

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE <u>29 Aug 52</u>		2. LOCATION <u>Coast of Gr (Land)</u> <u>77 N, 75°15' W</u>		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☒ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT <u>29/1550</u>		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE <u>2 AF pilots</u>			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION <u>2-3</u>		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS <u>3</u>		9. COURSE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Disk shaped, white objects traveling from zero to extremely high speeds in a triangular formation were observed by 2 pilots of P4Y-2 a/c while on a cosmic balloon tracking flight. The pilots were observing the cosmic balloons they had release when the unidentified objects appeared.				11. COMMENTS Possibly an up trend illusion caused by the sun reflecting off the cosmic balloon. What seemingly eliminates this is the fact that the 3 objects were seen by two observers at different positions in the P4Y - one in the Astro dome the other in the pilot's seat.	

HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

TALLY NO.	
FILE NO.	

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Material for Project Blue Book

AUTH CS, USAF
1045TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Command
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
Dayton, Ohio

DATE--7-Jan-53

FROM: Department of the Air Force
Headquarters USAF - AFOIN

COMMENT NO. 1

Capt Smith/ac/75990
AFOIN-2A2

Inclosure is for your information, retention and appropriate action.

2 Incls.

1. Report 0028 to P32,
Dept. of Navy, DNI,
dtd 31 Dec 52

W. A. Adams
WILLIAM A. ADAMS
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Topical Division
Deputy Director for Estimates
Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O

2. Ltr fr Mrs. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Milton,
Mass, dtd 27 Dec 52

UNCLASSIFIED
of The [REDACTED] TDP
[REDACTED]
MAY 1963
AFR 205-1, Par 2-17a, 2 Jan 68

DOWN

DEC

UNCLASSIFIED

753-531-A



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO
Op-322F2/wt
Ser 002870P32

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

31 DEC

From: Director, Naval Intelligence
To: Director of Intelligence, Headquarters,
United States Air Force

Subj: ELYOBRPT, report on

Encl: (1) VP-23/Ag/fw ltr ser 873 dtd 31 Oct 1952 with enclosures
attached thereto

1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded for information and whatever action is
deemed necessary.

C. L. Gilbert

C. L. GILBERT
By direction

Classification
(or change)
Auth. of the Director TDP
Date 20 MAY 1969
AFR 205-1, Par 2-1.2, 2 Jan 68

DOWNGRADED
DECLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

Incl #1

[REDACTED] 109426

VP-23/A9/fw

SERIAL: 0113

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
AIR FORCE
PATROL SQUADRON TWENTY THREE

Classification Canceled
UNCLASSIFIED
AFR 205-1, Par 217a, 2 Jan 68

UNCLASSIFIED

Naval Air Station
Brunswick, Maine

OCT 31 1952

From: Commanding Officer
To: Chief of Naval Operations (Op-32)

Subj: FLYOBRPT

Ref: (a) Office of Naval Research Dispatch 161455Z of September 1952
(b) Air Force Circular Letter 200-5

✓ Encl: (1) Signed narrative statement by LTJG W.A. O'FLAHERTY, USN
(2) Signed narrative statement by LTJG R.S. MOORE, USN
(3) Flight track and sighting location on aeronautical chart
(4) Sketch of sighting

1. - In accordance with reference (a) the following information is submitted for transmission to the U.S. Air Force. The information given below is in the order prescribed in paragraph 7.c. of reference (b):

(a) Objects either spherical or disk like in shape; from slightly smaller than the cosmic balloon to half its size; white in color; three in number; in a triangular formation; no observed aerodynamic features, trail or exhaust, or propulsion system; speed varied from zero to a rapid acceleration to a speed in excess of the speed of sound; maintained formation throughout observations; disappeared by reason of high speed and distance.

(b) Sighted at 1550Z for a period of two to three minutes.

(c) Visual observation from a P4Y-2 aircraft flying at 10,000 feet at a speed of 150 knots.

(d) Sighted at ^{LATITUDE} longitude 77-~~00~~^{LONGITUDE} latitude 75-15 W.

(e) Both officers are PPLP's and are Naval Academy graduates in 1949. LTJG O'FLAHERTY has 506 hours flight time and LTJG MOORE has 731 hours. Both officers are considered highly reliable and have no tendencies toward the spectacular.

UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

4 DEC 1952

VP-23/A9/fw

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
AIR FORCE

SERIAL:

PATROL SQUADRON TWENTY THREE

[REDACTED] ION

(f) Undercast to 8500 feet with clear weather and unlimited visibility above 8500 feet. Winds were from the southeast at approximately 25 knots.

(g) No known conditions which might account for the sighting.

(h) No physical evidence.

(i) Icebreaker called either during observation or shortly thereafter and it was determined that only one object was intentionally released from the balloon.

(j) There was no known air traffic in the general area at the time of the sighting.

V.A. Blandin
V.A. BLANDIN

Classification Cancelled
(or changed to) UNCLASSIFIED
Auth. of The Director TDP
Date 13 MAY 1969
AFR 2051, Par 2-17a, 2 Jan 68

UNCLASSIFIED

VP-23/

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
AIR FORCE

SERIAL:

PATROL SQUADRON TWENTY THREE

[REDACTED] ON

of the Director TDP
A. J. [REDACTED]
MAY 1959
AFR 2051, Par 2-17a, 2 Jan 59

On 29 August 1952, while on a cosmic balloon tracking flight, I observed the balloon at about 74,000 feet at about 1550Z. I was sitting in the pilot's seat on the port side of the cabin and was circling slightly to left on a heading of approximately 000°T when the balloon released the parachute containing the instruments. The balloon at this time was to the north and slightly west of my location. Its altitude at the point of release was about 74,000 feet and I was flying at an altitude of 10,000 feet. The weather was clear and visibility unlimited above 8,000 feet below which there was an undercast. I was flying a P4Y-2 at a speed of about 150 knots. To my knowledge there was no other air traffic in the general area. Immediately upon observing the release of the instrument parachute I further observed three objects, slightly smaller than the balloon, shaped like round disks and white in color. My first impression was that they were other balloons released by the larger balloon. However, this impression vanished when I realized they were in a triangular formation, equally spaced to the right of, and forming a diamond shaped pattern with, the main balloon. I observed these objects for some two to three minutes and LTJG MOORE, looking through the astro-dome, observed these objects at the same time and we discussed them over the ICS while observing them. LT CALLAHAN was in the co-pilot's seat and because of the relative position of the balloon and the fact that we were in a half standard rate left turn did not observe them. As the plane continued its left turn I lost the sightings when they came directly between me and the sun. Upon resighting the balloon the three objects had disappeared. We called the icebreaker upon sighting the objects and while they were still within view and asked how many objects were to have been released. They replied that only one had been. The objects did not reappear and showed no means of propulsion.

W.A.O. Flaherty
W.A. O'FLAHERTY
LTJG, USN

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]

Enclosure (1)

VP-23/

UNITED STATES ATLANTIC FLEET
AIR FORCE

SERIAL:

PATROL SQUADRON TWENTY THREE

UNCLASSIFIED
[REDACTED] ON

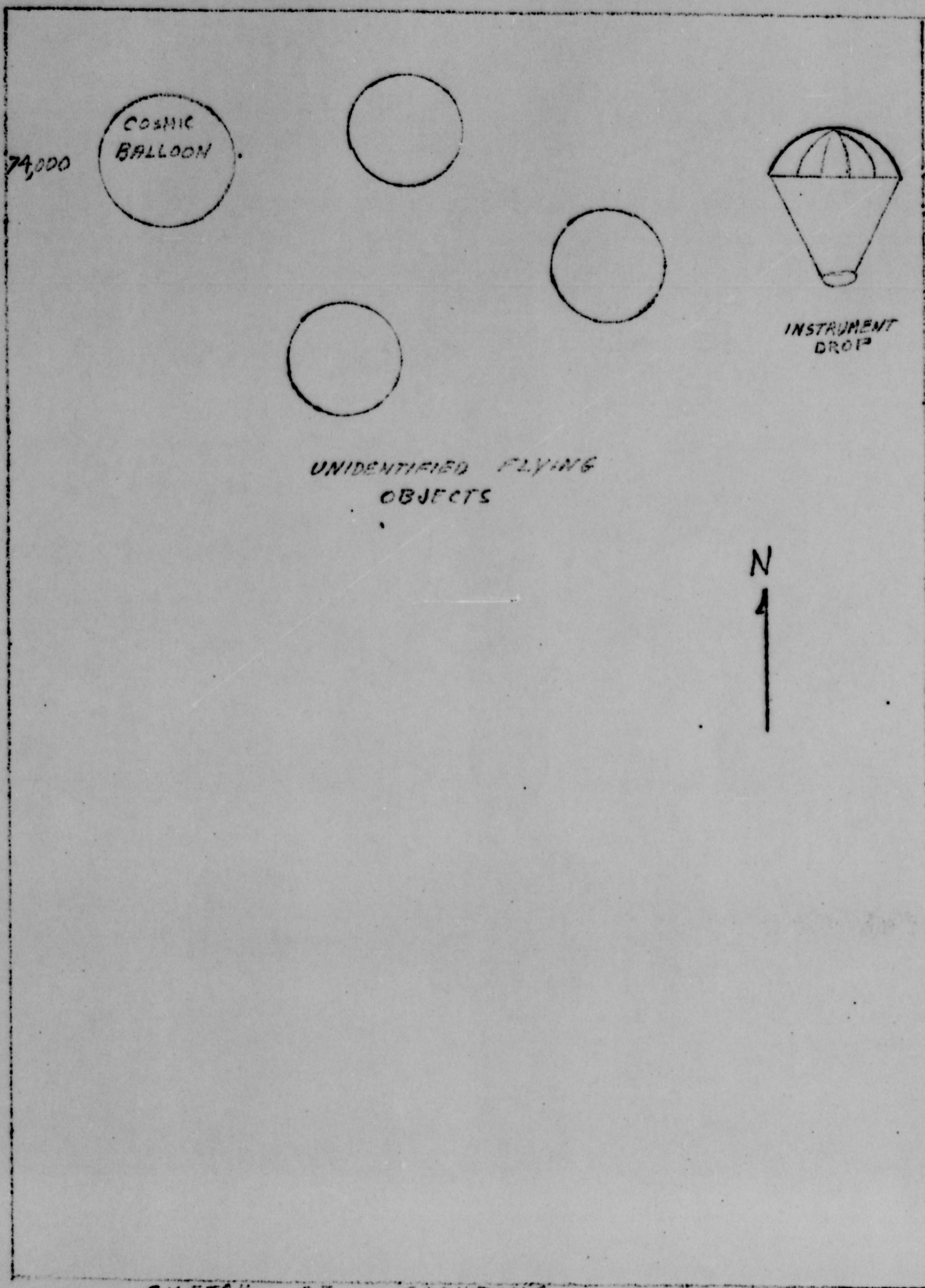
UNCLASSIFIED
[Signature]
Date 2-17-68
AFK 2-17-68, 2-17-68

On 29 August 1952, at about 1550Z, while on a cosmic balloon tracking flight as navigator I observed the following: Three white objects shaped like spheres, about $\frac{1}{2}$ the size of the balloon and in a triangular shaped formation. I observed them through the astro-dome at an altitude of 10,000 feet with an 8500 foot undercast and clear and visibility unlimited above that. We were in a P4Y-2 aircraft flying in a northerly direction at about 150 knots. Winds were from the southeast at about 25 knots. The balloon was to the north of us at about 74,000 feet when I saw it release the instrument parachute and immediately there appeared the three objects. They remained stationary relative to the balloon for about 2 minutes and then moved rapidly off and disappeared in about 5 seconds. Because of this I would estimate their speed at considerably in excess of the speed of sound. They showed no trail or exhaust nor means of propulsion. During the observation I was in communication over the IC system with LTJG O'FLAHERTY and he lost the sighting in the sun.

R.S. Moore
R.S. MOORE
LTJG, USN

UNCLASSIFIED
[REDACTED]

Enclosure (2)



SKETCH OF SIGHTING

PROJECT 10073 WORKSHEET

I. GENERAL

1. DATE <i>27 August 52</i>	2. LOCATION <i>GREENLAND (West Coast)</i>	3. TIME Local: <i>1150</i> Zebra: <i>1550</i>
4. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED FROM THE GROUND? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ Naked Eye ☐ Binoculars ☐ Telescope ☐ Theodolite		
5. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED BY GROUND RADAR? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ By One Set ☐ By Two Sets ☐ By Three Sets		
6. WAS OBJECT OBSERVED FROM THE AIR? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
☒ A/C Observed Object ☐ Interception Attempted ☒ No Intercept Attempted		
7. WERE AIRCRAFT SCRAMBLED TO INTERCEPT? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ A/C Scrambled ☐ Visual Contact Made ☐ A/I Contact Made ☐ No Contact Made		
8. DID OBJECT CHANGE DIRECTION AT ANY TIME? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
☒ Normal ☐ Violent		
9. IF OBJECT WAS A "LIGHT", WAS IT: ☐ Blinking ☐ Steady		
10. LENGTH OF TIME IN SIGHT: ☐ 1-15 Seconds ☒ 1-5 Minutes <i>2 to 3</i> ☐ Over 10 Minutes		
11. REPORTING AGENCY (Unit Number and Mailing Address)		
<i>United States Atlantic Fleet - Air Force Patrol Sq. 23</i>		

II. ASTRONOMICAL DATA

12. WHAT ASTRONOMICAL ACTIVITY WAS NOTED?		
13. DID OBJECT APPEAR TO ARCH DOWNWARD? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
14. DID OBJECT HAVE A TAIL? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
15. DID OBJECT APPEAR TO DISINTEGRATE? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
16. TIME OF SIGHTING RELATIVE TO SUNRISE OR SUNSET (Data From Air Almanac)		
☐ Night ☒ Day ☐ Sunrise ☐ Sunset		

III. AIRCRAFT DATA

17. WERE AIRCRAFT NOTED IN AREA? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
☐ One Aircraft ☐ More Than One Aircraft		
18. WAS ANY SOUND HEARD? ☐ Yes ☒ No		
19. WERE THERE INDICATIONS OF HIGH BACKGROUND NOISE? ☒ Yes ☐ No		
20. WAS THE OBJECT VIEWED ABOVE 45° ELEVATION? ☒ Yes ☐ No		

IV. BALLOON DATA

21. WERE BALLOONS RELEASED IN AREA?		☒ Yes		☐ No		
22. TIME SINCE SCHEDULED BALLOON RELEASE:		_____ Minutes				
23. POSSIBLE BALLOON LAUNCH SITES DOWNWIND OF SIGHTING:						
	Location	Type	Launching Agency	Lighted?		Describe Lighting
				Yes	No	
a.	Puff-2 was tracking	a cosmic balloon				at 14,000 ft
b.	which had been released	by a West Coast				
c.	observer - AT the alt. the	Guamish balloon				
d.	released instruments on a	parachute				

(attach overlay)

V. EVALUATION

21. EVALUATION OF SOURCE: ☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Unreliable ☐ Extremely Doubtful ☐ Hoax	22. DETAILS OF REPORT: ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Poor ☐ Insufficient to Evaluate
23. FINAL EVALUATION: ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other: _____ ☐ Insufficient Data For Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
24. COMMENTS: Might be an optical illusion, ^{reflecting} from the cosmic balloon since the unknown object are close to it, and approximately the same in shape. But the two observers viewed the same thing from different positions in the ATC, thus seemingly eliminating this possibility.	

PROJECT 10073 WEATHER DATA SHEET

1. DATE OF OBSERVATION	2. TIME OF OBSERVATION	3. STATION OBSERVING <i>Greenland coast</i>
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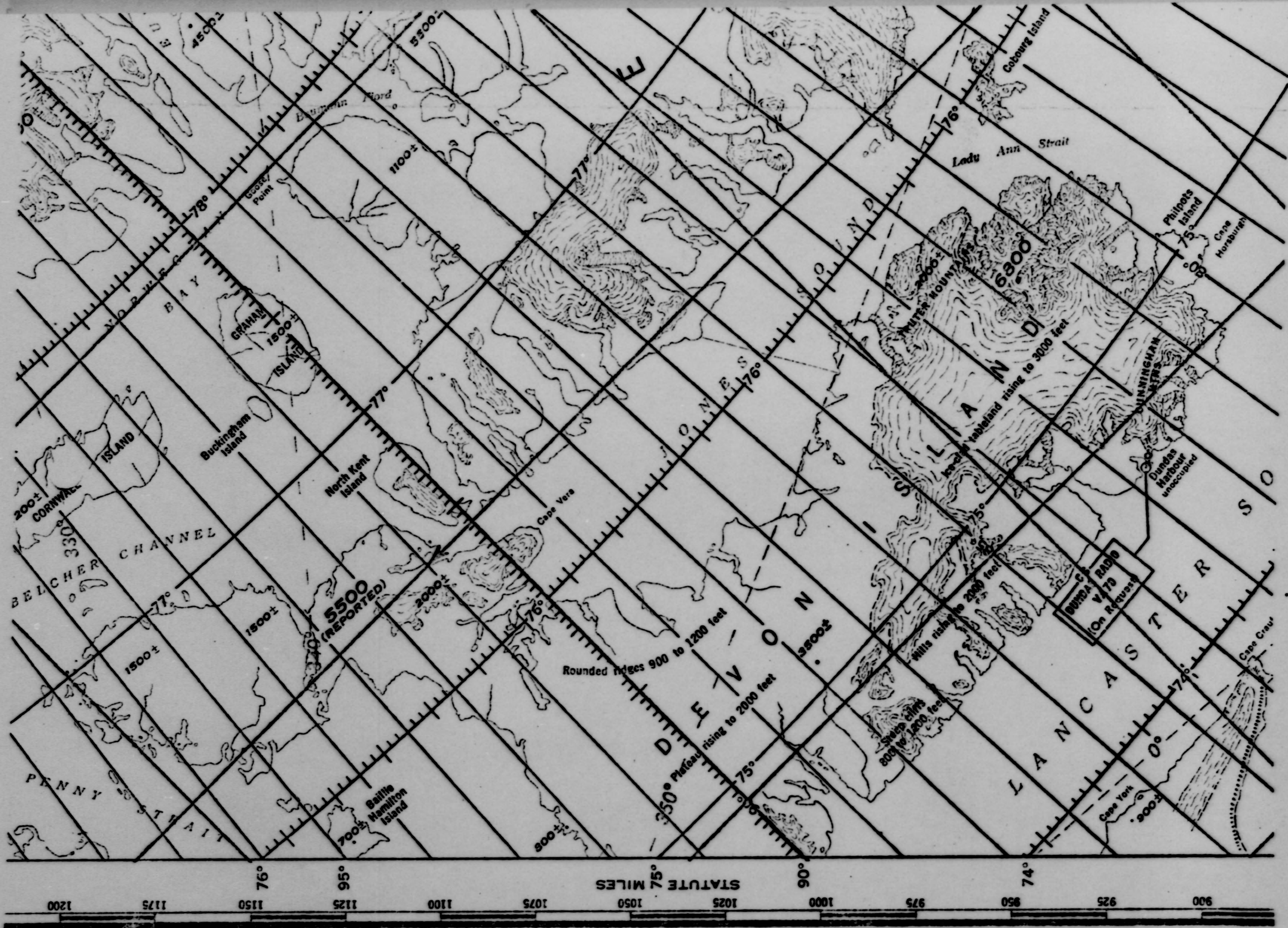
4. WINDS ALOFT:					
ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)	ALTITUDE (feet)	VELOCITY (knots)	DIRECTION (degrees)
0			25,000		
1,000			30,000		
2,000			35,000		
3,000			40,000		
4,000			45,000		
5,000			50,000		
6,000			55,000		
7,000			60,000		
8,000			65,000		
9,000			70,000		
10,000	<i>25</i>	<i>135</i>	75,000		
12,000			80,000		
14,000			85,000		
16,000			90,000		
18,000			95,000		
20,000			100,000		

5. WAS AN INVERSION LAYER NOTED? (If yes, at what altitude? _____) ☐ Yes ☐ No	
6. WERE ANY THUNDERSTORMS NOTED IN AREA? (If yes, at what quadrant? _____) ☐ Yes ☐ No	
7. CLOUD COVER: _____ tenths at _____ feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet.	8. VISIBILITY WAS _____ MILES.

9. COMMENTS:
Cloud deck at 8,000 ft. CHU above this.







1 - 8 SEPTEMBER 1952 SIGHTINGS

DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVER	EVALUATION
1	Richmond, Virginia	[REDACTED]	BALLOON
1	Marietta, Georgia	Multiple	UNIDENTIFIED
1	Yaak, Montana	Military	UNIDENTIFIED
2	Kirtland AFB, N. M. (CARD MISSING)	[REDACTED]	BALLOON
2	Chicago, Illinois	Military	UNIDENTIFIED
2	Morristown, Tennessee	Multiple	INSUFFICIENT DATA
2	Rapid City, South Dakota	[REDACTED]	INSUFFICIENT DATA
2	Delft, Netherlands	[REDACTED]	Other (HOAX)
2	Elgin, Illinois	[REDACTED]	INSUFFICIENT DATA
2	Tokyo, Japan	[REDACTED] (RADAR)	Other (MALFUNCTION)
2	Marietta, Georgia	[REDACTED]	BALLOON
2	Riverside, California	[REDACTED]	INSUFFICIENT DATA
3	Los Alamos, New Mexico (CARD MISSING)	Multiple	AIRCRAFT
3	Dublin, Georgia	Multiple	AIRCRAFT
3	Atlanta, Georgia	Multiple	BALLOON
3	Atlanta, Georgia	Military	BALLOON
3	Sacramento, California	[REDACTED]	INSUFFICIENT DATA
3	Tucson, Arizona	[REDACTED]	UNIDENTIFIED
4	Kutztown, Pa.	Multiple	INSUFFICIENT DATA
4	Death Valley, California	Military	Other (REFLECTION OF SUN)
4	Danville, California	[REDACTED]	BALLOON
5	Los Alamos, New Mexico (CARD MISSING)	[REDACTED]	INSUFFICIENT DATA
5	Singapore, B. C. C.	Civilians	INSUFFICIENT DATA
6	Albuquerque, N.M. (CARD MISSING)	[REDACTED]	
6	Lake Charles, AFB, La.	Multiple	UNIDENTIFIED
6	Korpro, Finland	Civilian	INSUFFICIENT DATA
6	Baltimore, Maryland	[REDACTED]	Other (TEST FIRINGS)
6	Tucson, Arizona	[REDACTED]	UNIDENTIFIED
7	San Antonio, Texas (CARD MISSING)	[REDACTED]	
7	San Antonio, Texas (CARD MISSING)	[REDACTED]	UNIDENTIFIED
7	Needles, California	Multiple	BALLOON
7	Opelousas, La.	[REDACTED]	AIRCRAFT
7	San Antonio, Texas	[REDACTED]	UNIDENTIFIED
8	Fresno, California	Multiple	Other (CONTRAILS)
8	Shamokin, Pa.	[REDACTED]	INSUFFICIENT DATA

ADDITIONAL REPORTED SIGHTINGS (NOT CASES)

DATE	LOCATION	SOURCE	EVALUATION
1	Washington, DC	Ltr, [REDACTED]	
3	Palma, Mallorca Island,	News Clipping	
6	South Africa	News Clipping	
10	San Antonio, Texas	Ltr, [REDACTED]	
14	Sutton, West Virginia	News Clipping	