PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 9 Jan 1948	2. LOCATION Ladd AFB, Alaska	12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2300Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	☒ Was Aircraft B-29 ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Mil	☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Unk	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	9. COURSE W to E
		☐ Other ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Definite contrail which seemed to have a phosphorescent glow and intermittent flashes at point of origin.

11. COMMENTS

B-29 in area at 2300Z hrs at 16,000'
Practicing instrument flying.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

BASIC: Ltr fr Hqs Alaskan Air Command dtd 20 Jan 1948, subj: Intelligence Report

1st Ind

HEADQUARTERS ALASKAN COMMAND, APO 942, c/o Postmaster, Seattle, Washington 22 JAN 1948

TO: Chief of Staff, Department of the Air Force, Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Director, Intelligence Division

1. Contents of attached report have been reviewed by this headquarters.

2. This report resulted from inadequate investigation prior to submission of the initial report. Positive instructions have been issued reference to investigation prior to submission of reports in an effort to prevent recurrence of such incidents.

FOR THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF:

Clayton W. Wells
CLAYTON W. WELLS
Lt Col, GSC
Secretary Joint Staff

1 Incl: n/c

AFOIR-CO-5 2nd Ind.

Dept. of the Air Force, Hq. USAF, Washington 25, D. C. 13 FEB 1948

TO: Commanding General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio
ATTN: TSDIN

For your information.

BY COMMAND OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF:

Douglass W. Eiseman
DOUGLASS W. EISEMAN
Lt. Colonel, U.S.A.F.
Executive [redacted] Intelligence Requirements Div.
Directorate of Intelligence

1 Incl
n/c

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

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UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
ALASKAN AIR COMMAND
APO 942 U.S. Army

20 JAN 1948

AAOIN-1 319.1

SUBJECT: Intelligence Report

THRU: Commander-in-Chief
Alaskan Command
APO 942, U S Army
ATTN: Director of Intelligence

TO: Chief of Staff
Department of the Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.
ATTN: Director, Intelligence Division

1. Reference is made to our radiograms A-18327, DTG 100750 and A-18332, DTD 110020.

2. Inclosed is the final report on the incident quoted in the radiograms mentioned above.

3. It is desired that all messages pertaining to the subject incident be downgraded to Confidential.

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL:

E. R. Autrey

E. R. AUTREY
Lt. Colonel, AGD
Adjutant General

1 Incl.
Ltr Yukon Sector re
rpt on Sighting at
Ladd Fld, 9 Jan 48

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DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS YUKON SECTOR
ALASKAN AIR COMMAND
Office of the AC/S A-2
APO 731, U.S. Army

13 January 1948

SUBJECT: Report of Sighting at Ladd Field, 9 January 1948

TO: Director, Intelligence Division
Headquarters Alaskan Air Command
APO 942, U S Army

1. The following sighting was made at 2300Z, 9 January 1948 in the vicinity of Ladd Field:

a. A definite contrail which seemed to have a phosphorescent glow and intermittent flashes at point of origin.

b. Five Officers and men of the 72nd Reconnaissance Squadron observed the contrail and gave varying descriptions of it. The object or aircraft was sighted in a position north of west of Ladd Field and originally appeared as a vertical contrail on the horizon and as it came closer, it was horizontal. The contrail was lost in the overcast just east of Ladd Field.

c. After the sighting was made and reported, an interrogation and thorough check was made.

2. The interrogation revealed that the object or aircraft making the contrail was not seen but apparently the flashes and glow caused by the sun reflecting off the surface of the object or aircraft were noticed.

3. The original check on Mile 26 aircraft flying in the vicinity of Ladd Field was first made to Ladd Field base operations. At this time, it was reported that no aircraft from Mile 26 were flying in the vicinity of Ladd Field. A recheck with the Operations Officer at Mile 26, made some time after the original reports were submitted, indicated several aircraft were flying with one of them in vicinity of Ladd Field at 2300Z. A definite position report was obtained on the aircraft in the vicinity of Ladd Field and the following information revealed:

a. A B-29 was just west of Ladd Field working the Ladd Field range practicing instrument flying at 16,000 feet and 205 indicated air speed on a heading of 91°. True, this aircraft was over Ladd Field at

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approximately 2300Z.

4. From the above information, the conclusion was reached that the contrail sighted was caused by a B-29 practicing instrument approaches on the Ladd Field range.

Burton R Grinyer
BURTON R. GRINYER
Captain, USAF
AC/S A-2

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