

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 19 Jan 52		2. LOCATION CHDAR KEYS, FLA.		12. CONCLUSIONS ☒ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 19/2056 EST GMT 20/0156 Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft	
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE B-29 Aircrew		☐ Was Astronomical ☒ Probably Astronomical (M-760A) ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 3 Sec.		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1		9. COURSE --	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Large round, bluish green object with a blue tail traveled at a high rate of speed in a downward direction. Object traveled from 30° above horizon falling to 5° above horizon where it exploded and faded out.				11. COMMENTS	

19 JAN 52 CEDAR KEYS, FLA.

Astere (Meteor)

EXTRACT FROM STATUS REPORT # 3

DATE: 19 Jan 52

TIME (Local): 1956

LOCATION: Cedar Keys, Fla.

LENGTH OF TIME OBSERVED: 3 Sec.

SOUND: None

SPEED: Unknown

ALTITUDE: Unknown

HEADING: Unknown

SOURCE: B-29 Crew

ACTION OR COMMENTS: Fireball type phenomena. No investigation. No conclusions..

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT: Large blue-green fireball observed by B-29 crew.
Decended and exploded near the ground.

7-3712-42

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

CGTAG OXFUTT AFB NEBR (Cont'd)

Albuquerque. Aircraft flying at 32,000 feet in both instances. Each object had an upward trajectory and seem to burst several thousand feet above aircraft. Albuquerque radio was advised. Gordon was interrogated at Randolph Air Base by OSI regarding the incidents a few weeks later. Each of the above named officer was convinced that object had no relation to meteorological or astronomical activity. No physical evidence of sighting is available."

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOD DIR 5200.10

ACTION: OIN

INFO : SEC DEF ARMY NAVY CIA JCS AFSA

(21 Jan 52)

MEM/cpv

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AFHQ FORM 0-309f
19 JAN 51

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COPY No.

ATD 39817

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION

INCOMING CLASSIFIED MESSAGE NOT REQUIRED
CRYPTOCOUNTERMEASURE REPORT DECLASSIFIED
CRYPTOPRECAUTION APPLIES

FROM: COSAC OFFUTT AFB NEBR

TO : CSHSAM WASH DC

PR : /

21 Jan 52

OK DM

The following was received from CO 301 BW, Barksdale AFB La 3001 0000Z, 21 Jan 52, is quoted for your info: "Following is summary of information regarding sightings by 32nd Bomb Squadron crew during operation conducted under 101-2 large round object seen by 1 of 32nd observed undetermined distance in front of B-29. Type aircraft flying in vicinity of Cedar Keys Bombing Range, Fla. Object first appeared approximately 30 degrees above and to left of aft heading 120 degrees. Object's fall was directly toward ground and glowed from what appeared to be internal combustion. As it approached 5 degrees of horizon it seemingly exploded with fall out and force of explosion downward. Object traveled through space at greater speed than expected of free falling object and appeared much closer and brighter than falling stars and meteors. Prior to explosion, object left glowing trail estimated to be 150 feet long. Immediately after disintegration object and trail faded from sight. Object observed at 190156Z for period of approximately 3 seconds. Only visual observations were made. 3 crew members aboard aircraft 44-952 observed phenomena due east of 29 05N and 83 19W while at 25,000 foot pressure altitude. Location of aircraft approximately 15 miles northeast of Cedar Keys Bombing Range. Aircraft flying 120 degrees at 254 knots. 32 Second Bomb Squadron personnel observing phenomena as follows: Aircraft Commander [redacted] 9 years flying experience, pilot [redacted] 12 years flying experience. Bombardier 1st Lieutenant Lawrence M. Leggett 3 years flying experience. Each observer very conscientious and cooperative during interrogation. All replies apparently truthful and to the point. No opinions offered as to identity of the object. [redacted] reported that during C-47 flight between Denver and Albuquerque in late 1948 he observed same type of phenomena on 2 separate occasions: once approximately 30 minutes north of Albuquerque and again just as he reached the city of [redacted]

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CAP 201

DIR 5200.10

21 Jan 52

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19 JAN 51

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FLYING EXPERIENCE. BOMBARDIER 1ST LIEUTENANT [REDACTED] 3 YEARS FLYING EXPERIENCE. EACH OBSERVER VERY CONSCIENTIOUS AND COOPERATIVE DURING INTERROGATION. ALL REMARKS APPARENTLY TRUTHFUL AND TO THE POINT. NO OPINIONS OFFERED AS TO IDENTITY OF THE OBJECT. GOADE REPORTED THAT DURING C-47 FLIGHT BETWEEN DENVER AND ALBUQUERQUE IN LATE 1948 HE OBSERVED SAME TYPE OF PHENOMENA ON 2 SEPARATE OCCASIONS: ONCE APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES NORTH OF ALBUQUERQUE AND AGAIN JUST AS HE REACHED THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE. AIRCRAFT FLYING AT 12,000 FEET IN BOTH INSTANCES. EACH OBJECT HAD AN UPWARD TRAJECTORY AND SEEM TO BURST SEVERAL THOUSAND FEET ABOVE AIRCRAFT. ALBUQUERQUE RADIO WAS ADVISED. [REDACTED] WAS INTERROGATED AT RANDOLPH AIR BASE BY OSI REGARDING THE INCIDENT A FEW WEEKS LATER. EACH OF THE ABOVE NAMED OFFICER WAS CONVICTED THAT OBJECT HAD NO RELATION TO METEOROLOGICAL OR ASTRONOMICAL ACTIVITY. NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF SIGHTING IS AVAILABLE."

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

NO PREVIOUS REPORT THIS INCIDENT AVAILABLE HERE.

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CSAF ITEM 5 [REDACTED]
SECURITY INFORMATION
TO RUPPELT FOM AFOIN-V/TC FOURNET
CABLE NR DOCOR 14688 FROM CG SAC RECEIVED
HERE QUOTED FOR YOUR INFO AND ACTION:

TT-24
23 Jan 52
CSAF ITEM 5

"THE FOLG MSG RECD FROM CO 301 BW
BARKSDALE AFB LA 3D01 0073, DTD 190030

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ATTN

JAN 52, IS QUOTED FOR YOUR INFO: FOLLOWING

IS SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION REGARDING SIGHTINGS
BY 32 ND BOMB SQUADRON CREW DURING OPERATION
CONDUCTED UNDER 101-2 LARGE ROUND BLuish
GREEN BALL OF LIGHT OBSERVED UNDETERMINED DISTANCE
IN FRONT OF B-29. TYPE AIRCRAFT FLYING IN
VICINITY OF CEDER ^{KEYS} JETS BOMBING RANGE FLA.

ACTION

OBJECT FIRST APPEARED APPROXIMATELY 30
DEGREES ABOVE AND TO LEFT OF ACFT HEADING
120 DEGREES. OBJECT'S FALL WAS DIRECTLY
TOWARD GROUND AND GLOWED FROM WHAT APPEARED TO
BE INTERNAL COMBUSTION. AS IT APPROACHED 5
DEGREES OF HORIZON IT SEEMINGLY EXPLODED
WITH FALL OUT AND FORCE OF EXPLOSION DOWNWARD.

ATIAA

OBJECT TRAVELED THROUGH SPACE AT GREATER
SPEED THAN EXPECTED OF FREE FALLING OBJECT
AND APPEARED MUCH CLOSER AND BRIGHTER THAN FALLING STARS AND METEORS.

PRIOR TO EXPLOSION OBJECT LEFT GLOWING TAIL ESTIMATED
TO BE 150 FEET LONG. IMMEDIATELY AFTER
DISINTEGRATION OBJECT AND TRAIN FADED FROM SIGHT.

OBJECT OBSERVED AT 190156Z FOR PERIOD OF
APPROXIMATELY 3 SECONDS. ONLY VISUAL
OBSERVATIONS WERE MADE. 3 CREW MEMBERS
ABOARD AIRCRAFT 44-962 OBSERVED PHENOMENA
DUE EAST OF 29 05 N AND 83 19 W WHILE AT
25,000 FEET PRESSURE ALTITUDE. ; 191-589,
OF AIRCRAFT APPROXIMATELY 15 MILES NORTHEAST
OF CEDER KEYS BOMBING RANGE.

AIRCRAFT FLYING 120 DEGREES AT 254 KNOTS.
30 SECOND BOMB SQUADRON PERSONNEL OBSERVING
PHENOMENA AS FOLLOWS: AIRCRAFT COMMANDER
ROBERT E. GORDON 16565A 9 YEARS FLYING EXPERIENCE,

ITEM 1 AMC / [REDACTED]
FROM LT E. J. RUPPELT ATIC 20 [REDACTED]
TO V/TC FOURNET

TE-26

25 Jan 52

[REDACTED]
REFERENCE TT-24, CSAF ITEM 5, 23 JANUARY 1952.
THIS OBSERVATION IS TYPICAL OF THE GREEN
FIREBALL CLASS OF UNIDENTIFIED OBJECTS. THE AIR
FORCE CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH LABORATORY HAS
BEEN INVESTIGATING THIS PHENOMENA FOR THE
PAST TWO YEARS BUT HAVE REACHED NO CONCLUSIONS.
ATIC IS STILL COLLECTING DATA ON THIS TYPE OF
PHENOMENA, HOWEVER, IN CASE IT IS EVER
NEEDED IN THE FUTURE. ATIC HAS NO PREVIOUS REPORT ON
THIS INCIDENT. PILOTS 1948 REPORT IS ON
FILE.

INFORMATION

END ITEM 1 AMC / [REDACTED]