

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 15 August 65 16/00Z	2. LOCATION Portsmouth, Virginia
3. SOURCE XXX Military	10. CONCLUSION Other (UNRELIABLE REPORT)
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 30 - 40 Seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Dull silver or grey object shaped like a cigar about 50 to 80 ft long and eight ft thick. First observed at 45 deg elevation in the North disappeared at 45 deg elevation in the South. Flight was fast down to a TV Tower where the object made a dead stop of 15-20 seconds. The object then zoomed away to the South. Total sighting 30-40 seconds. Witness regarded as "doubtful" by investigating officials. Made efforts to exploit the sighting.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE South (Hovered)	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

FORM
FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

1571920-1930Z - PORTSMOUTH, VA.
OTHER (UNRELIABLE REPORT)
HEADQUARTERS
4500TH AIR BASE WING
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, VIRGINIA 23365



REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

DO/2711

SUBJECT:

Initial Report of Investigation of UFO

23 AUG 1965

TO:

AFSC (FTD)
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio 45433

1. The following information is presented as directed by paragraph 14, AFR 200-2.

a. Description of the object:

- (1) Shape: cigar.
- (2) Size: Compared to a grapefruit held in the hand at about arm's length, 50 to 80 feet long and 8 feet high.
- (3) Color: Dull silver or gray.
- (4) Number: One.
- (5) Discernible features: None.
- (6) Tail, trail, or exhaust: None.
- (7) Sound: None.

b. Description of Course of Object:

- (1) The observer's attention was first called to the object when it appeared in the northern sky while the observer was sun-bathing.
- (2) The angle of the object's elevation when first observed was 45 degrees on an approximate azimuth of 360 degrees.
- (3) The angle of the object's elevation upon disappearance was 45 degrees on an approximate azimuth of 180 degrees.
- (4) The flight path of the object was stated to be fast and down from the sky to a dead stop near the WYAH T. V. (340 feet above MSL) tower, and then the object "zoomed away" after the 15 to 20 second stop.

(5) The object appeared and disappeared with "great speed," so that the entire time of observation was estimated to be 30 to 40 seconds.

c. Manner of Observation:

- (1) Ground-visual.
- (2) No optical aids were used.

d. Time and Date of Sighting:

- (1) Sometime between 1920 and 1930 Zulu on 15 August 1965.
- (2) Light Conditions: Day.

e. Location of Observer: The observer was on the roof at [REDACTED] Portsmouth, Virginia, which is three blocks east, northeast, of the WYAH T. V. Tower.

f. Identifying Information on Observer:

- (1) Name: [REDACTED]
- (2) Grade: Journalist Third Class (J03), United States Coast Guard.
- (3) Organization: Public Information Office, Fifth Coast Guard District, Federal Building, Portsmouth, Virginia.
- (4) Duty: Journalist.

(5) Estimate of Reliability: Doubtful. Journalist [REDACTED] apparently made every effort to exploit his observation for the sake of its newsworthiness. Although, perhaps not intentionally, his reporting of the sightings to his "many friends" in the news business has added to the already greatly publicized UFO sightings in the area. Shortly after the sighting, Journalist [REDACTED] reported it to WAVY and WNOR radio and television stations and to [REDACTED] of the Virginian Pilot Newspaper (AP). The next day Journalist [REDACTED] accompanied [REDACTED] of the Ledger Star Newspaper to the tower where the object was said to have stopped. Journalist [REDACTED] stated that he works with these people every day because of the nature of his job in the Coast Guard. In my interview with Journalist [REDACTED], he later stated: "I'm a believer, I'm on, there is something out there we don't know about, I don't care if somebody writes it off or not." Journalist [REDACTED] was extremely

unmilitary in his interview, frequently calling me "man." He stated that he had been contacted by two private UFO investigating organizations. One of these callers said he was from Langley AF Base. Journalist ██████ said he told them he would look at their questionnaires they asked to send to him. He could not remember these people's names or the names of their organizations, but said that they mentioned Air Force suppressing UFO information and asked if the Air Force had contacted him. I interviewed Journalist ██████ on the night of 16 August 1965.

g. Weather and Winds: Aloft Conditions at Time and Place of Sighting:

- (1) Observer's Account of Weather Conditions: Clear.
- (2) Reported Winds (Base Operations Weather Facility, Langley AF Base, Va.)

Surface	030°/10 knots
5000 feet	360°/10 knots
10,000 feet	040°/20 knots
15,000 feet	040°/30 knots
20,000 feet	030°/35 knots
30,000 feet	030°/40 knots
35,000 feet	020°/50 knots
40,000 feet	030°/35 knots
45,000 feet	030°/30 knots
50,000 feet	060°/10 knots

- (3) Ceiling: Clear.
- (4) Visibility: Seven miles in haze.
- (5) Cloud Cover: None.
- (6) Thunderstorms: None.
- (7) Temperature: 82° F.

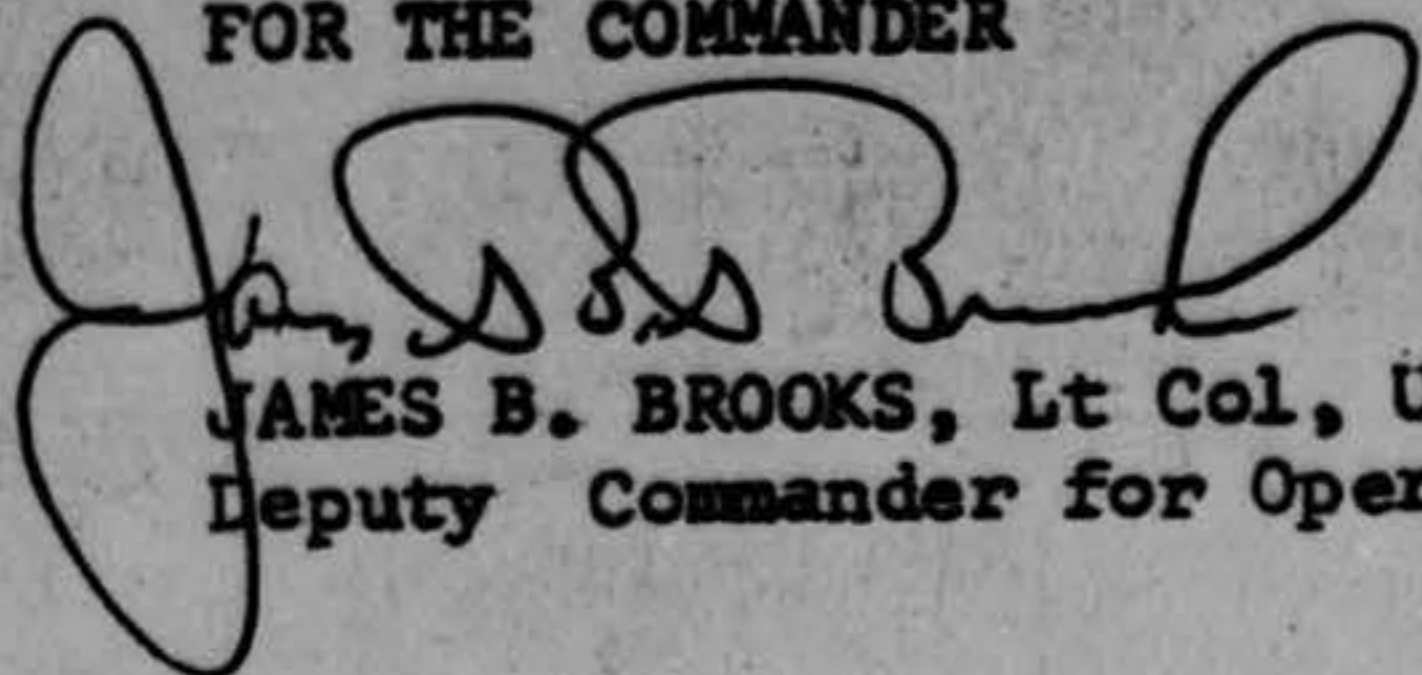
h. Meteorological Conditions Relative to the Sighting: The sun was stated to be just to the left of the object and with haze reported in all quadrants - the observer's view of the object was greatly impaired.

i. Air Traffic in this area is extremely dense. There are seven military installations in the immediate flying area which have helicopters up at all hours on random flight plans. These installations are also frequently used by transient helicopters normally travelling north and south.

j. This report was prepared by First Lieutenant Rober R. Dockum, USAF, 4500 Air Base Wing (DOO-H), Langley Air Force Base, Virginia. A very possible cause of the reported object was a helicopter flying over Portsmouth, Virginia, and hovering near the T. V. Tower to view the city.

k. No physical evidence was reported to exist.

FOR THE COMMANDER



JAMES B. BROOKS, Lt Col, USAF
Deputy Commander for Operations