PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. DATE<br>10 Oct 52 | 2. LOCATION<br>PRESQUE ISLE AFB MAINE | 12. CONCLUSIONS<br>☐ Was Balloon<br>XX Probably Balloon<br>☐ Possibly Balloon |
| 3. DATE-TIME GROUP<br>Local 10/2200 EST<br>GMT 11/0300 Z | 4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION<br>XX Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar<br>☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar | ☐ Was Aircraft<br>☐ Probably Aircraft<br>☐ Possibly Aircraft |
| 7. METEOR<br>☐ Yes<br>XXX No | 5. SOURCE<br>WX observers | X Was Astronomical (S/P)<br>☐ Probably Astronomical<br>☐ Possibly Astronomical |
| 6. DURATION OF OBSERVATION<br>4 hours | 8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS<br>1 | 9. COURSE<br>☐ Other<br>☐ Insufficient Data for Conclusion<br>☐ Unknown |

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF OBSERVATION

Circular orange with 4 green lights observed by wx observers at Presque Isle AFB. Observers made observation by theodolite.

11. COMMENTS

1. Possibility of "Moby Dick" upper atmosphere balloons caused the sighting.

2. Sighted immediately after launch time.

3. Decided that object was a planet on information from Ohio State Univ.

4. Was Jupiter

AFIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

ROUTING

# JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO. 13

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CG ATIC

TO: CG AIRFORCE AIR DEFENSE COMMAND ENGLAND AFB HAITI

INFO:

DATE-TIME GROUP: 051900Z DEC 52

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: [redacted]

PRECEDENCE FOR: ACTION ROUTINE | INFORMATION

☐ BOOK MESSAGE ☐ ORIGINAL MESSAGE

☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS CRYPTOPRECAUTION ☐ YES ☐ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION: JOINT 832J CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAA FOR DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE

With reference to your FLYOBRPT of 13 Oct 52 and your message AO-INT 832J dated 13 Oct 52, Lt A. G. Fluss of the Air Technical Intelligence Center will arrive your station on 9 Dec 52 to investigate. Planned investigation will include an attempt to simulate this sighting using known astronomical bodies and will require cooperation of your office, theodolite operators at your base, intelligence office at Limestone AFB, theodolite operators at Limestone AFB, and the services of a navigator. In reply cite Project Blue Book.

DOWNGRADED AT
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR

ATIAA-5 File

COORDINATION:

ATIAA _____

ATIA _____

SECURITY INFORMATION UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)
CAPT E.J. RUPPELT/vb

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE
ROBERT E. KENNEDY, MAJOR, USAF
AIR ADJUTANT GENERAL

SYMBOL ATIA-5 | TELEPHONE 5 | OFFICIAL TITLE

2-3792-20

DD FORM 1 OCT 49 173 REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 49, WHICH MAY BE USED.

16—65933-3 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Atic
2. Atiaa
4. Cfla
3. Ctc

RE039

UPF029

CBDZ14

JEDEN017

NMNM JEDWP

DE JEDEN 139

NM 1421ØØZ

FM CHIEF ADC FORECAST CENTER ENT AFB COLO SPGS COLO

TO CG ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

3D WG WX C 19Ø7. RE AFOIN - ATIAA - 11-4-E/CITE PROJECT BLUEBOOK. NO AIR FORCE BALLOON IN AREA CITED.

14/21Ø2Z NOV JEDEN

UNCLASSIFIED

Stanglen, Capt J. W. Limestone
Cpt 145

1. Call Dr. Hynek. Is there any specific poop he wants?

2. Get questionnaires filed out by all people who observed object. I think questionnaires were sent but take a supply along.

3. Get poop on backgrounds - are the people experienced at reading theodolites.

4. Get story of circumstances, who saw what first, who called who, etc.

5. Description of what object did for the five hour period. (Should be in in questionnaire.)

6. What were the arrangement of lights and what were comparative size?

7. Has it been seen since or was it ever seen before?

8. Were there any radar pick-ups? No FDS 3 x 5

9. Did all people see the same thing?

10. Any opinions as to what it was.

11. Calibrating theodolites at Presque Isle and Limestone.

    a. Pick out a known celestial body in the general area of where the object was seen.

    b. Get the exact time by getting a time tick if necessary.

    c. Take ten theodolite readings at two minute intervals noting exact time, elevation and bearing. Be sure you find out which body you are shooting.

12. Find out if readings we got are true or magnetic. If they should be magnetic get variation for the area.

13. It would probably be a good idea to talk to each observer alone, especially as to the description of the object.

14. Leave a couple dozen questionnaires at both places. Also take a few radar questionnaires if they are finished.

Ouija board
Mitchell Field

Dr. Hynek says its Jupiter

[redacted]

ROUTING

# JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CG ATIC

DATE-TIME GROUP: 181600Z NOV 52

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

PRECEDENCE FOR: | ACTION | INFORMATION

☐ BOOK MESSAGE ☐ ORIGINAL MESSAGE

☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS CRYPTOPRECAUTION ☐ YES ☐ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION | CLASSIFICATION

TO:

INFO:

The object was observed at Presque Isle for five hours from 2200 EST 10 Oct 52 until 0200 EST 11 Oct 52 and was described as a "circular, orange object with four green lights nearby". Our analysis of the readings was accomplished by extrapolating one azimuth angle from Presque Isle to make the times of reading coincide. By so doing the object seems to have been traveling at 27 mph and flying at an altitude of + 300,000, extremely high for even an upper air research balloon.

However, the fact that your balloon was on an easterly track at Toronto and was headed in the general direction of Maine, compared to the object's description and carry with the wind, gives us the impression that the unknown probably was your balloon. The altitude discrepancy may be a mistake in reading the theodolite although it would require a large margin of error.

Project Blue Book would appreciate knowing your further opinions or comments.

In reply cite Project Blue Book.

COORDINATION

ATIAA _____

ATIA _____

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

UNCLASSIFIED

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

LT R.M. OLSSON/vs

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

SYMBOL: ATIAA-5

TELEPHONE: 65365

OFFICIAL TITLE: ~~AIR ADJUTANT GENERAL~~ [illegible], USAF

DD FORM 1 MAY 49 173 REPLACES WD AGO FORM 11-168, 15 JUN 1945, AND WD AGO FORM 0999, 1 APR 1946, WHICH MAY BE USED.

16—55923-2 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950—O-875946

ROUTING

# JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CG ATIC

TO: OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH PHYSICS BLD
UNIVERSITY OF MINN MINNEAPOLIS MINN

INFO:

| DATE-TIME GROUP | SECURITY [redacted] |
|---|---|
| 161600Z NOV 52 | |
| PRECEDENCE FOR: ROUTINE | ACTION / INFORMATION |
| ☐ BOOK MESSAGE | ☒ ORIGINAL MESSAGE |
| ☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS | CRYPTOPRECAUTION ☐ YES ☒ NO |
| REFERS TO MESSAGE: | |
| IDENTIFICATION | CLASSIFICATION |

FROM: ATOIN-ATIAA-11-7-5 FOR FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Theodolite data on the Presque Isle, Maine, sighting of 11 Oct 52 follows. Two stations were involved and obtained a fix on the unidentified object.

Presque Isle AFB, Maine

| Time: | Elevation: | Azimuth: |
|---|---|---|
| 11/0550Z | 59.0° | 156.2 |
| 11/0551Z | 59.2° | 156.5 |
| 11/0552Z | 59.2° | 157.0 |
| 11/0553Z | 59.2° | 157.7 |
| 11/0554Z | 59.3° | 158.1 |

Limestone AFB, Maine

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11/0553Z | 58.0° | 169.5 |

DOWNGRADED TO "FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY"
DECLASSIFIED
DOD DIR. 5200.10
AFTER 12 YEARS.

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

SECURITY [redacted]

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

ATIAA-5 File

7. Atia
4. C. files
3. ATI

INFOR | INFOR

1954 NOV 14 15:1

RB102 O

WPF108

TYD219

BT257

BEC B246 L

RR JEDWP

DE BECQA 7

R 141757Z

FM ONR FIELD REPRESENTATIVE UNIV OF MINN MPLS

TO WRIGHT PAT AFB DAYTON OHIO

NAVY GRNC

ATTN PROJECT BLUEBOOK X URMSG AFOIN-ATIAA-11-5-E X OBJECT BELIEVED TO BE LOST STRATOSPHERIC BALLOON LAUNCHED FROM HERE X OSCODA AFB ABANDONED TRACKING WITH LAST POSIT 25 MILES WEST OF TORONTO AT 2230Z 9 OCT X HEADING WAS EASTERLY AT 20 KNOTS ALTITUDE UNKNOWN X REQUEST RAW THEODOLITE DATA IF SIMULTANEOUS MULTIPLE READINGS WERE MADE OR ANY OTHER DETAILS TO HELP DETERMINE ALTITUDE AND COURSE OF BALLOON X ROSS SENDS

CFN AFOIN-ATIAA-11-5-E 25 2230Z 9 20

14/1757Z NOV BECQA

cy #1

ROUTING

# JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CO ATIC

DATE-TIME GROUP: 0320152 NOV 52

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: [redacted]

PRECEDENCE FOR: ROUTINE | ACTION

TO: CO 4711TH AIR DEF WING PRESQUE ISLE AFB
PRESQUE ISLE MAINE

☐ BOOK MESSAGE ☐ ORIGINAL MESSAGE

☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION ☐ YES ☐ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION | CLASSIFICATION

INFO:

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAA-11-1-3

ATIAA-5

Reference your Flyobrpt 6325 dated 13 Oct 52 regarding sighting of unidentified aerial object, seen for four hours on 13 Oct 52 through a theodolite your base. We would appreciate an answer to the following questions: 1) Are you preparing an AF Form 112 for our additional information? 2) Was Limestone's sighting independent of you or did you notify them of object's presence? 3) Please re-state Limestone's time of sighting and length of sighting as well as any additional elevation and azimuth readings.

In reply cite Project Blue Book.

COORDINATION:

ATIAA _____

ATIA _____

ATI _____

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED | PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required): Capt E. J. Ruppelt/jos

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE: ROBERT E. KENNEDY, Major, USAF
Air Adjutant General

SYMBOL: ATIAA-5 | TELEPHONE: 65365

OFFICIAL TITLE

DD FORM 1 OCT 49 173 REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 48, WHICH MAY BE USED.

16—58923-3 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

11/7/52

XXXXXXX

In reply refer to
ATIAA-5

SUBJECT: FLYOBRPT of 10 October 1952

TO: Commanding Officer
4711th Air Defense Wing
ATTN: Director of Intelligence
Presque Isle Air Force Base
Presque Isle, Maine

1. Reference is made to your message Int 832J reporting circular orange object with four green lights nearby.

2. It is requested that the inclosed questionnaires be completed, one by each observer at Presque Isle AFB and Limestone AFB, and returned to this Center in the inclosed, self-addressed envelope as soon as possible.

3. Your organization and the observers are commended for the excellent forethought in obtaining theodolite measurements. This is the first time such triangulation has been effected.

2 Incls
a/s

ROUTING

# JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CG ARDC

TO:

FIELD REPRESENTATIVE
OFFICE OF NAVAL RESEARCH
PHYSICS BUILDING
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

INFO:

| | |
|---|---|
| DATE-TIME GROUP | SECURITY CLASSIFICATION |
| PRECEDENCE FOR: ACTION / INFORMATION | UNCLASSIFIED |
| ROUTINE | |
| ☐ BOOK MESSAGE | ☐ ORIGINAL MESSAGE |
| ☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS | CRYPTOPRECAUTION ☐ YES ☐ NO |
| REFERS TO MESSAGE: X | |
| IDENTIFICATION | CLASSIFICATION |

FROM: ARDIN-ATIAA-11-5-E

Unidentified flying object was sighted and tracked by theodolite in vicinity of Presque Isle Air Force Base and Limestone Air Force Base, Maine, at 0600Z 11 Oct 52. Request you query your contractors to determine if one of their upper air research balloons was in that area at that time.

In reply cite Project Bluebook.

ATIAA-5

COORDINATION:

ATIAA _____

ATIA _____

ATI _____

[redacted]

| | |
|---|---|
| SECURITY CLASSIFICATION UNCLASSIFIED | PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES |
| DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required) Lt A. G. Fluss/jcs | RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE |
| SYMBOL ATIAA-5 / TELEPHONE 65365 | OFFICIAL TITLE ROBERT E. KENNEDY, MAJOR, USAF AIR ADJUTANT GENERAL |

DD FORM 1 MAY 49 173 REPLACES WD AGO FORM 11-168, 15 JUN 1945, AND WD AGO FORM 0990, 1 APR 1946, WHICH MAY BE USED.

16—58923-2 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950—O-875946

ROUTING

# JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CG ATIC

TO: CINC WEATHER CENTRAL, FWT AFB, COLORADO

INFO:

FROM: ATIAA-11-4-E

ATIAA-5

Unidentified flying object was sighted and tracked by theodolite in vicinity of Presque Isle Air Force Base and Limestone Air Force Base, Maine, at 0300Z 11 Oct 52. Request you screen flight tracks of any possible Air Force upper air research balloons which could have been in that area at that time. Have already queried Office of Naval Research at University of Minnesota.

In reply site Project Bluebook.

COORDINATION:

ATIAA _____

ATIA _____

ATI _____

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

DATE-TIME GROUP: 101430Z NOV 52

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: RESTRICTED

PRECEDENCE FOR: ACTION: ROUTINE | INFORMATION

☐ BOOK MESSAGE ☒ ORIGINAL MESSAGE

☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS

CRYPTOPRECAUTION ☐ YES ☒ NO

REFERS TO MESSAGE:

IDENTIFICATION | CLASSIFICATION

SECURITY INFORMATION

UNCLASSIFIED

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required): Lt A. O. Fluss/jos

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

SYMBOL: ATIAA-5

TELEPHONE: 65365

OFFICIAL TITLE: ROBERT E. KENNEDY, MAJOR, USAF
AIR ADJUTANT GENERAL

DD FORM 1 OCT 49 173 REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 49, WHICH MAY BE USED.

16—55923-3 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Atic
2. Atia
3. C. files
4. Atic

7 Nov 52 1348

RF090

WPA147

TVA121

CBD083

JEPSN 46

RR JEDWP

DE JEPSN 57

R 071340Z ZNJ

FM CO 4711TH DEF WG PRESQUE ISLE AFB ME

TO CG ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

[redacted] DO-INT 916K. THIS PROJECT BLUEBOOK. REURMSG AFOIN-ATIAA-11-1-E DTD 4 NOV 52. A NEW INTELLIGENCE OFF HAS BEEN ASGD THIS WG SINCE 10 OCT 52 AND THE ONLY RECORDS AVAILABLE ON THE INCIDENT CITED IN MSG REFERRED TO ABOVE IS OUR MSG DO-INT 832J CMA 13 OCT 52 CMA WHICH WAS FWDD YOUR HQ. A REPORT ON AN INCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED ON 4 AND 5 NOV 52 IS BEING FWDD TO YOUR ORGN THIS DATE. THIS INCIDENT RPTD IS VERY SIMILAR TO THE ONE IN WHICH YOU QUERIED THIS HQ. END

CCC LINE 4 LAST GRH SHUD READ CMA RPT CMA

07/1343Z NOV JEPSN

ACTION | INFOR. | A.C.O.I. INFOR.

ATIC

NOV 7 AM 10:06

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

UNCLASSIFIED

10 October 1952

Presque Isle Theodolite
Sightings

Upper air research balloon released from Minneapolis, Minnesota, on 9 October 1952, was lost 25 miles west of Toronto but was traveling in an easterly direction at 25 mph.

2230Z 9 Oct - 25 miles west of Toronto
0300Z 10 Oct - first sighted at Presque Isle
1930

If the balloon and the object are one in the same, it took the balloon 19.5 hrs to cover the 600 air miles from Toronto to Presque Isle. A check on this can be made since the wind speed at Toronto was 25 mph and taking the speed of the object at Presque Isle which was 27 mph, and multiplying 26 mph by 19.5 hrs:

```
19.5
  26
----
1170
390
----
507.0 or the distance covered of 507 miles.
```

The discrepancy of the 93 miles necessary to put the balloon in the immediate vicinity of Presque Isle and Limestone could be due to altitude fluctuations in the balloon's flight. It is quite possible that the average speed was over 26 mph, as the balloon alternately gained and lost altitude and entered different air streams of higher speeds. At 31 mph, for example, the distance covered would be 604.5 miles.

UNCLASSIFIED

1. Atia
2. Atiaa
3. C. file

RE011

WPC019T

YDB024

TYA051

TDA069

CBB032

JEPSN 021

PP JEPHQ JEDWP JEDEN 333

DE JEPSN 44

P 131535Z ZNJ

FM CO 4711TH DEF WG PRESQUE ISLE AFB ME

TO JEPHQ/DIRECTOR OF INT HQ USAF WASHINGTON D C

JEDWP/AIR TECHNICAL INTELLINGENT CENTER WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/CG ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COLORADO

JEDEN/CO 4602 AISS ENT AFB COLORADO

/[redacted]/DO-INT 832J PD /ATTN CLN ATIAA-2C AT WRIGHT - PATTERSON AFB/ FLYOBRPT PD A CIRCULAR ORANGE OBJECT EITH FOUR GREEN LIGHTS NEARBY WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN SEEN 11/0300Z OXT 52 UNTIL 11/0700Z OCT 52 BY OBSERVERS AT WEATHER STATION CMA PIAFB THEODOLITE SIGHTINGS WERE MADE AT ONE MINUTE PERIODS FOR FIVE MINUTES PD AT 11/0550Z AS FOLLOWS CLN EL 59 DEGREES CMA AZ 156.2 CMA EL 59.2 AZ 156.5 CMA EL 59.2 AZ 157.0 CMA EL 59.2 AZ 157.7 CMA EL 59.3 AZ 158.1 PD AT LIMESTONE AFB CMA MAINE WEATHER STATION AT 11/0538Z OCT 52 REPORTED OBJECT AT IL 58 DEGREES AZ 169.5 PD WEATHER CLEAR CMA WINDS AT 9000 FT CMA DIRECTION 320 CMA VELOCITY 16 KNOTS PD INVESTIGATION CONTINUES PD END

13/1632Z OCT JEPSN

ATIC

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

UNCLASSIFIED

## 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? Yes | Lighted? No | Describe Lighting |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| a. | Caribou, Maine | rawin radar | USDA Weath Bur. | ✓ | | white |
| b. | | pibal | | | | |
| c. | | | | | | |
| d. | | | | | | |

(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:

Possibly a upper air research balloon

ATIC Test Form 334 (13 Aug 52)

PROJECT 10073 WEATHER DATA SHE

| 1. DATE OF OBSERVATION | 2. TIME OF OBSERVATION | 3. STATION OBSERVING |
|---|---|---|
| | | |

4. WINDS ALOFT:

| ALTITUDE (feet) | VELOCITY (knots) | DIRECTION (degrees) | ALTITUDE (feet) | VELOCITY (knots) | DIRECTION (degrees) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | ~~[illegible]~~ | ~~[illegible]~~ | 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 | 16 | 320 | 70,000 | | |
| 10,000 | | | 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? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(If yes, at what altitude? _____)

6. WERE ANY THUNDERSTORMS NOTED IN AREA? ☐ Yes ☐ No
(If yes, at what quadrant? _____)

7. CLOUD COVER:
_____ tenths at _____ feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet.
_____ tenths at _____ feet. _____ tenths at _____ feet.

8. VISIBILITY WAS _____ MILES.

9. COMMENTS:

ATIC Test Form 333 (13 Aug 52)

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

10 October 1952 Presque Isle AFB, Maine

Description of Incident

Observers at Presque Isle AFB observed a circular orange object with four green lights nearby. The object was observed from 2200 EST 10 Oct 52 until 0200 EST on 11 Oct 52, a period of five hours. The object or lights were observed by observers at the weather station of Presque Isle AFB, Maine. Theodolite readings were made from Presque Isle AFB and Limestone AFB, Maine.

The readings are as follows:

Presque Isle AFB

| Time | Elevation | Azimuth |
|---|---|---|
| 11/0550Z | 59.0° | 156.2 |
| 11/0551Z | 59.2° | 156.5 |
| 11/0552Z | 59.2° | 157.0 |
| 11/0553Z | 59.2° | 157.7 |
| 11/0554Z | 59.3° | 158.1 |

Limestone AFB

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 11/0538Z | 58.0° | 169.5 |



Discussion

Since the times of the reading are not coincident, one azimuth angle will have to be extrapulated to make the times coincident. The bearing at Presque Isle changed 1.9° in 5 minutes or 0.38°/min. Assuming the light or object was moving at a constant velocity and course, the azimuth angle can be moved back time-wise from 0550Z to 0538Z or 12 minutes, 12 x 0.38° = 4.56°, so at 0538Z the azimuth from Presque Isle would be 151.64°. Using this and azimuth of 169.5° from Limestone, the earth point directly under the object can be plotted. The

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

distance (d) from Presque Isle is 36 statute miles.

The elevation from Presque Isle changed 0.3° in 5 minutes or 0.06°/min. In 12 minutes, the change would be 0.72°. Again assuming constant course and altitude the elevation at 0538Z would be 58.3°. The altitude would then be:

$h = d \tan 58.3°$

$= d \tan 1.619$

$= 36\ (1.619)$

$h = 58$ miles $= 306{,}240'$

This neglects the curvature of the earth. This correction is $d^2/2r$ where R is the radius of the earth in miles. This term can be neglected.

The angular velocity from Presque Isle was 1.90/5 min or 22.8°/hour or 0.3985 radius/hour.

$V = SW$

S = slant range

W = angular velocity in radius

V = velocity

$S = \frac{d}{\cos t} = \frac{36}{0.5255} = 68$ miles

$V = S\ (0.3985) = 68\ (0.3985)$

$V = 27.2$ mph

One possible solution is that the theodolite readings are not accurate. Since Presque Isle made five readings and all were consistant, it can safely be assumed that they are accurate, and, however, indicate the light was at a high angle of elevation south of the base. The readings from Limestone can also be considered accurate since the light they observed was in the same general area.

The speed of the object, 27 mph, indicates it could be a balloon, but no balloon flys at +300,000'. A 66 2/3% error would be needed in the theodolite readings to get down to 100,000', the maximum limit for balloons.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

The speed and altitude eliminates the possibility of aircraft.

The elevation, 60°, eliminates the possibility of a mirage or any phenomena based on the reflection or refraction of light from an inversion layer.

One possibility is that the object was a star or planet. The azimuth angles from the two stations should have been more nearly the same if this is true, but a calibration error could cause the difference. The key is probably the angular velocity.

Conclusions

No conclusions can be made until the angular velocity can be checked against that of astronomical bodies.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

One incident that particularly engaged the attention of the panel, and would probably have become a famous classic except that Air Force investigators had kept it a strict secret, was the sighting at Presque Isle Air Force Base in northern Maine. On October 10, 1952, at about 10 P.M. E.S.T., a group of weather observers had noticed a bright-orange object hovering low on the eastern horizon and had set up a theodolite to measure its altitude and bearing. As the glowing unknown slowly rose higher above the horizon and seemed to come closer, it appeared through the telescope of the theodolite as a circular disk accompanied by four flickering green lights, two on each side. Alarmed by this spectacular phenomenon, the observers called the Air Force Base at Limestone, some twenty miles north and east, to ask whether the object was visible there. It was. Setting up a theodolite, the Limestone observers measured the height and bearing, and both groups of observers sent the recorded data to ATIC.

Here was the kind of situation the investigators had been hoping for: simultaneous observations of a single object, made from two different stations a known distance apart. Calculations based on the

altitudes and bearings reported by the two stations yielded fantastic results. In a plot of the data (shown schematically in Figure 12a)

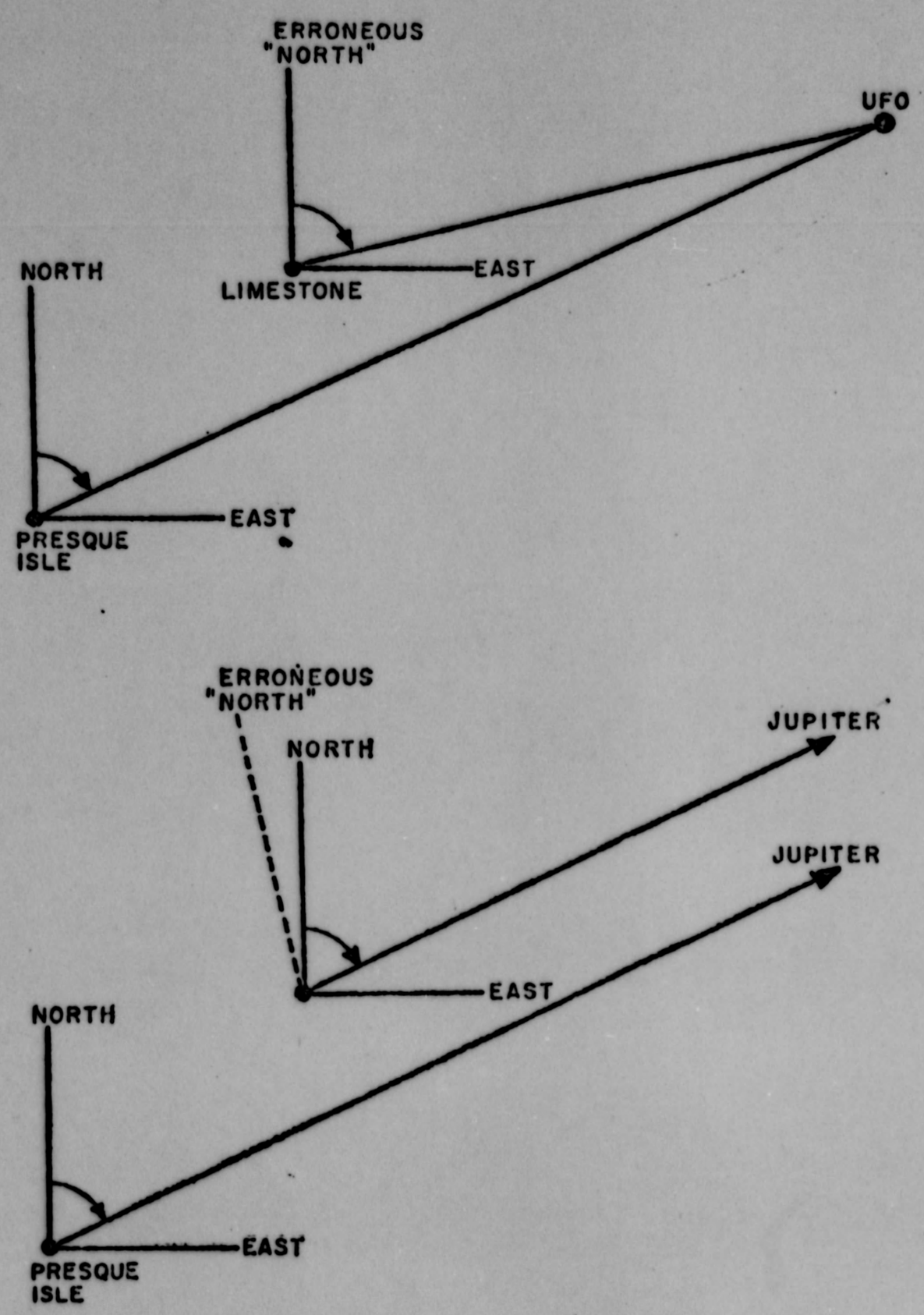


*Figure 12.* The Presque Isle sighting from two stations. Top, the erroneous determination of North at Limestone seems to indicate a nearby UFO. Bottom, corrected direction of North indicates Jupiter at infinity.

the prolonged lines intersected, indicating a group of unknowns hovering some 100 miles above the earth, more than 50 miles off the Maine coast, of tremendous size and moving at high speed. Concluding that the objects must have come from outer space, or were possibly a new type of orbiting vehicle of Russian origin, the Air Force had promptly clamped down the security lid. When ATIC's science consultant, Dr. J. Allen Hynek, looked at the data, he just as promptly disagreed with these ideas and clearly identified the unknown as the planet Jupiter, which had risen at 6:03 P.M. E.S.T. and at 10:00 the brightest object in the eastern sky. The believers in the extraterrestrial theory were then in the majority at ATIC, however. They had refused to accept the identification, and submitted the Presque Isle sighting to the panel as a prize example of UFO surveillance.

The panel members quickly disposed of the case. The measurements reported from Presque Isle obviously pointed directly to the planet Jupiter, not a mere 100 but millions of miles beyond the earth. If a constant correction was applied to the bearings from Limestone, they also agreed with Jupiter's position. Careless use of the theodolite had produced an error in the data. To measure the angle of an object above the horizon, the observer has only to make sure that the theodolite is level, but to measure the bearing he must align it with true north, a direction that cannot be determined by guesswork. The Limestone observers had made a mistake in determining true north and had thus obtained a wrong bearing for the unknown. When the corrected data were plotted (shown schematically in Figure 12b) the prolonged lines were parallel, and both pointed squarely to the planet Jupiter at infinity.

results. In a plot of the data (shown schematically in Figure 12a)

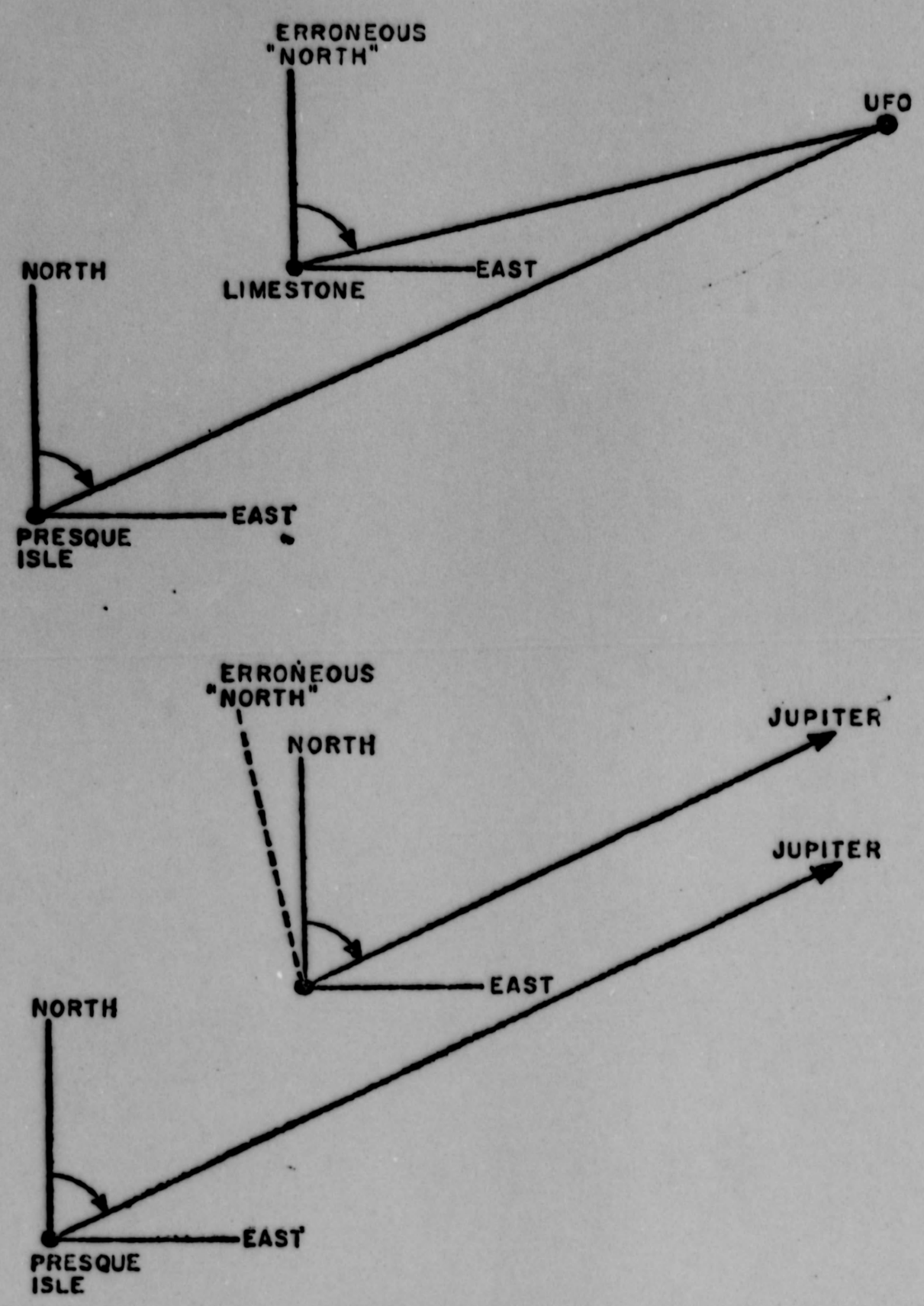


*Figure 12.* The Presque Isle sighting from two stations. Top, the erroneous determination of North at Limestone seems to indicate a nearby UFO. Bottom, corrected direction of North indicates Jupiter at infinity.

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The orange light was unquestionably Jupiter, and the accompanying green lights were its four bright satellites twinkling through the layers of the earth's atmosphere. Amazed that this uncomplicated case, already explained by Dr. Hynek, should have been offered as evidence for the extraterrestrial origin of UFOs, the panel extended its investigation to the original observers at Presque Isle. The witnesses there were bewildered by the inquiry; they had checked the object ( n it appeared again on the night of Octo. 11, they said, and had then identified it as the planet Jupiter, but they had not thought it necessary to notify the Air Force!

# POSSIBLE ASTRONOMICAL ANALYSIS OF THE PRESQUE ISLE SIGHTING

[redacted] 2147

This sighting of an U.A.O. was submitted to Dr. A. J. Hynek of Ohio State University (head of the Astronomy Dept.) for his analysis. Dr. Hynek has theorized that the object sighted was most probably a celestial body (i.e. planet). There were several factors which influenced this decision, the major one that the object was fixed at a ± 300,000 ft by the two observing theodolite stations at Presque Isle and Limestone, Me.

Dr. Hynek's opinion is as follows: The difference between this altitude as observed from the ground is very little in comparison with ~~a point~~ infinity. Therefore, a planet many thousands of light years away (at infinity as far as the theodolite observers are concerned), could very well have appeared to be at a fixed altitude of 300,000 ft.

Dr. Hynek is in the process of submitting a written report to ATIAA-5, ATIC to give more details to support this conclusion.

To support this approach, is the amount of time the object was observed - 5 hrs from 2200 EST to 0300 EST; too long for an upper air research balloon, weather balloon or A/C. Furthermore, morning daylight may have obscured the object.

# PROJECT 10073 WORKSHEET

## I. GENERAL

| 1. DATE | 2. LOCATION | 3. TIME |
|---|---|---|
| 10 Oct '52 | Presque Isle AFB, Maine | Local: 2200 EST<br>Zebra: 0300 |

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
- ☑ Over 10 Minutes 4 hrs.

11. REPORTING AGENCY (Unit Number and Mailing Address)

C.O. 4711th Mat Wing Presque Isle AFB, Maine

## II. ASTRONOMICAL DATA

12. WHAT ASTRONOMICAL ACTIVITY WAS NOTED?

No

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

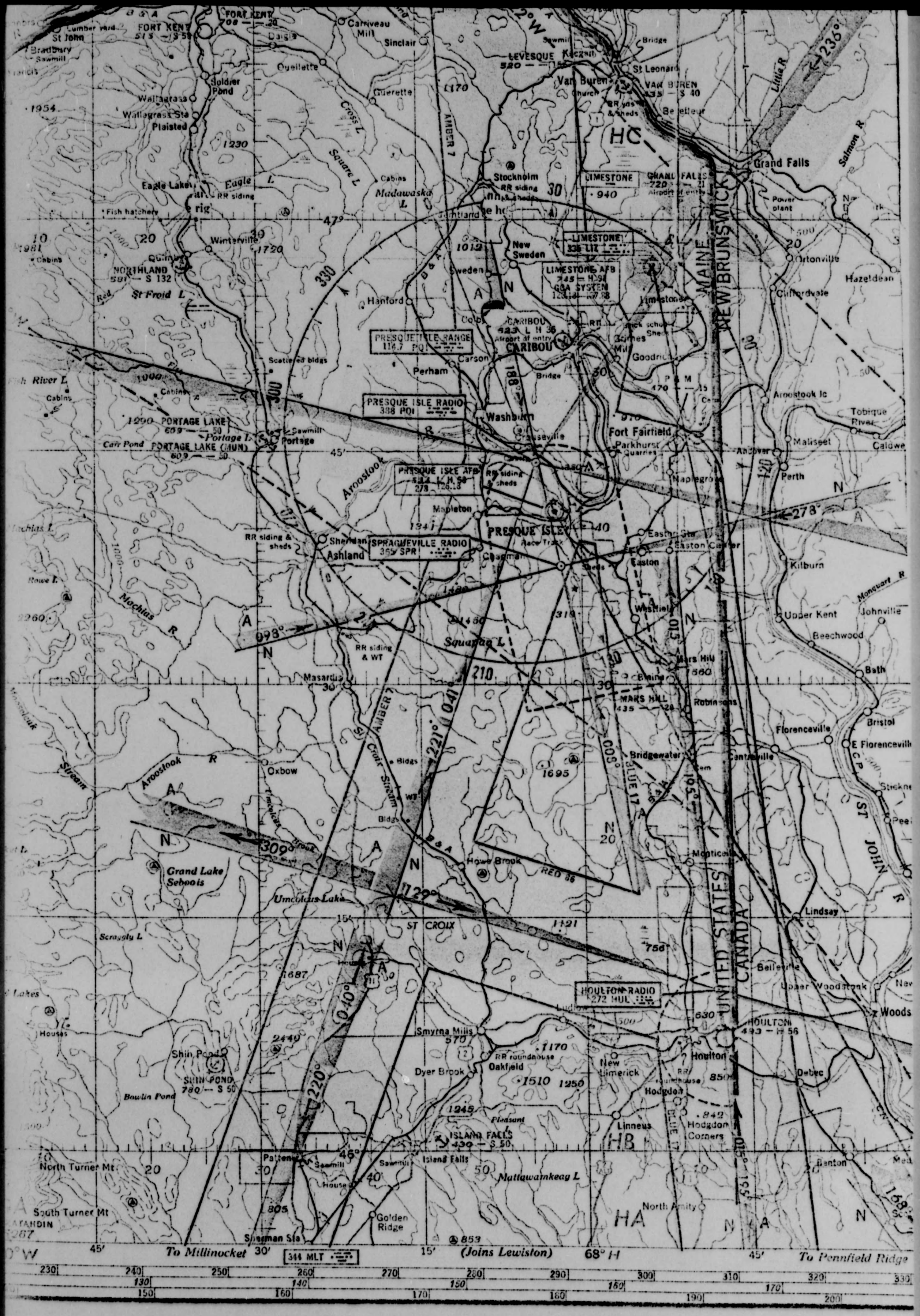
18. WAS ANY SOUND HEARD? ☐ Yes ☑ No

19. WERE THERE INDICATIONS OF HIGH BACKGROUND NOISE? ☐ Yes ☑ No

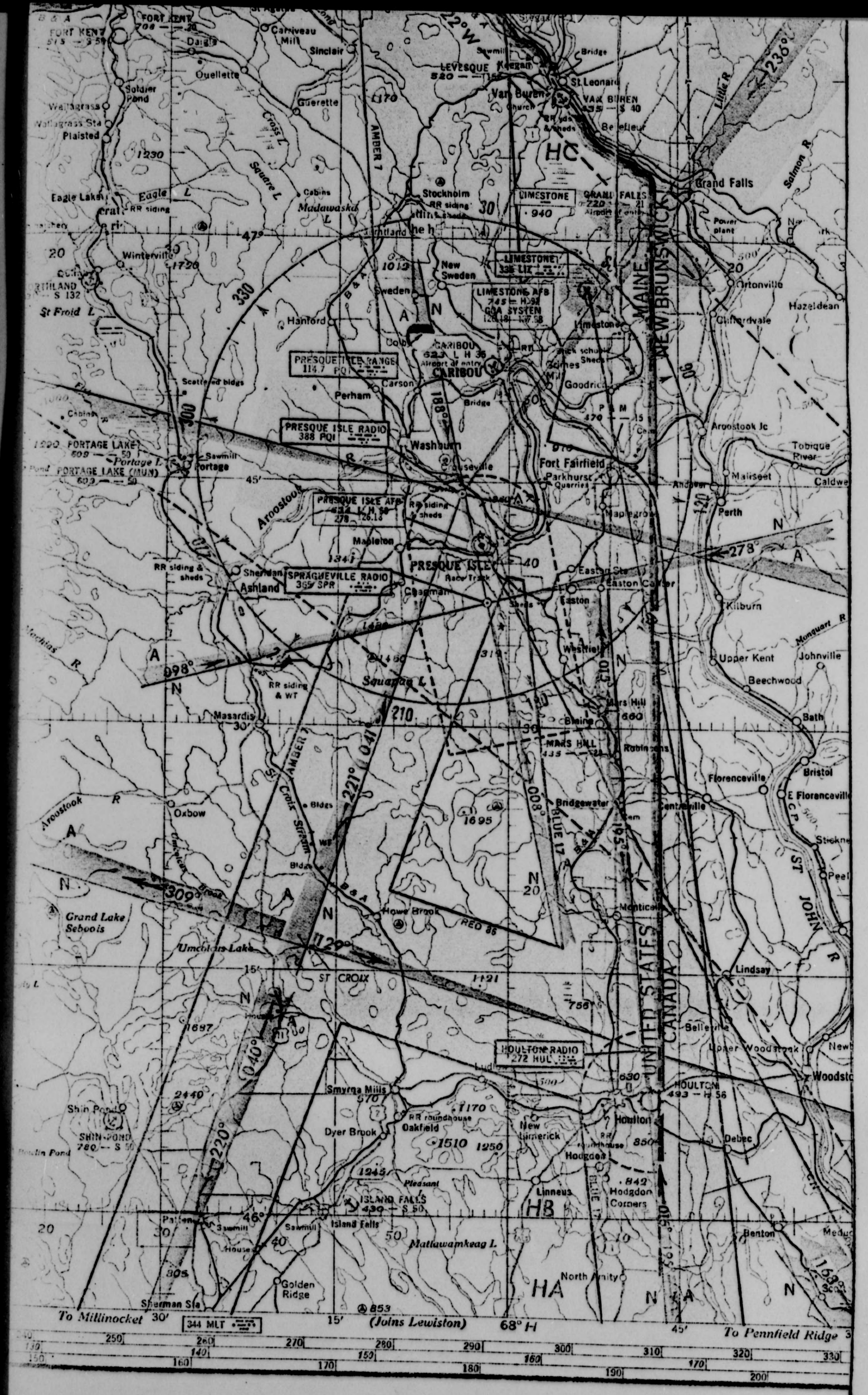
20. WAS THE OBJECT VIEWED ABOVE 45° ELEVATION? ☑ Yes ☐ No


22°W
23°W
68° H
15' To Mont Joli
GD
HD
HC
GC
Rimouski Riviere
West Br
South Branch
Northwest Branch
Goose L
Redgwick
AMBER ROUTE
Lac St Jean
Lac à la Loutre
Lac des Aigles
Touladi
Sqatteck
Riviere
L du Pain de Sucre
Lake Touladi
Lac Temiscouata
Ferry
Cabano
St Louis du Ha Ha
St Juste du Lac
Notre Dame du Lac
Notre Dame du Lac Sta
Lac Squatec
Ste Rose du Dégelé
St Eusèbe
TEMIS
QUEBEC
NEW BRUNSWICK
First L
Gunamitz R
Madawaska R
Green R
Lac Long
Lac Meruimticook
Boisvert
Les Etroits
Lac Baker
St Jacques
Mill
Edmundston
Bldgs
Madawaska
Quisibis Mt
1619
1596
1430
Rivière Verte
Grand Isle
Quarry
Fleming Siding
Grand R
Caron Brook
Baker Brook
Church
St Hilaire
EDMUNDSTON
Frenchville
Upper Frenchville
Fort Kent
Bridge
Clair
Settlement
St Francis
Cleveland
Lille
Ste Anne
Sawmill
Connors
Lumber yard
St John
Bradbury Sawmill
FORT KENT
St Agatha
Carriveau Mill
Sinclair
Daigle
Ouellette
Soldier Pond
Wallagrass
Wallagrass Sta
Plaisted
Guerette
Cross L
Square L
Eagle Lake
Eagle L
RR siding
Fish hatchery
Cabins
Maduwaska L
Stockholm
RR siding
Northland
Winterville
NORTHLAND
St Froid L
Red
New Sweden
Hanford
Colby
PRESQUE ISLE RANGE
Scattered bldgs
Perham
Carson
CARIBOU
Fish River L
Van Buren
VAN BUREN
Bellefleur
St Leonard
Bridge
Sawmill
Kegan
LEVESQUE
Siegas
LIMESTONE
GRAND FALLS
Limestone
Goodrich
Grand
MAINE
NEW BRUNSWICK
AMBER 7
B & A
CN
21°W
22°W


45'
30'
15' To Mont Joli
23°W
68° H
45'
Rimouski Rivière
West Br
1500
HD
20
30
40
50
10
20
48°
Lac à la Loutre
Lac des Aigles
1000
Touladi
Squatteck
Rivière
QUEBEC
NEW BRUNSWICK
South Branch
Kedgwick
R
Goose L
Northwest Branch
AMBER ROUTE
Patapedia
R
1000
1300
50
1981
L. du Pain de Sucre
Lake Touladi
45'
1500
Lac Squatec
1500
40
Kedgwick R
St Juste du Lac
Notre Dame du Lac Sta
1000
First L
Gounamitz R
Restigouche
R
1000
Ste Rose du Dégelé
TEMIS
30'
30
Madawaska
R
Jardine Brook
Lac Meruimticook
1619
Quisibis Mt
St Jacques
1596
Green
R
Mill
Edmundston
Bldgs
500
Lac Baker
1430
Madawaska
20
Lac Baker
C N
Baker Brook
Church
St Hilaire
St David
Rivière Verte
Grand
R
Caron Brook
EDMUNDSTON
570 — 23
Grand Isle
Quarry
Fleming Siding
Church
Bridge
Clair
Fort Kent
1388
Frenchville
Upper Frenchville
Sawmill
St Francis
15'
Cleveland
Lille
Ste Anne
RR yards
St Agatha
Settlement
B & A
Long
22°W
Siegas
B & A
FORT KENT
708 — 20
FORT KENT
515 — S 50
Carriveau Mill
Daigle
Sinclair
Sawmill
Bridge
LEVESQUE
520 — 15
Keegan
St Leonard
236°
Quellette
Little R
Van Buren
VAN BUREN
535 — S 40
Soldier Pond
Guerette
1170
Church
Wallagrass
Cross L
AMBER 7
RR yds & sheds
Bellefleur
Wallagrass Sta
Plaisted
1230
HC
Salmon R
Square L
Grand Falls
Cabins
Stockholm
RR siding & sheds
LIMESTONE
GRAND FALLS
720 — 21
Airport of entry
Eagle Lake
Eagle
L
Madawaska
L
30
940
RR siding
Power plant
Fish hatchery
47°
Jemtland
MAINE
NEW BRUNSWICK
1000
20
Wintervillle
1720
LIMESTONE
336 LIZ
500'
20
Quimby
NORTHLAND
581 — S 132
1019
New Sweden
Ortonville
330
LIMESTONE AFB
745 — H 92
GCA SYSTEM
126.18 137.88
Hazeldean
St Froid L
Sweden
A
N
Cliffordvale
Hanford
Limestone
Colby
CARIBOU
523 L H 36
Airport of entry
PRESQUE ISLE RANGE
114.7 PQI
CARIBOU
Grimes Mill
Shed
Goodrich
06
Scattered bldgs
Carson
1000
Perham
188°
Bridge
50
P & M
470 — 15
Aroostook Jc
Cabins
300
PRESQUE ISLE RADIO
388 PQI
1290
PORTAGE LAKE
609 — 50
Portage L
Sawmill
Washburn
Fort Fairfield
Tobique River




VERY HIGH FREQUENCIES (VHF) PRINTED IN BLUE
BLUE TINT INDICATES AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLED AREAS
For pilot information see reverse side

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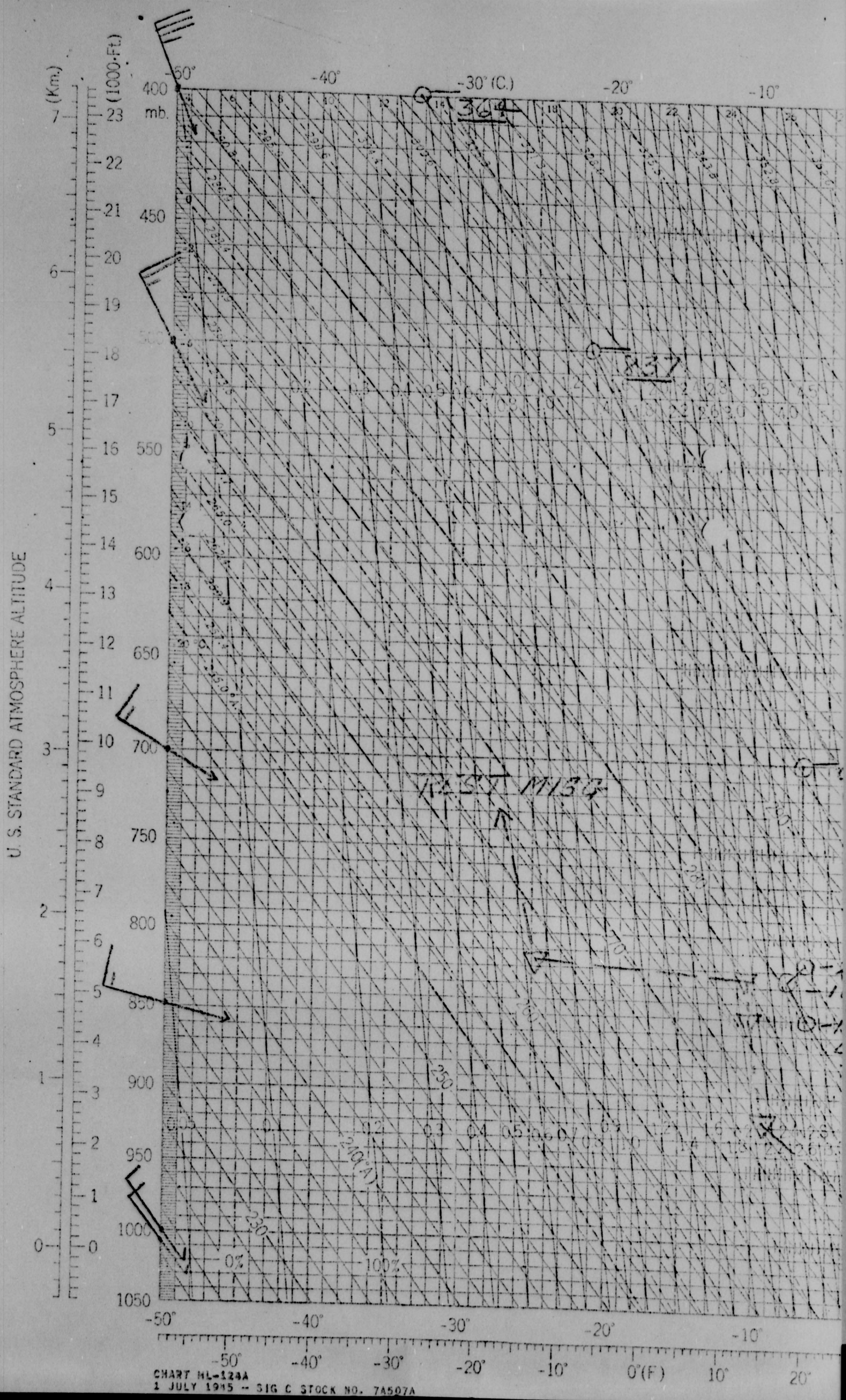
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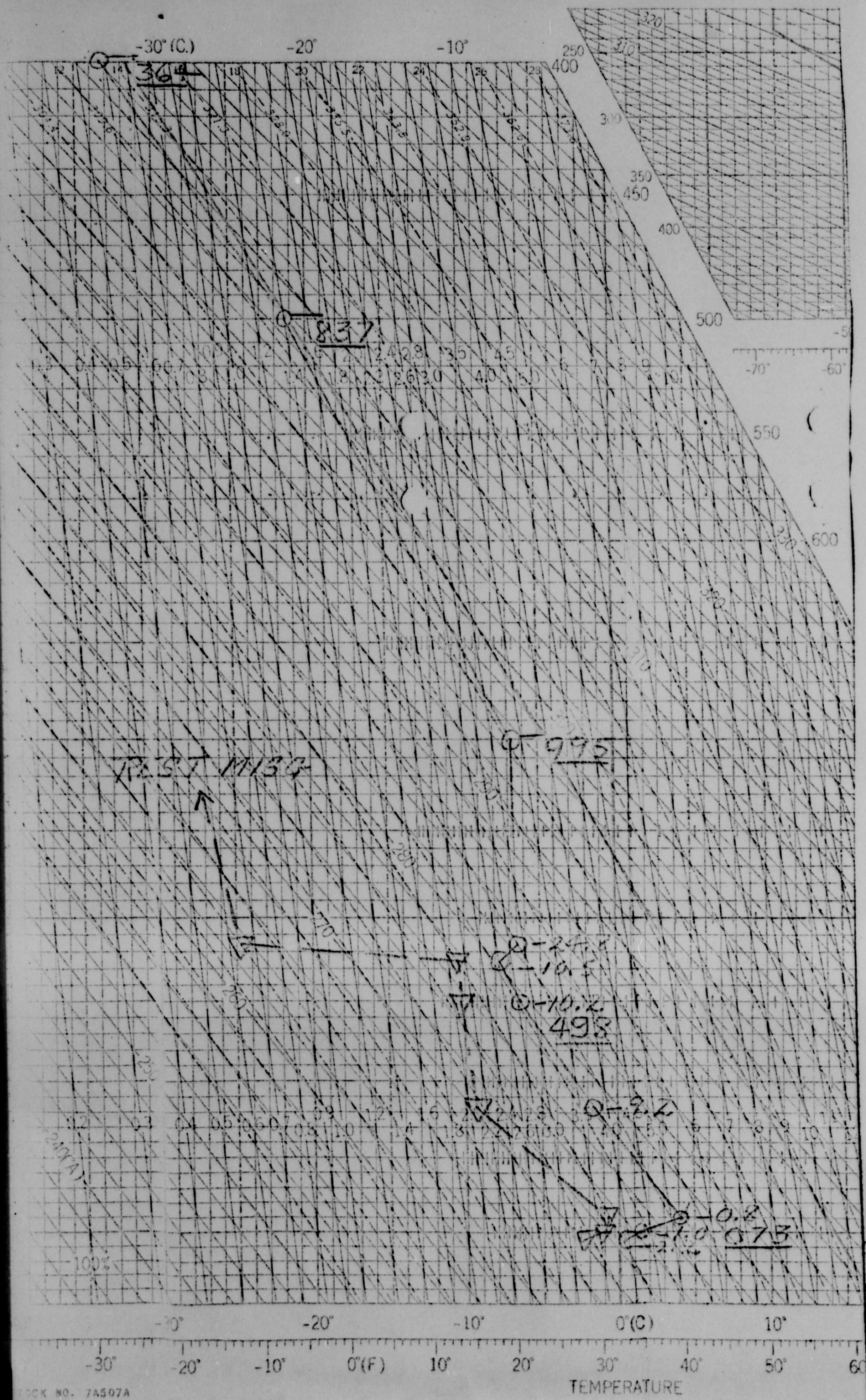
(Km.)
(1000-Ft.)
mb.
-50°
-40°
-30° (C.)
-20°
-10°
0°(F)
10°
20°
0%
100%
CHART HL-124A
1 JULY 1945 -- SIG C STOCK NO. 7A507A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0°(C)
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30°
40°
50°
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300
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400
450
500
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600
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