PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE	2. LOCATION	12. CONCLUSIONS
9 September 1956	Big Bethel, Virginia	☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 2035 to 2055 EST GMT 1c/01352	**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** Civilians	☐ Was Astronomical Moon ☒ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 20 minutes	**8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS** one	**9. COURSE**
		☐ Other_____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

One object crescent shaped like the moon, size of softball to 14-15 inches. Color bright red or gold, as object diminished its color would darken to a deep red. No sound, no tail or trail. Flight path was gradual descension to horizon.

11. COMMENTS

Sighting was moon according to investigating officer. Also verified by WX rpt that moon was waning and set at 2115 hrs EST.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

7 pgs

9 Sept

5

Multi

48TH FIGHTER INTERCEPTOR SQUADRON
Langley Air Force Base, Virginia

FIS INT

12 September 1956

SUBJECT: UFOB Report

TO: Commander
Air Defense Command
Ent Air Force Base
Colorado Springs, Colorado

The inclosed UFOB Report is forwarded for your information.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

1 Incl:
UFOB Report 3 cys

STANLEY R BIRER
1st Lt., USAF
Adjutant

1. A careful, second reading of this report indicates that the source cannot be considered as reliable. Also note the weather and sighting conditions at that time.

2. No other reports from that area: Radar, Gci, Air, Visual

12 OCT 56 11 00

7-37457-26

AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

UNCLASSIFIED
(CLASSIFICATION)

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES
48TH Fighter Interceptor Sqdn		

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Strange! this is often the color of the moon near the horizon.

* 2. When first seen the object was bright red or gold in color and looked somewhat like a headlight. Shortly after, the object seemed to flatten out and the righted itself again. From time to time, the object would gradually grow smaller to what seemed to be the size of a softball, or grow larger to a diameter of 14-15 inches. As it diminished, its color would darken to deep red. The nearest distance at which it was observed was two(2) miles.

2 inches

3. The dominant shape was compared to the moon or crescent shaped. Its mass seemed fuzzy and the strangest impression was that the object was occupied. Mrs [redacted] stated that it appeared to be a bird or ducklike but that in the position of the head or cockpit there seemed to be an occupant wearing some sort of headgear. Mrs [redacted] who first saw the object at 2045 (EST), thought she saw the features of a man in the object even to the point of seeing his feet.

4. The first sign of action seen by Mr. [redacted] and Mrs. [redacted] was a light that shot straight up and out and disappeared. Mrs. [redacted] who observed the object from her home at [redacted] Road, apparently saw the same thing but from the side. Her impression was that vapor shot out from one end toward the other as if to form a circle but faded out at the peak of the curve. Lights could be seen surrounding the object intermittently. They seemed to radiate out approximately one foot from the edges. The lights were of two (2) shapes: oblong and triangular; the triangular shape being the most dominant. There was no sound at anytime.

5. The path of flight was of gradual descension from the height of a few hundred feet to the treetop level of a swampy wooded area ½ to one mile distant, at which point it disappeared headed in the general direction of Yorktown, Virginia at 2055 (EST).

6. Additional comments by the observers were that special note was taken that no other aircraft were in the vicinity during the time that the object was seen. There were a few clouds in the sky but they were not near the object and no other objects interfered with the visibility which was good even though it was dark at the time.

7. Weather reports at that time indicated scattered clouds at 3000ft, and 6000 ft, unlimited ceiling, and fifteen (15) miles visibility. No thunderstorms in the area, but there were storm north winds. The moon was waning and set at 2115 (EST)

* [illegible] (left [illegible]) and [illegible]

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16—55570-1 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950—O-9183

AF FORM 112—PART II
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES
48TH Fighter Interceptor Sqdn		

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11. The observers made a report to Base Operations 10 September and it was recieved by the 48th Fighter Interceptor Squadron late that day. The information in the initial report was scanty making it necessary to make a more detailed investigation. This accounts for the extended reporting time.

Comments of investigating Officer:

The general area in which the object was sighted would fall within B-29 on the WAC charts of this area. The observers felt very sure that what saw was notthe moon. Their impressions were given as specifically as possible but nevertheless only by approximation. The size of the object very easily could have been much larger than 14 or 15 inches in diameter. Weather reports that the moon was in the same general area and that it set at 2115 (EST) could well account for the descending motion and also the color and increasing size since the moon does seem to increase in size and change in color as it nears the horizon.

Elton V. Monismith

ELTON V. MONISMITH
1st Lt., USAF
Intelligence Officer

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AF FORM 112—PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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(CLASSIFICATION)

20/01352

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
USA		

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT: UFOB

AREA REPORTED ON	FROM (Agency)
Big Bethel near Langley AFB, Va.	43TH Fighter Interceptor Squadron

DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION	EVALUATION
12 September 1956	10 September 1956	F-4

PREPARED BY (Officer)	SOURCE
1st Lt., Elton V. Monismith	Civilian Observers

REFERENCES (Cite cable number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)

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.)

1. An Unidentified Flying object was sighted Sunday, 9 September 1956, between 2035 and 2055 (EST) near Big Bethel. Big Bethel is approximately three (3) miles north west of the Langley Air Force Base westgate. Three civilians sighted the object and compared it to the moon in shape and size. According to their statement, the object's speed and flight path ruled out its possibility of being the moon. Although some clouds were in the sky, visibility was good. There was some change in color and shape and movements, but it was gradual. The opinion of all observers was that the object was occupied, but that a clear discription could not be made because the interior of the object was fuzzy.

2. Weather reports coincide with observer's description with the exception of the moon which was waning and which set twenty (20) minutes after the object was seen moving out of sight in a downward flight path. The evaluation F-4 was given because there was no way to accurately determine the reliability of the observers other than the fact that each comfirms the other's statements. In addition evidence from weather reports indicates that the object was most likely the moon.

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Intelligence Officer

_____ INCLS.

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☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1950—O-91833

over all parts of the U.S. Cloudy have been observed by hundreds, including no-lies. No reports from anywhere.

1, Claimed to see an object size of a softball 3, at the cloud 2 miles away —

$\frac{D}{S} = \frac{2}{.3} = \frac{10{,}000}{4}$ (2 miles approx.) $= \frac{3000\text{ ft}}{2} =$ Actual size of UFO (1 ft)* = size

(size of soft-ball)

2, Claimed to be able to see a passenger in the object wearing a headgear — even able to observe their feet.

3. Shape was somewhat like the moon: (Moon was in the area of sighting)

4. Impossible! Even in broad daylight the world's largest a/c — a B-36 — would be a mere sliver 1/3" of an inch long. (See U.S. Ground Obs. Corp "Guide" — or use optical computations).

5. Yet — they claim to be able to see see passengers at 2 miles away — in the dark.

6. Scattered clouds — moving rather fast — Moon near setting point — dark, windy night — Moon was in that area — as observed through moving clouds could give impression of something else. 7. Evaluated, however — on Unreliability of Source (other

Additional Checks:

1. Wx – Cloudy, winds, may have been some slight rain in the area.

2. No report of UFO or anything unusual from:

a. Radar units
b. GOC units
c. Civil and Mil. Air flights + ops
d. Others

(that area)

3. Also checked for UFO reports rec'd 48 before and after that time – none from that area ~~[illegible]~~ if anything similar reported – Nothing received.

AF FORM 112—PART I
APPROVED 1 JUNE 1948

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20/0135Z

COUNTRY	REPORT NO.	(LEAVE BLANK)
USA		

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT		
UFOB		
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AF FORM 112—PART I
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20/01352

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