

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 19 July 1956		2. LOCATION Medway, Maine		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical Meteor ☒ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 19/2100-2200Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 3 seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE straight course	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING One object round and pear shaped, color black. Had trail 2-3 times larger than object. Was emitting blue & yellow flame. Object flamed out twice.				11. COMMENTS Probable meteor.	

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(11) AIRCRAFT AIRBORNE FROM 1200Z TO 1300Z

(12) ALL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN TRAFFIC ACCOUNTED FOR BY 001 0100Z

1000Z

(13) 1000Z

(14) 1000Z

THIS MESSAGE RECEIVED BY 0001Z FROM 001 0100Z

1000Z

1000Z 1000Z

ACTION

IN

23 JUL 1956 10 18

1-4E4

4-4-4

CYP

JEDWP H005M WPF023 YFA003 TYB029 TTC005 TDC194SNA088SNJ003

MM RJEDEN RJEDWP RJEPHQ

DE RJEPSN 3J

M 221930Z

FM COMDR 23RD FTR GP PIAFB ME

TO RJEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO SPGS COLO

RJEPSN/COMDR 32ND AIR DIVISION SYR NY

RJEDWP/COMDR AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CEN WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

KRJEHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC

BT

/UNCLASSIFIED/ATTN D/I. UFOB THE FOLLOWING IS SUBMITTED IN COMPLIANCE

WITH PART 7 AFR 200-2 DTD 12 AUG 54

1. A. ROUND AND PEAR SHAPED

V B. DIME

C. BLACK

D. ONE

E. N/A

F. NONE

G. TRAIL TWO TO THREE TIMES LARGER THAN OBJECT EMITTING BLUE
AND YELLOW FLAME

PAGE TWO RJEPSN 3J

H. NONE

1. FLAMED OUT TWICE
2. A. HAPPENED TO BE LOOKING IN THAT DIRECTION
B. FACING WEST OBJECT APPEARED TO HIS LEFT ELEVATION 20 DEGREES
D. MAINTAINED STRAIGHT COURSE.
E. SEE PAR 2C
3. A. GROUND - VISUAL
B. NONE
C. N/A
4. A. BETWEEN 192100Z JULY 1956 AND 192200Z JULY 1956
B. DAY
5. A. 4547N 6857W
6. A. MR [REDACTED] 63 YRS OLD MEDWAY, MAINE REPAIRMAN PAPER
MILL CAN BE REACHED THRU SON [REDACTED] SMITH POND
TEL. [REDACTED]
B. N/A
7. AJM SCATTERED CLOUDS WIND NW 15 TO 20 MILES
B. SURFACE N W - 8K
6000 - 310DEG - 20K

PAGE THREE RJEPSN 301

- 10000 - 315DEG - 25K
- 16000 - 310DEG - 40K
- 20000 - 310DEG - 50K
- 30000 - 315DEG - 50K
- 50000 - 280DEG - 35K
- 80000 - UNK
- C. 4500 SCATTERED

D. 20 MILES

E. 3/10

NE F. N

8. NONE

9. NO

10. NONE

11. ASST BASE OPERATIONS OFFICER ASSISTED BY OIC FLT 3-G, 4602 AISS. INITIAL REPORT RECEIVED FROM STATE POLICE TROOPER W.B. MCGOWAN, ASHLAND, MAINE (4637N 6824W) WHO WAS CHECKING VARIOUS REPORTS OF AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT AND A LOUD EXPLOSION. I COMPLETE REPORT FROM [REDACTED], AGE 44, COMMERCIAL PILOT AT MUNSUNGAN LAKE, MAINE [REDACTED] STATES OBJECT WAS ROUND, SIZE OF

PAGE FOUR RJEPSN 3J.

PEAR, COLOR OF FIRE, SPEED MUCH FASTER THAN JET, NO SOUND
K UNTIL DISAPPEARED BEHIND TREES, (53, 3-4\$)97\$ 3/0)989, 7:
AS DYNAMITE, COURSE WEST TO EAST IN DESCENT, SLIGHT WAVY SMOKE
TRAIL, TIME IN SIGHT THREE SECONDS, WEATHER CLEAR DAY. MR [REDACTED]
PRESENTLY IN WILDERNESS AND CANNOT BE CONTACTED FOR ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION. FLIGHT SERVICE HAD NO REPORTS OF MISSING AIRCRAFT
FOR THIS PERIOD. SIGHTING HAS CHARACTERISTICS OF A POSSIBLE
METEOR. NO ASTRONOMERS OR OBSERVATORIES IN IMMEDIATE AREA TO
VERIFY OR SUPPORT THIS CONCLUSION.

12. NONE

END

KBT

22/2030Z JUL RJEPSN

UFOB INDEX CARD **AISS-UFOB-198-56**

1. DATE 19 July 1956		2. LOCATION Medway, Maine		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 Approximately 19/2100Z Jul 56		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Three (3) Seconds		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One (1)		9. COURSE Descending west to east	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING One (1) round and pear shaped object, black in color, the size of a dime at arms length, with tail or trail two to three times larger than object emitting blue and yellow flame.				11. COMMENTS The preliminary report on this sighting was actually done by an officer of this organization for the FIS at PIAFB. A telephone call to the 4602d officer revealed that he had obtained the data for the TT Msg by talking to the SOURCE. As all agencies have been checked for a solution to this sighting no formal investigation is to be authorized. It is the opinion of this headquarters that this sighting was caused by a meteorite. Astronomers in the area will be checked for	

support of this hypothesis. Until information from astronomers is forthcoming this sighting has been evaluated as PROBABLY ASTRONOMICAL. The pilot involved in the sighting was on his last flight for his company and since the sighting has gone into the wilderness area of Maine and cannot be contacted.

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COUNTRY USA	REPORT NO. 3G-UFOB-1-56	(LEAVE BLANK)
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
SUBJECT UFOB		
AREA REPORTED ON MAINE	FROM (Agency) Flight 3-G, 4602d AISS	EVALUATION
DATE OF REPORT 1 August 1956	DATE OF INFORMATION 19 July 1956	
PREPARED BY (Officer) JOHN P. VINIK, Major, USAF	SOURCE [REDACTED]	
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable) TT MSG UFOB RPT TM HQ 23RD WTR GROUP, 22 JULY 1956		
SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one-sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)		
CONTENTS:		
PART ONE: Description of sighting by Mr. [REDACTED], Portage, Maine, Sporting Camp Owner and Operator on Munsungum Lake, Maine, ([REDACTED]). Mr. [REDACTED] is also a pilot, which is his only means of transportation to and from his chain of Sporting Camps.		
PART TWO: Description of sighting by Mrs. [REDACTED], Stockholm, Maine, (HKGC 5102). Mrs. [REDACTED] is a housewife.		
PART THREE: Description of sighting by Mr. [REDACTED], Smith Pond, Maine, (HKGA 0347). Mr. [REDACTED] is presently a papermill repairman, but has previously been a guide in the Mt. Katahdin area.		
PART FOUR: Description of sighting by Mr. [REDACTED], Aurora, Maine. Mr. [REDACTED] is Owner and Operator of a Sporting Camp on Great Pond, Maine, (HKGQ 4158), from which this sighting was reported.		
PART FIVE: Supplementary Investigative Efforts.		
PART SIX: Comments of Preparing Officer.		
SUMMARY: It is the belief of the investigating personnel, who aided in this UFOB investigation, that it is probably a meteor or meteors. Substantiating evidence of this is furnished throughout this report.		
INVESTIGATORS: MAJOR JOHN P. VINIK, AO-566988 T/SGT ALONZO A. SMALL, AF-31513174		
[Signature: John P. Vinik] JOHN P. VINIK Major, USAF OIC, Flt 3-G		
1 (See Individual Parts) INCL.		
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR D/I, USAF; Comdr, ATIC; D/I, 32 ADiv; Comdr, 4602d AISS; OIC, Flt 3-G, 4602d AISS		

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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APPROVED:


JOHN W. MEADOR
Colonel, USAF
Commander

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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PART ONE

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1.

SOURCE: [REDACTED]

Address: Portage, Maine, (HKGB 3146).

Age: 44

Occupation: Owner and Operator of chain of Sporting Camps on lakes in the interior of Northern Maine.

Education: College.

Qualifications: Mr. [REDACTED] was a pilot under volunteer status during World War II, with the Civil Air Patrol and the Corps of Army Engineers.

II. RELIABILITY: In view of the facts as stated by persons knowing Mr. [REDACTED] for several years past, there can be little doubt as to his integrity and judgement.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: While progressing southward on Munsugan Lake (HKGB 0022) at a speed of 4 MPH, Mr. [REDACTED] attention was called to an object streaking across the sky from West to East, by another member of the party in his boat. The time was estimated to be 192105Z Jul 56. By the time Mr. [REDACTED] had located the object, he had only 2 or 3 seconds in which to follow it.

The object was seen while the sun was high in the sky, there was no wind, and no clouds were present in the sky. The temperature also was normal for this area. As seen by Mr. [REDACTED], he estimated the brightness to be about the same as that of an automobile headlight several blocks away, and also resembling a headlight. It was about the size of a baseball held at arms length and resembling a bright star, around the edges.

Mr. [REDACTED] declared that it would be impossible for him to assert positively as to the color, as it varied in color from a faded red to an orange, and then to a yellow; leaving behind a wavy trail similar to that of a jet, only dissipating much sooner, and also a lighter color, almost white. He further stated that he could not judge as to the transparency or solidity of the object, therefore he would have no way of knowing what types of materials would be needed if another object like it was to be constructed, and again, if it could be constructed, he would have no idea of the exact shape.

Mr. [REDACTED] further stated that after watching this object cross the sky and disappear behind a ridge of hills not too far from the lake, he, as well as the rest of the party heard and felt, a severe explosion, much like that which would come if a large cache of dynamite might blow up.

When asked if he had ever seen anything which resembled this object, Mr. [REDACTED] very quickly answered that he had not, and he felt that he would recall it if he ever had. He declared that his first thought was of a disabled jet, but after seeing and thinking about the speed, he felt certain that was not likely. This object was travelling at about three times the speed of any jet he had ever seen.

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I. SOURCE: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED] Stockholm, Maine (HKG 5102)

Age: 46

Occupation: Housewife

Education: High School

Qualifications: Mrs. [REDACTED] information seems to be very accurate with the exception of measurements. Her perception of distances appears to be defective.

II. RELIABILITY: Mrs. [REDACTED] is judged reliable.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: While walking along the highway, one half mile north of Stockholm, Maine, in the company of a friend, Mrs. [REDACTED] happened to look up and saw an object moving from Northwest to Southeast, across the sky. She estimated it to be about two miles away from the position which they were occupying at the time. The object was seen in bright daylight and had the brightness of an automobile headlight several blocks away.

As this object passed through the air, it left a trail of light, almost white smoke, which did not last as long as that left by a jet, and was much lighter. This smoke trail followed a flame approximately fifty times longer than the object itself.

The object was cone shaped, silver colored and appeared to be approximately the size of a silver dollar held at arms length, and flame emanating from it was of a yellow color. The edges of the object were sharply outlined against the sky.

Mrs. [REDACTED] watched this object for approximately fifteen seconds before it finally disintegrated. During the course flown it did not pass from view behind anything in the sky, there being no clouds, and the weather being about normal for this season.

Source stated that she had no way of judging what the object could have been, since she and the lady with her had never seen anything like it before. But she again stated that it resembled an oversized ice cream cone, constructed of an aluminum or silver material.

Mrs. [REDACTED] and her companion sighted this object on 19 July 1956, at approximately 2100Z. They were walking in a southerly direction toward Stockholm village, and faced south for the full duration of the sighting.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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I. SOURCE: [REDACTED]

Address: Star Route, Medway, Maine, (HKG 2836)

Age: 63

Occupation: Paper Mill Repairman, and one time guide for the Mt. Katahdin area.

Education: Grade School

Qualifications: Mr. [REDACTED] was for several years a guide in this area of the state, and is well acquainted with distances and directions which might be questioned in this matter.

II. RELIABILITY: As far as can be judged in the course of this investigation, while talking with Mr. [REDACTED] and several of the neighbors who live near him, his reliability is irreproachable. Honesty and truthfulness have always been a great part of his makeup.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: Mr. [REDACTED] in the company of a Mr. [REDACTED] were fishing at Debsconeag Dam, (HKG 0347), approximately fifteen miles West of Millinocket, on Friday afternoon, 19 July 1956, when their attention was attracted to an object approaching from the Southeast, flying fairly close to the ground. Mr. [REDACTED] judged it to be approximately three to four hundred feet elevation. This object was watched until it passed from view in the Northwest, behind the tree tops. The length of time required to pass from view, after sighting it, was from 20 to 30 seconds. They were not positive as to the exact time but judged it to be shortly after 192100Z Jul 56., and were more positive that the sun could have nothing to do with what they saw. Even though the sun was shining brightly, there were no clouds visible from where they were located, or any other objects which could have been reflecting sunlight.

One thing which both men definitely believe, is that it was a solid object, and they had ample time to observe it fully, watching it from both directions. They observed the trail of fire which followed it, also the smoke trail which it left. The fire itself was far brighter than the background of the sky, and disappeared twice during the time the men were watching it. The flame emitting from the rear of the object was similar to that which is seen following a jet aircraft after dark, while coming from the top of the object at approximately the center of it, was a small flame of bright blue, which went straight up, curving with the force of the air after it left the object. The color of the object was a dark metal color. The flame trail was judged to be approximately twelve feet long.

During the time this object was observed by these two men it did not alter course and apparently did not come any closer to the ground. It seemed to be guided along a straight course, from the time they first saw it until it disappeared from view. One thing which they both thought very odd, was the fact that there was no sound whatsoever, and they both felt if it had enough force to push itself along, at the rate it was going, there definitely should have been sound. The object was travelling directly against the wind which was blowing from the Northwest at the time.

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The weather conditions were good at the time; there had been a few scattered clouds, but none in the location where they saw this object; the wind was approximately 12 to 15 MPH. The weather was dry and cool.

This object was reported the following morning after the men returned to town.

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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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I. SOURCE: [REDACTED]

Address: Aurora, Maine, (HJGQ 4051).

Age: 35

Occupation: Sporting Camp Owner and Operator on [REDACTED] Maine, (HJGQ 4158).

Education: Grade School.

Qualifications: Mr. [REDACTED] has in the past been a police worker in New Jersey, and also on the Maine State Police. At the present time, he is a [REDACTED] for Hancock County, Maine.

II. RELIABILITY: While locating Mr. [REDACTED], several residents in that area remarked on the reliability and integrity of the man as being above reproach, and that if he reported seeing this object, he surely saw it.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: While moving from one fishing spot to another on Great Pond on Friday afternoon, 19 July 1956, Mr. [REDACTED] happened to be looking at the scenery around the lake, and spotted the object. He estimated it to be directly north of the position of his boat. The object was sighted at approximately 192100Z Jul 56. It was moving rapidly from west to east, and he observed it for at least six seconds. The sun at the time was well to the left of the object, in fact at an angle of at least 90 degrees, from the sun to the object, at the horizon level. The sun was in the west, and he estimated the object to be at about true north. It was much brighter than the sky behind it, about the intensity of an automobile headlight several blocks away, and leaving behind it a grayish colored trail. This trail soon dissipated though, much quicker than a trail left by a jet aircraft. Mr. [REDACTED] was wearing eyeglasses at the time, as he does constantly.

There was no sound from the object, but the head or front of it was bright and sharply outlined, while the back or tail, was fuzzy and blurred and seemed to be of a blue and gray color. It was shaped like a tube, with a head which resembled a football in contour. He estimated the object to be approximately ten feet long. (Part of this length, in fact all of it, could have been the trail of fire which was left behind). It was estimated by Mr. [REDACTED] to be approximately the size of a quarter in diameter if the quarter was held at arms length.

This object appeared in the sky and disappeared again, much the same as one turning on and off an electric light. Mr. Larson stated that if he was going to try to reproduce this object in its entirety, he would first start with one of the old type sealed beam headlights which were not glare proof, and from there on it would be difficult to choose a metal or material which would compare with this.

At the time Mr. [REDACTED] discovered the object, he was moving northward on the lake, and immediately after seeing it, he cut his motor and drifted while watching the object. As soon as it disappeared he proceeded to his landing and attempted to call the GOC post which is only a short distance from his camp. Failing in this, he proceeded by car to the post where his report could be easily dispatched to the Filter Center.

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The weather conditions were excellent at the time of the sighting, the sky clear, with a slight breeze from the NW, dry and warm.

At the same time Mr. [REDACTED] sighted this object, a lady who has a camp at the southern end of Great Pond, saw the same object. This ladies' address is as follows: Mrs. [REDACTED]. Since this sighting, Mrs. [REDACTED] has returned to her home. This is the first time either of these persons had ever seen an object of this type.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS:

1. A check was made with Presque Isle Flight Service at Presque Isle AFB by OIC Flight 3-G, 4602d AISS, for aircraft in the area at the time of sighting, with negative results.

2. The Observatory and Planetarium at the University of Maine, Orono, (HUGO 1952) was contacted. The Professor of Astronomy, Dr. Maynard Jordan, gave the following facts:

a. The Observatory and Planetarium at the University was closed during the time of the sightings.

b. There could definitely be more than one meteor in the same general area at the same time.

c. That meteors can explode much the same as the one reported by Mr. [REDACTED], but, it would have to be a large one, and probably would leave some physical evidence, if the location of the landing could be found.

d. There are no other planetariums within the State of Maine which would be able to furnish other information.

3. The information received from the Presque Isle AFB, Weather Station indicated the following:

a. Winds varied from Surface at 8 knots, to 50 knots at 30,000 feet, with the surface winds coming from NNW.

b. A few scattered clouds were present at 4500 feet, with 20 miles visibility, and no precipitation.

4. The 765th AC&W Squadron, Charleston, Maine. (HKFA 5705), was contacted, but did not report having picked up anything on their radar.

1 Incl

Chart of Area and Reported Sightings

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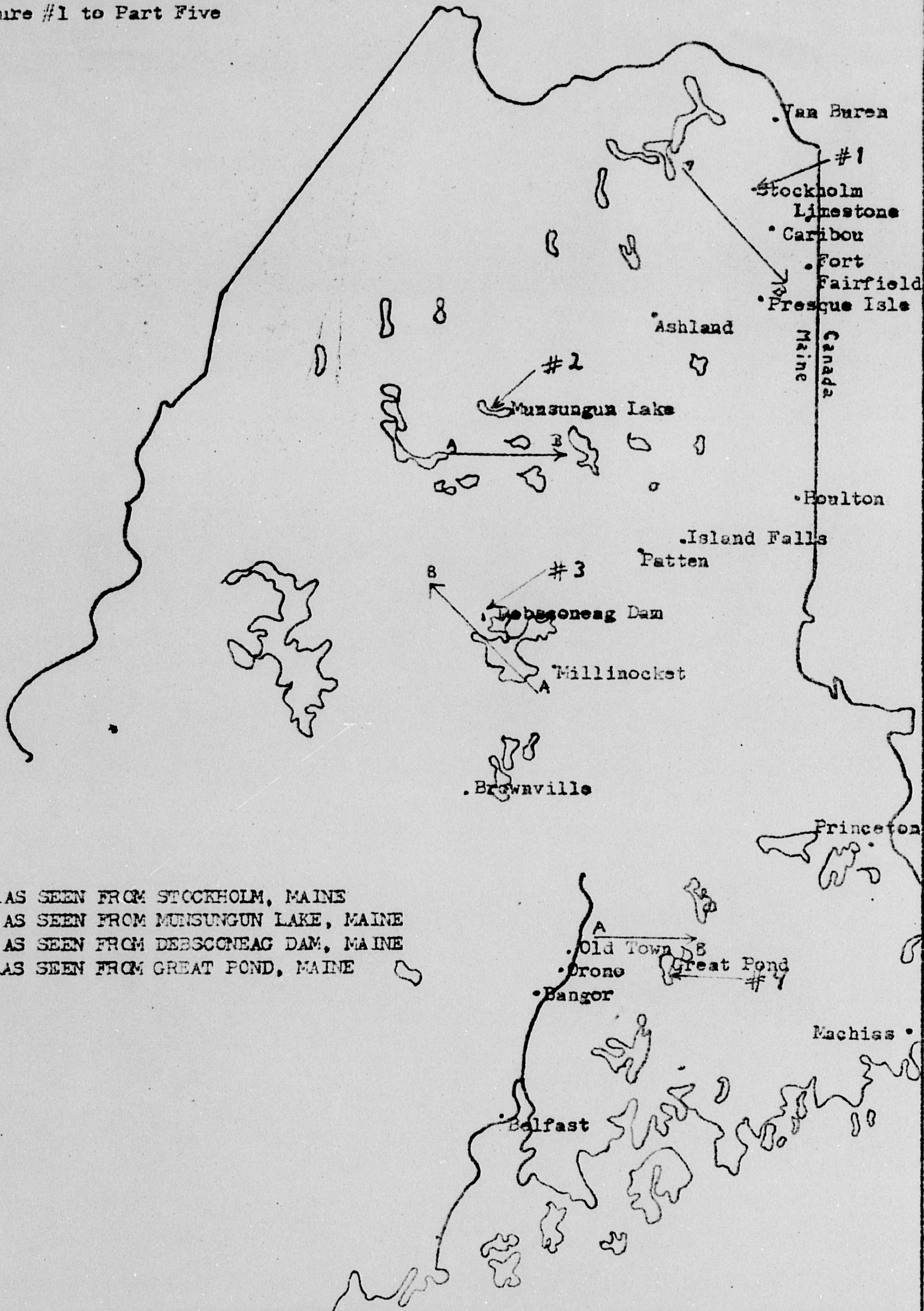
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Inclosure #1 to Part Five



- #1.....AS SEEN FROM STOCKHOLM, MAINE
- #2.....AS SEEN FROM MUNSUNGUN LAKE, MAINE
- #3.....AS SEEN FROM DEBSCONNEAG DAM, MAINE
- #4.....AS SEEN FROM GREAT POND, MAINE

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COMMENTS OF PREPARING OFFICER:

1. In the opinion of the Preparing Officer, these sightings were probably meteors. The following items tend to strengthen this opinion.

- a. Shape - Generally about the shape of a football.
- b. Size - In all instances it was reported as about the size of a football.
- c. Color - Flaming yellow with red, green or blue hues.
- d. Speed - Travels great distances in seconds.
- e. Although in two instances, the people seemed to feel this object was some type of missile or small type of aircraft, there is nothing to substantiate this. In view of the speeds stated, the fact that radar showed nothing at the time, and the fact that no aircraft were known to be in the area, it is felt that the objects were meteors. Furthermore, the data obtained from the meteorologists bears out this belief.

John P. Vinler
JOHN P. VINLER
Major, USAF
OIC, Flt 3-G

COMMENTS of Approving Officer:

1. It is to be noted that the Approving Officer does not agree with the Comments of the Preparing Officer concerning the uniformity of the size, shape, and color of the objects. The reports of the four sources regarding these items varied considerably, and, consequently, no generalization can be made.

2. However, the Approving Officer concurs with the opinion of the Preparing Officer that these sightings were probably meteors in the same general area at approximately the same time.

a. In all four instances, the sightings conformed to meteor criteria regarding size, shape, color, speed, length of time observed, etc.

b. In addition, Dr. Maynard F. Jordan, Professor of Astronomy, University of Maine, confirmed the possibility that there could be more than one meteor in the same general area at the same time, which was probably the case in this particular series of sightings.

John W. Meador
JOHN W. MEADOR
Colonel, USAF
Commander

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