PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

	2. LOCATION 31.30N 70.30W Atlantic	12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon
	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar 05Z-06/0615Z ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft
	6. SOURCE Military & Civilian Pilots	☒ Was Astronomical Meteor ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical
VATION	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE N/A ☐ Other ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown

SIGHTING

t high alt & left long
ks. Obj burst into bright
fire lighting entire
e sparks observed floating
er explosion.

11. COMMENTS

Description of a bolide.

SEP 52)

RC232

SQA891ZCZCVYD819NOA243

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJESNO 2

P 122325Z

FM COMDR AFMTC

TO COMDR ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB

BT

UNCLAS FROM MTR 0709 YOUR PRIORITY MESSAGE 091530Z ON SIGHTING OF FIREBALL RECEIVED AFMTC 112157Z. AFMTC RANGE INACTIVE 26 JUNE THRU 7 JULY. NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO EXPLAIN DESCRIBED PHENOMENON.

BT

12/2331Z JUL RJESNO

NNNN

TELEPHONED
TO
NO.
TIME
Date
By:

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA 4

FLOWER AND COOK OBSERVATORIES

1959 July 30

Executive Officer,
Public Information Division
Office of Information Service
Department of the Air Force
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Last year the Executive Officer very kindly, in reply to a request from me for information about certain fireballs which appeared in 1957, sent me a considerable amount of useful information, which can be used in the solution of the atmospheric paths and orbits of these bodies.

During the past year or so a large number of fireballs have appeared over the eastern or south eastern states, and in the cases of the five to be mentioned, I have been able to assemble a number of observations. But despite this I find it impossible to make good solutions. I am therefore writing to urgently request that you be good enough to send me copies of any or all reports in your hands, dealing with these bodies.

I may add the Hydrographic Office of the U.S.Navy has for over 30 years effectively cooperated in such work and as a consequence it has been possible to solve for many important fireballs. Such cooperation from your office, as a routine matter, would also be invaluable.

The specific bodies I now request information on are:

1958 April 21/22 Southeastern States 8:20 pm Apr. 20

1958 July 4/5 North Carolina etc. 1 ± am July 5

1958 Nov. 30 South Carolina etc. 6:10 pm Nov. 30

1958 Dec. 13/14 New York, New Jersey etc. 12:42 am Dec. 14

1959 Feb. 10/11 South Carolina etc. 4:15 am Feb. 11

all times approx.

It would be a great favor to me and useful to science if you would be good enough to send me observations dealing with these fireballs.

Very sincerely yours,

[redacted]

Narberth, Pa.

OFFICIAL FILE COPY

AFCIN-4B/4

Fireballs

SAFIS-3 (Major L. J. Tacker) 19 AUG 1959

1. In answer to a request by Dr. [redacted], the following information is submitted:

a. 20 April 1958, 2019 EST - Two aircraft at 9000 feet altitude, located at 30 degrees 50'N 83 degrees 45'W, east of Thomasville, Georgia, sighted the following object: round, light green, increasing in intensity as it approached the aircraft. Object had a trail smaller than the diameter of object, pink, then dark compared to clouds; approach speed from the northeast toward the aircraft was like a meteor, heading southwest. Object passed between the aircraft and Cordell, Georgia in a descending curve. The glow just disappeared. Object in view for four seconds.

b. 5 July 1958, 0105 EST - At 31 degrees 30'N, 71 degrees 25'W, an aircraft at 8000 feet altitude sighted the following: an object was observed one and one-half to two miles north of aircraft; object appeared to ignite at high altitude, leaving a long trail of sparks. At about 600 feet, object burst into bright green ball of fire, lighting up entire area. A few more sparks were observed floating earthward after explosion. This same object was seen from a position of 31 degrees 30'N, 71 degrees 30'W, and 32 degrees 30'N, 70 degrees 30'W by three other aircraft.

c. 14 December 1958, Yonkers, N. Y., 0045 EST - A large meteor was observed east of Orion traveling in a southwest direction. The color was white, with a tail about as long as the distance from Betelgeux to Saiph. The meteor was in view for approximately one second.

d. 14 December 1958, east of Elmira, N. Y., 0045 EST - A brilliant light, yellow, slightly larger than a quarter, with a dark red tail seven times larger than object, was observed at a great height. It moved from southeast to northwest. Duration of sighting not reported.

e. 14 December 1958, Smithtown, N. Y., 0041 EST - A bright light, orange-blue and greenish-white, traveled south to north, observed for 10 to 15 seconds.

f. 14 December 1958, Toms River, Morristown, Wrightstown, McGuire AFB, and Lakehurst NAS, N. J., 0030-0100 EST - A round object, size of a large grapefruit, green, brilliant white, orange red, traveled in straight line from Toms River to Lakehurst NAS, as given above. Object was observed for five seconds.

COORDINATION [redacted]

HEY [redacted] TE 19 Aug 59

c. 14 December 1958, Wilmington, Delaware and over Stillwater, Pa., 0043 EST - One object the size of a baseball, first observed 30 degrees above horizon, traveled west to east, broke into three parts, leaving a slight trail, and disappeared to the east. Object observed for five to six seconds.

h. 14 December 1958, Washington, D. C., 0043 EST - Round object, size of grapefruit, yellowish to light green, with tail similar to a comet tail. First sighted approximately overhead, disappeared 45 degrees above horizon to the north. Observed for 15 to 30 seconds.

i. 11 February 1959, south of Rockingham, N. C., 0500 EST - Round object, estimated to be 200 to 300 feet in diameter, dark green, tail was the same color, 200 feet long. First observed overhead, disappeared below horizon to the south. Observed for ten seconds.

j. 11 February 1959, Shaw AFB, S. C., 0415 EST - Round, size of grapefruit at arm's length, white with a blue-red tail about two to three times the diameter of the object. Object traveled in a southwest direction. Observed for five to ten seconds.

k. 11 February 1959, north of Ingeland, S. C., 0420 EST - A bright white light with green ring around it was observed overhead, traveling to the southwest, and disappeared over the horizon. Size of object was between that of a grapefruit and a basketball. Observed for 30 seconds.

l. Attached is a copy of a United Press Release concerning a sighting on 20 April 1958, which occurred over the southeastern part of the United States.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

t Report 8/18/59

GORDON C. HOFFMAN
Colonel, USAF
Actg. Deputy for Sciences
and Components

1 Atch:
Cy United Press Release

TELEPHONED
TO OD
NO. 52151
TIME
Date
By:

06052

RA 28

SQ0765 TYC179HQA0041

FF RJEDSQ

DE RJEPHQ

F 051446Z

FM HEDUSAF

TO ATIC WPAFB

1st Msg

0 5/0627Z ← 30041

FM 30041/AFA3 ANDREWS AFB MD

TO RJEDDN/COMMANDER ADC ENT AFB

RJEPHQ/CHIEF OF STAFF USAF

RBEGK/COMMANDER EASTERN SEA FRONTIER

BT

Time: 0605

3130N 7175W 0605Z FALLING OBJECT WAS OBSERVED TO RIGHT OF

POSITION AT60 OBJECT BURST INTO BRIGHT GREEN BALL AT A HIGH

ALTITUDE OBJECT IGNIGHTED LEAVING A TRAIL OF SPARKS

BT

05/0648Z JUL RJEZGA

Everything here definitely points to
object being a true bolide or "fireball"
Also See PAA case 7 Nov 57. Earth was entering
PERSEID shower - and therefore prime period. ETC

Concur with Capt Begg. Was

L. V. R
7/9/58

TO RJEDDN/COMDR. ADC

RBEGK/COMEASTSEAFRON

RJEPHQ/CHIEF OF STAFF USAF

INFO ZEN/COMDR 26TH ADIV

RJEPNB/COMDR CFECR

BT

/CUNCLAS/ CITE NBR 5303.

(1) CIRVIS REPORT.

(2) IDENTIFICATION REPORTING AIRCRAFT:

PAA 215 PAA 297A

(3) BRILLIANT LIGHTING ALOFT.

(4) TIME & POSITION.

Time: 0605

TIME 0615Z ALT. ALOFT FT

(A) 32-30N 70-30 W

(5) DIRECTION OF TRAVEL & SPEED.

N/A

~~(6) REMARKS~~

RECEIVED FROM PAA AT 0651Z LC (NYARTC"ALTITUDE OF A/C 11,000

AND 9,000FT

BT

07/0712Z JUL RJEPNH

2nd Msg

Multi 0615Z 5 Jul? 7

RF@2@

C @@F667 TYB75@HQA247

PP RJEDSC

DE RJEPHQ 8@5

P 2516@1Z

FM HEDUSAF

INFO ATIC WPAFB

1 2 3 4 4 4 4 4 X 2 B

CMS

Last Msg

P 25@719Z

FM COMACDEFORLANT ROSLYN NY

NNNN

0605Z → Jul

RC020

V SQG766 TYD945HQA046

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJEPHQ 804

P 051557Z

FM HEDUSAF

INFO ATIC WPAFB

3rd Msg

P 050726Z

FM COMACDEFORLANT ROSLYN NY

TO RJEDDN/COMDR ADC

1/3 } 4E4

4 4Xra

CME

RELGK/COMEASTSEAFRON

RJEPHQ/CHIEF OF STAFF USAF

INFO ZEN/COMDR 26TH ADIV

RJEPNB/COMDR CFEOR

ET

/UNCLAS/CITE NBR 5305

(1) CIRVIS REPORT.

(2) IDENTIFICATION OF REPORTING AIRCRAFT:

PAA 301

(3) RBIGHT ILLVMINATION

(4) TIME & POSITION.

TIME 0605Z ALT. ALOFT FT

(A) 31.30N 71.30 W

(B) N/A

(C) N/A

(D) N/A

(E) BEARING 200 DEGREES FROM PAA 301

(T) DIRECTION OF TRAVEL & SPEEED.

N/A

(S) REMARKS: ILLUMINATION WAS VERTICAL & SLIGHTLY FROM THE WEST

REC'D FROM PAA MISS [redacted]

ET

[redacted]Z JUL RJEPNH

3rd Msg

05/0605Z
Jul

RA 22

O SQF672 TYD948 HQA252

RR RJEDSQ

DE RJEPHQ 807

R 05/1813Z

FM HEDUSAF

TO COMDR ATIC

ET

UNCLAS 37158

MESSAGE FROM C-121 TO CONAD, MATS AND ANDREWS AIRWAYS. AT 0506Z POSITION 3130N 7125W. OBJECT OBSERVED ONE AND ONE HALF TO TWO MILES RIGHT OF COURSE. IGNITED AT HIGH ALTITUDE AND LEFT LONG TRAIL OF SPARKS. AT ABOUT [redacted] FEET OBJECT BURST INTO BRIGHT GREEN BALL OF FIRE LIGHTING ENTIRE AREA. FEW MORE SPARKS OBSERVED FLOATING EARTHWARD AFTER EXPLOSION. FLIGHT LEVEL OF AIRCRAFT [redacted] MSL ENROUTE FROM BERMUDA TO CHARLESTON, S.C. POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED ARE TWO MESSAGES BEING FORWARDED TO YOU ORIGINATED BY COMAC DEFORLANT ROSLYN, N.Y. DTG 0571Z AND 0572Z. SIGHTINGS SAME AREA BY TWO PAA AIRCRAFT. COMDR ADC NOTIFIED.

BT

05/1813Z JUL RJEPHQ

4th Msg

1
2
3
4E4
4 4X2a
CME

4th Msg

Orig hand carried to 4E9 at 1405, 9 July 58
[redacted]
DTG 7/9/58

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

11 JUL 58 21 57Z

[redacted]

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION PRIORITY	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE X	AF		
INFO						

FROM: COMDR ATIC

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

TO: DIRECTOR OF RANGE OPERATIONS
AF MISSILE TEST CENTER
PATRICK AFB, FLORIDA

FTESNO

/UNCLASSIFIED/FROM: AFCIN-4E4

Reference is made to following CIRVIS and UFO Reports, HEDUSAF message 30041, COMACDEFORLANT 5303 and 5305, and USAF 37158 re C-121 to CONAD, MATS and ANDREWS, all dated 5 July 58, Zone. Subject brilliant green ball of fire seen at high altitudes and leaving trail of sparks by AF C-121 and two PAA transoceanic airliners in general area of 31 degrees N - 71 degrees W, approximately 475 miles East-Southeast of Savannah, Georgia and almost due West of Bermuda.

Object has all characteristics and description of true bolide, i.e. fireball, and is almost exact phenomenon encountered by PAA airliner 9 March 57, independently concluded to be fireball by Air Force, CAA and Smithsonian Astrophysical Institute.

However, request this Center be advised of any firings, run-away missiles or other operations in area known to you that could

DATE 09 | TIME 1530
MONTH JULY | YEAR 58

WRITER

SYMBOL: AFCIN-4E4

TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required): Capt G.T. Gregory

PHONE: 6916 | PAGE NR. 1 | NR. OF PAGES 2

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASER

SIGNATURE

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE: ATIC Duty Officer

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

JOINT MESSAGEFORM - CON. .UATION SHEET	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED

FROM:

COMDR ATIC

account for sighting, including any known British operations in area. This is standard check and investigative procedure. Expeditious reply desired.

COORDINATION

AFCIN-4E4 L.V. Robinson for Dr. H. A. Miley DATE 7/9/58

AFCIN-4E H K Gilbert Col H. K. Gilbert DATE 10 Jul

AFCIN-4X1 A. F. Arcier Mr. A. F. Arcier DATE 11 Jul

SYMBOL	PAGE NR	NR OF PAGES	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	INITIALS
AFCIN-4E4	2	2	UNCLASSIFIED	

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173-1

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