnesses' estimate of elev was in error. It is probably that strong inversion present in area at time sighting & that mirage associated w/this condition contribute to sighting.		11. COMMENTS	

C
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Y

R 102205Z
FM GALLETT SEA
TO COMNAVHUPFOR ANTARCTICA
INFO COMANTARCTIC SURFACCTY
DET ALKA ANTARCTIC SURFACCTY
UNCLAS

UNUSUAL PHENOMENA REPORT

- JUNE 1962
1. OBSERVATION BY OINC AT 070105Z OF BRILLIANT WHITE LIGHT, APPROX. 20 TIMES BRIGHTER THAN FIRST ORDER MAG STARS. BEARING 250 DEG TRUE. ELEVATION ANGLE 30 DEG.
 2. LIGHT REMAINED STATIONARY FOR APPROX FIVE MINS DURING WHICH TIME IT WAS OBSERVED WITH 7X50 BINOCULARS. LIGHT WAS CIRCULAR, DIAMETER APPROX ELEG TO TEN INCHES. LIGHT WAS SHINING GOLD SIMILAR TO THE REFLECTION OF THE SUN OFF A POLISHED GOLD SURFACE.

PAGE TWO RUEFH 0308

3. LIGHT WAS SITUATED BETWEEN TWO MOUNTAIN PEAKS. SUN AT THAT TIME WAS BELOW THE HORIZON.
4. AFTER APPROX FIVE MINS THE LIGHT MOVED IN A SOUTHERLY DIRECTION AND DISAPPEARED BEHIND A MOUNTAIN PEAK. DID NOT REAPPEAR ON OTHER SIDE OF PEAK AS WOULD BE EXPECTED IF SOUTHERN COURSE HAD BEEN MAINTAINED.
5. SINCE THIS DATE, ASEA HAS BEEN SCANNED DAILY FOR STARS, PLANETS, SATELLITES ETC. WHICH WOULD BE EXPECTED TO REOCCUR. NONE HAS BEEN SEEN.
6. NO SMOKE OR VAPOR TRAIL SEEN.

BY
LLPQCMZ

10 JUNE
3 days

C
O
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Y

NAVAL MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

NAVY DEPARTMENT

PRECEDENCE ROUTINE	(ACTION)	RELEASED BY	DRAFTED BY	EXT. NO.
ROUTINE	(INFO)			

AF IN : 4363 (11 June 62) K/jvh READDRESSED ROUTINE 111525Z JUN 62

R 102205Z

FM COMNAVSUPFOR ANTARCTICA
INFO CNO
CINCLANTFLT

AF DIST:

FM HALLETT STA

TO COMNAVSUPFOR ANTARCTICA

INFO COMANTARCTIC SUPPACTY

DET ALFA ANTARCTIC SUPPACTY

CIN-14
OOP-2
OOP-CP-1
SAFS-3
(20)

UNCLAS

UNUSUAL PHENOMENA REPORT

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92...COG

SECNAV UNSECNAV ASTSECNAV(R&D) 29 393 09M 09D 43 33 34 35 45 46 47 72
76 94 IP NAVAIDE CMC JCS CSA CSAF CIA NIC COGARD FLAGPLOT BFR

CONTROL NO.	CIRCUIT NO.	PAGE	OF	PAGES	TIME OF RECEIPT	DATE TIME GROUP
54594/JH/JBX	B170	1		1	2316Z/11 JUN	102205Z JUN 62

UNCLASSIFIED

TD-E/Lt Col Friend

Unidentified Flying Objects Sighted in the
Antarctic

3 August 1962

Hq USAF
SAFOI-3b (Major Hart)
Wash 25 DC

1. On 7 June 1962 at 0105Z witnesses at Hallett Station, 72-20 S and 170-00 E observed an object which they described as brighter than a first magnitude star. This object was sighted on a true bearing approximating 250° from Hallett Station. The elevation was reported to be approximately 30° and the object was observed for more than five minutes. This sighting probably resulted from the misidentification of the planet Jupiter due to distortion of that body by inconsistencies in the atmosphere. The reported azimuth of the object and that of the planet at the time of the sighting are very nearly the same. The witnesses reported the object moved slowly in a southerly direction which is the same as the apparent motion of Jupiter when viewed from Hallett Station at this time and date. At the time of the sighting Jupiter was the brightest astronomical object, -2.0 magnitude, which could be seen from Hallett Station. Jupiter's elevation at the time of the sighting was less than five degrees, far from the thirty degrees reported by the witnesses. It is the FTD opinion that the witnesses estimate of the elevation was in error for they indicated that the object passed behind a mountain peak and as far as can be determined the nearest mountain peaks have elevations of less than five degrees when measured from Hallett Station. It is probable that a strong inversion was present in the area at the time of the sighting and that mirage effects associated with this condition contributed to the sighting.

2. On 22 June 1962 at 0303 Z an object leaving a smoke or vapor trail was observed from Detachment Alpha, Antarctica. The object was reported to be brighter than a first magnitude star, white in color and to have moved from a bearing of 340° to 345° at an elevation of 7°. The duration of this sighting was approximately two seconds. This object was probably a very bright meteor known as a fireball. Fireballs are a rare class of meteor, brighter than -3.0 magnitude, usually multicolored, often leaving a very evident trail and are of relatively long duration. The trails left by these meteors appear as smoke during daylight hours and during darkness display many colors. Trails left by fireballs have been used to study winds in the upper atmosphere, fifty mile zone, by such eminent astronomers as Dr. Fred Whipple, Harvard and Dr. Charles P. Oliver, University of Pennsylvania. Since these trails may persist for half an hour or more, it is not unusual for them to be distorted by these winds.

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

It is concluded that a fireball and the trail it generated was responsible for the UFO sighted from Detachment Alpha on 22 June 1962.

3. On 7 July 1962 at 1115Z an intense light was observed from Hallett Station. This light was first observed from the roof of a building, and the observer stated that he thought at first it was a flare. He reported that the light was as large as a basketball and when it passed over the station he noticed two smaller lights appearing to the rear and the side of the main object. The smaller lights were of lesser intensity and they maintained the same relative position throughout the sighting. The object left a clearly visible trail. The lights were traveling from WSW to ENE. At 10° above the eastern horizon the objects gave off a brilliant flash and disappeared over the horizon. The object sighted by these witnesses was probably a bolide. Bolides possess the same characteristics as fireballs and in addition are heard to make noise, usually a whistling, rumbling, or series of explosions or is heard or seen to explode. There is the very remote possibility that this was the re-entry of the U.S. satellite Alpha-Beta I. This satellite decayed between 1100Z and 2300Z on 7 July 1962. Decay during revolution number 234 could have resulted in a display similar to that described by the Hallett Station witnesses. It was concluded that this object was probably a bolide because: (1) Revolution number 234 was the earliest computed for the decay of the satellite and it probably decayed nearer to the mean of the computed time limits; (2) The path of the satellite would have been more from the SW to the NE as viewed from Hallett Station, if it did not lose its orbital characteristics due to re-entering; and (3) Though the witnesses provided only a limited description of the object they sighted, the characteristics are much closer to those of a bolide.

4. FTD is not aware of any United States or foreign activities which could account for the unidentified flying objects sighted in the Antarctic on 7 and 22 June 1962 and 7 July 1962. Further there is no evidence available which indicates that these phenomena were due to other than natural causes.

FOR THE COMMANDER

Robert J. Friend H/L 3 Aug 62
EDWARD E. WYNN
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science
and Components

On 7 June at 07/0105Z the OINC of Hallett Station in the Antarctic made an observation of an Unidentified object described as a brilliant white light approximately 20 times brighter than a first magnitude star. The position of this object was at a 30 degree elevation and 250 degree heading. This placed the object between two mountain peaks of over 10,000 ft. to the Southwest of the observer. The sun was below the horizon at the time of the sighting. No smoke or vapor trail was associated with the object. The light remained stationary for about 5 minutes, during which time the observer used 7X50 binoculars in an effort to gain additional details of the object. The light was described as circular with a diameter of 9 to 10 inches. The light was also described as dazzling gold similar to that ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ of the sun's reflection from a polished gold surface. After five minutes the light moved in a Southerly direction and disappeared behind a mountain peak and did not reappear. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ This area was observed on succeeding nights in an effort to determine if the object would reappear ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ and no additional objects have been noted.

Attached are the report received at ATIC (Naval Message AF IN : 4363 (11 Jun 62) and a section of GNC 25. GNC 26 or a combination of WAC's 1814 and 1815 would give better detail, however they were not immediately available at this Command and it is felt that this chart was sufficient for purpose of analysis.

A heading of 250 degrees is indicated. The mountains referred to in the message form a 60 degree angle, one peak being listed as 11,745 ft and the other as 10,249 ft/. No attempt was made to determine the distance from Hallett Station of these peaks, although the Northernmost appears to be relatively close, and would thus reduce the angle of visibility between the peaks.

Mag 1.3

The first magnitude star Fomalhaut/~~was in the position given by the observer.~~ Weather information was not obtained to determine ~~whether~~ an inversion existed at the time. No weather report was included with the report since the format outlined in AFR 200-2 was not used. The sighting was in the winter in the Antarctic and the probability ~~exists~~ that such a condition existed at the time of the observation. It is believed by the analyst at ATIC that this observation was a refraction of the star Fomalhaut. The movement to the South corresponds to that which the star would take. The star would move at the rate of 1 degree in 4 minutes. Since the star was setting it would not reappear on the other side of the mountain. It is felt that the time element and disappearance, together with the impression that the object was stationary and then moved behind the mountain are within reason/consistent with this analysis. No attempt was made to obtain additional information at time of receipt of the initial report and none has been made since that time, as it was felt that this case did not warrant the additional effort to obtain information ~~XXXXXX~~ the exactness of the heading, estimated distance that the star would move to (such as) disappear behind the mountain, distance of the mountains from Hallett Station in an effort to compute the true horizon in the area of the sighting ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ whether other stars were visible on that night or the succeeding nights, attempts to obtain impressions of additional witnesses of this observation. Also such questions as how was the angle of elevation determined? How was the direction determined? How was the magnitude estimated and how familiar was the observer with observations of refracted objects? ~~Etc~~, How was the diameter of 9-10 inches determined? What was the estimated distance of the object from the observer? Was the object stationary and then "rush" away behind the mountain? How was the time element ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ determined? Did the object change color from white to gold? or was it white to the human eye and gold through the binoculars? What additional details were noted through the BX that were not visible to the human eye? Etc

Also see CONDITIONS FOR 8th, 9th & 10th Same hours as sighting. *See stars visible through scope*

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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ST. LOUIS 18, MO.

NOTE: It is requested that all users of this chart mark hereon
corrections and additions which come to their attention and
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18, MISSOURI.

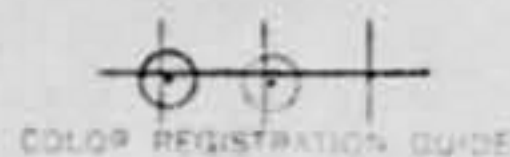
HARBOR FACILITIES

Logistic planners may obtain complete detailed information
on port facilities and freight handling capacities for
shipping in H.O. Pub. No. 950, World Port Index (UNCL),
published by the U.S. Navy Hydrographic Office.

80°

65°

75°

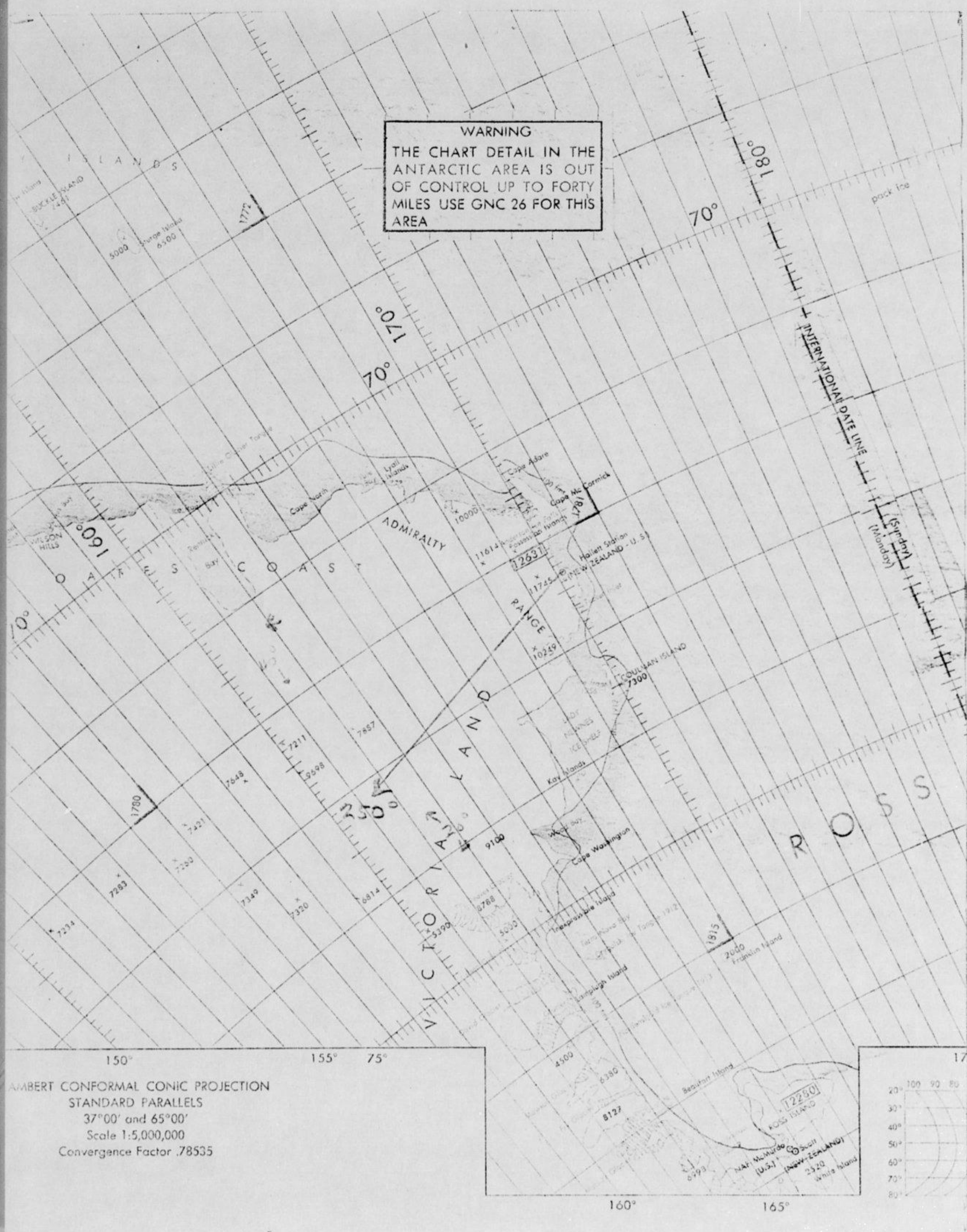


NEW ZEALAND GNC 25

SCALE 1:5,000,000

BASE 200
BASE INFORMATION MARCH 1958 (ACIC-EN)
REVISED AUGUST 1961 (ACIC)
Lithographed by J. P. 12-61
SPEC. NO. GNC A-2

WARNING
THE CHART DETAIL IN THE
ANTARCTIC AREA IS OUT
OF CONTROL UP TO FORTY
MILES USE GNC 26 FOR THIS
AREA



AMBERT CONFORMAL CONIC PROJECTION
STANDARD PARALLELS
37°00' and 65°00'
Scale 1:5,000,000
Convergence Factor .78535

