

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 7 Sept 68 07/2300L 08/0300Z	2. LOCATION Aiken, South Carolina
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION INSUFFICIENT DATA FOR EVALUATION
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One	All listed observers were sent 117's. As of 6 Nov 68, none were returned.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 4 - 10 Minutes	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS SEE CASE FILE
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground-Visual	
7. COURSE Not Reported	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

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STAFF MESSAGE BRANCH
INCOMING MESSAGE

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[REDACTED] L, AGE 27 [REDACTED], AIKEN S.C. HOUSEWIFE,
RELIABLE, EXCELLENT CHARACTER, WIFE OF RADAR OPERATOR. (3) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], AGE 16, [REDACTED], AIKEN SC, HI SCHOOL

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STUDENT, EXCELLENT CHARACTER. (4) PROFESSOR [REDACTED] I, PROFESSOR
AT UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, AGE 50, [REDACTED], VIRGINIA
ACRES, AIKEN S.C. RELIABLE, EXCELLENT CHARACTER. (MILITARY) (5)

[REDACTED], SSGT, USAF SUPERVISOR, AGE 40, [REDACTED]

, AIKEN S.C. RELIABLE, EXCELLENT CHARACTER. (6) [REDACTED], 1ST

SGT, AGE: 39, [REDACTED], AIKEN SC, RELIABLE, EXCELLENT CHARACTER.

G. WEATHER AND WINDS7ALOFT CONDITIONS AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTINGS:

(1) OBERVERS ACCOUNT OF WX: CLEAR-NIGHT-FULL MOON-NO ATMOSPHERIC CON7
JITIONS. WEATHER: CLEAR, VISIBILTY; 10PLUS MILES WINDS ALOFT AT SURFACE
040DEGREES-4 KNOTS. SURFACE TEMPERATURE 68 DEGREES DEW POINT 59
DEGREES. (2) REPORT FROM 2AD AWS:

ALTITUDE	WIND DIRECTION	VELOCITY IN KNOTS
6,000 FEET	75 DEGREES	10 KNOTS
10,000 FEET	3 DEGREES	4 KNOTS
16,000 FEET	245 DEGREES	13 KNOTS
20,000 FEET	245 DEGREES	15 KNOTS

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30,000 FEET	265 DEGREES	35 KNOTS
50,000 FEET	275 DEGREES	26 KNOTS
80,000 FEET	270 DEGREES	10 KNOTS

(3) CEILING: HI SCATTERED. (4) VISIBILITY: 10 MILES. (5) CLOUD COVER:

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SCATTERED. (6) NO THUNDERSTORMS (7) VERTICAL TEMPERATURE GRADIENT:

ALTITUDE	DEGREES
6,000 FEET	PLUS 12
10,000 FEET	PLUS 8
16,000 FEET	MINUS 4
20,000 FEET	MINUS 13
0,000 FEET	MINUS 7
50,000 FEET	MINUS 68
80,000 FEET	MINUS 60

H. ASTRONOMICAL ACTIVITY: NONE I. NO INTERCEPT MADE J. (1) CHECKED WITH SAVANAH RIVER PLANT FOR POSSIBLE LAUNCH OF BALLONS-NONE LAUNCHED LAST NIGHT. (2) CHECKED WITH SHAW AIR FORCE BASE WING COMMAND POST AND BASE OPERATIONS FOR POSSIBLE NIGHT FLYING-NONE (3) NO COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS FROM COLUMBIA S.C. AIRPORT, AUGUSTA AIRPORT IN THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF FLIGHT OF THE UFO SIGHTING. K. UFO OFFICER: JAMES V.

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SNOWDEN, MSGT, 861 ST RADAR SQUADRON, AIKEN S.C., 648-1341
EXT-247, 648-1102 HOME PHONE. COMMENTS: PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF
POSSIBLE CAUSE OF THE SIGHTINGS WERE A POSSIBLE STAR OR DC-9 THAT
FLYS FROM COLUMBIA AIRPORT TO ATLANTA GEORGIA. HOWEVER IN ACCORD
ANCE WITH AFR80-17 AND CHANGE NO. 80-17A, A PERSONAL INVESTIGATION
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WAS INITIATED BY THE UFO OFFICER. EACH OF THE SIX PERSONS CONCERNED
WAS PERSONALLY CONTACTED AND INTERVIEWED. ALL WERE EXPLICIT, CONCISE,
LUCID, RELIABLE, COMPETENT AND ALL HAD A KNOWLEDGE OF CENTURY TYPE
AIRCRAFT, SPACE SATELLITES, BALLOON , FLASHING LIGHTS, WING TIP AND
TAIL LIGHTS OF AIRCRAFT. THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES WERE CONTACTED
TO DETERMINE IF THEY HAD ANY FLYING OR LAUNCHING OF BALLOONS DURING
THIS PERIOD: SHAW ARFB, WING COMMAND POST AND BASE OPERATIONS,
AKRON MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, AUGUSTA AIRPORT, COLUMBIA AIRPORT, SAVANAH
RIVER PLANT: THERE WAS NO FLYING OR LAUNCH OF BALLOONS DURING THIS
PERIOD. BEACUSE OF THE VARIED BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE OF THE OBS-
SERVERS, I FEEL THEY ARE COMPETENT, RELIABLE OBSERVERS; THAT
SINCE NO CONVENTIONAL AIRCRAFT OR AERIAL OBJECTS CAN ACCOUNT FOR
THE SIGHTING-THIS IS AN UNIDENTIFIED AERIAL PHENOMENA. THREE (3)
OF THE OBSERVERS IN DIFFERENT LOCATIONS DESCRIBED THE SIGHT-

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ING IN THE SAME WAY. THERE WAS NO, RADAR PICK UP OF THE OBJECTS
THAT COULD BE ASCERTAINED. SHOULD A SIMILIAR INCIDENT OCCUR IN
THIS VICINITY, I FEEL FUTHER INVESTIGATION IS REQUIRED.

BT

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DO NOT WRITE IN THE SPACE
BETWEEN THE LINES
UNLESS YOU ARE
INSTRUCTED TO DO SO

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THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY. IT IS NOT TO BE
DISSEMINATED OUTSIDE YOUR AGENCY. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO
PROTECT THIS INFORMATION FROM UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE.

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7 Sept

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433



REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

TDPT (UFO)

SUBJECT:

UFO Observation, 7 September 1968

20 Sept 68

TO:

Mr. [REDACTED]

Aiken, South Carolina 29801

Your name has been given to the Aerial Phenomena Office (Project Blue Book) as being a witness to an unidentified flying object. If you were a witness to an UFO sighting on 7 September 1968 would you please complete the attached AF Form 117 and return it in the envelope provided. If you were not a witness to this sighting, would you please make a statement to this effect on the attached form. The information which you provide will be used in evaluating this observation. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

LECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office
Aerospace Technologies Division
Production Directorate

1 Atch
AF Form 117 w/envelope

TDPT (UFO) READING FILE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433



REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

TDPT (UFO)

SUBJECT:

UFO Observation, 7 September 1968

80 Sep 68

TO:

Mrs. [REDACTED]

Aiken, South Carolina 29801

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HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office
Aerospace Technologies Division
Production Directorate

1 Atch
AF Form 117 w/envelope

TDPT (UFO) OFFICIAL READING FILE

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433



REPLY TO
ATTN OF:

TDPT (UFO)

SUBJECT:

UFO Observation, 7 September 1968

TO:

Mr [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Aiken, S C 29801

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HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: TDPT (UFO)

SUBJECT: UFO Observation, 7 September 1968

20 Sept 68

TO:

████████████████████
████████████████████
Virginia Acres
Aiken, S C 29801

Your name has been given to the Aerial Phenomena Office (Project Blue Book) as being a witness to an unidentified flying object. If you were a witness to an UFO sighting on **7 September 1968** would you please complete the attached AF Form 117 and return it in the envelope provided. If you were not a witness to this sighting, would you please make a statement to this effect on the attached form. The information which you provide will be used in evaluating this observation. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

[Signature]
HECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
Chief, Aerial Phenomena Office
Aerospace Technologies Division
Production Directorate

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AF Form 117 w/envelope

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
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WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: TDPT (UFO)

SUBJECT: UFO Observation, 7 September 1968

TO: S. Sgt. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Aiken, S. C. 29801

30 Sep 68

Your name has been given to the Aerial Phenomena Office (Project Blue Book) as being a witness to an unidentified flying object. If you were a witness to an UFO sighting on 7 September 1968 would you please complete the attached AF Form 117 and return it in the envelope provided. If you were not a witness to this sighting, would you please make a statement to this effect on the attached form. The information which you provide will be used in evaluating this observation. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

LECTOR QUINTANILLA, Jr, Lt Colonel, USAF
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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (AFSC)
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO 45433



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: TDPT (UFO)

SUBJECT: UFO Observation, 7 September 1968

20 Sept 68

TO: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Aiken, S C 29801

Your name has been given to the Aerial Phenomena Office (Project Blue Book) as being a witness to an unidentified flying object. If you were a witness to an UFO sighting on 7 September 1968 would you please complete the attached AF Form 117 and return it in the envelope provided. If you were not a witness to this sighting, would you please make a statement to this effect on the attached form. The information which you provide will be used in evaluating this observation. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

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AFIN: 26149 (9 Sep 68) B/clw

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ACTION: RDC-4 INFO: XOP-2, XOX-2, SAFOS-3, DIA-1 (13)
SMB B027PTTUZYUW RUCLEDK0001 2532600-UUUU--RUEFHQA.

ZNR UUUUU

P 081700Z SEP 68

FM 861 RADAR SQUADRON AIKEN AFS SC

TO RUWMFVA/ADC

RUCLEDA/32AD/32ODC GUNTER AFB ALA

RUEDFIF/FDT WPAFB/TDETR

RUEDFQA/CASF/AF RDC

RUEDFQA/OSAF

RUEFHQA/SAF-OI

RUEDMAA/1ST AF/1ST AF ODC/STEWART AFB NY

BT

UNCLAS 8610DC SEP 68. SUBJ: UFO SIGHTING. AT APPROXIMATELY 08/0315Z
OR 2300 LOCAL THE 861ST RADAR SQUADRON AT AIKEN AFS, S.C. RECEIVED
OVER THIRTY (30) CALLS, (6) SIX PEOPLE IDENTIFIED THEMSELVES. THE REST
REFUSED TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES BUT INSISTED ON REPORTING THE SIGHTING
AND ASKING WHAT IT WAS. IN ACCORDANCE WITH AFR80-17 AND CHANGE 80-17A,
THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUBMITTED. A. DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECT;
3 SAID ROUND/3 SAID OBLONG. (2) SIZE OF A GRAPEFRUIT OR ORANGE HELD
AT ARMS LENGTH. (3) FIREY RED7THAN ORANGE-THAN-WHITE-THAN FIREY RED

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AGAIN. (4) FROM 1 TO 4 AT DIFERENT PARTS OF AIKEN. (5) NONE. HOWEVER
ONE SIGHTING WAS REPORTED AS: (A RED CENTER WITH 24 LITTLE LIGHTS

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AROUND THE OUTSIDE OF THE RED CENTER. (6) NONE (7) NONE (8) NONE (9)
NONE B. DECRPTION: OF COURSE OF OBJECT: (1) LOOKED UP DUE TO ALTITUDE
AND COLOR OF OBJECTS UNUSUAL. (2) 45 DEGREES. (3) 45 DEGREES AND 90
DEGREES. (4) 2 PATHS: 1ST: OBJECTS JOINED, SEPERATED, ONE STATIONARY
THE OTHER ERRATIC, THEN JOINED THE STATIONARY OBJECT. 2ND: 1 OBJECT
HOVERED FOR A SHORT TIME THAN TOOK OFF RAPIDLY TOWARD THE HORIZON. (5)
INSTANTANEOUSLY TO THE NORTH EAST, (6) FROM 4-10 MINUTES. E. MANNER
OF OBSERVATION: (1) GROUND VISUAL (2) TSGT GREEN, SSGT ERGLE, THOMAS
RUSSELL ERGLE USED BINOCULARS. (3) N/A D. TIMEAND DATE OF SIGHTING:
(1) 08/0315Z OR 2300 LOCAL. (2) NIGHT-CLEAR-FULL MOON. E. LOCATION OF
OBSERVERS: [REDACTED] 575 MINUTES NORTH FROM DOWNTOWN AIKEN S.C. ;
TSGT L.C. GREEN-5MILES NORTH OF SAVANAH RIVER PLANT; SSGT
HARVEY L. ERGLE 71 MILE MORTH WEST OF AIKEN COUNTY HOSPITAL; WRS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 2MILES SOUTHWEST OF DOWNTOWN AIKEN; PROFESSOR [REDACTED]
5MILES SOUTH EAST OF AIKEN S.C. F. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION ON OBSER-
VERS: (1) (CIVILIANS): [REDACTED] AGE 7, [REDACTED] AIKEN
S.C. RELIABLE, ELECTRICIAN AT THE SAVANAH RIVER PLANT. (2) MRS

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