PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE

11 October 1957

2. LOCATION

Levittown, N.Y.

3. DATE-TIME GROUP

Local_____

GMT 12/0140Z

4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION

☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar

☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar

5. PHOTOS

☐ Yes

☒ No

6. SOURCE

Civilian

7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION

2-3 seconds

8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS

one

9. COURSE

not given

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING

Round area of light, larger than basketball, blue-green, trail 3 - 4 times size of object. Appeared ahead of car while traveling.

11. COMMENTS

Typical description of meteor.

12. CONCLUSIONS

- ☐ Was Balloon
- ☐ Probably Balloon
- ☐ Possibly Balloon
- ☐ Was Aircraft
- ☐ Probably Aircraft
- ☐ Possibly Aircraft
- ☒ Was Astronomical Meteor
- ☐ Probably Astronomical
- ☐ Possibly Astronomical
- ☐ Other_____
- ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation
- ☐ Unknown

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

WA42A

FOLO FIREBALL, VERNAL

WASHINGTON, OCT. 10.--(UP)--THE AIR FORCE SAID TODAY IT IS INVESTIGATING REPORTS OF A FIREBALL STREAKING ACROSS THE WESTERN PART OF THE NATION EARLY THIS MORNING. A SPOKESMAN SAID THE FIREBALL "APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN A METEOR."

THE AIR FORCE SAID ITS AIR DEFENSE COMMAND HEADQUARTERS AT COLORADO SPRINGS RECEIVED REPORTS ABOUT THE FIREBALL FROM SEVERAL SOURCES EARLY TODAY.

THESE INCLUDED GROUND OBSERVERS, STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND PLANES, A CIVIL TRANSPORT PLANE, AND A NAVY PILOT.

THE AIR FORCE SAID THE FIREBALL APPARENTLY MOVED SOUTHWEST FROM THE DAKOTAS AND MONTANA AND SEEMED TO HAVE LANDED NEAR MYTON, UTAH. IT WAS DESCRIBED AS A BRIGHT GREEN BALL WHICH TURNED WHITE AND RED JUST BEFORE CRASHING.

BOTH THE AIR FORCE AND THE NAVY HERE SAID THEY HAD BEEN UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE NAVY PILOT WHO WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SEEN THE FIREBALL.

BOTH SERVICES DENIED REPORTS THAT THERE HAD BEEN ANY SECRECY LID ON THE FIREBALL.

-0-

(DX--AIR FORCE SEZ YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET EVERYTHING AVAILABLE ON FIREBALL THROUGH A COL. MAYALL AT ADC, COLORADO SPRINGS--WA)

GE145P

C O P Y

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NE USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

1 NAME OR TITLE Capt - Gregory 4E4	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE

REMARKS

Please prepare disapp
such a letter for my
sig (Lewis to Partridge)
HL

Return this to AFCIN-4E4

Itr will be primarily from Gen. Lewis
to Gen. Partridge, as understood
above.

FROM NAME OR TITLE Capt Francis Greer 4x1	DATE 30 Jan
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION	TELEPHONE

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

☆ GPO : 1951 - O 925584

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS

1 NAME OR TITLE ~~Dr. Miley~~	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION ~~AFCIN-4E4~~	DATE 1/3		COORDINATION
2 ~~Colonel Gilbert~~	G		FILE
~~AFCIN-4E~~			INFORMATION
3 ~~Mr. Arcier~~			NECESSARY ACTION
~~AFCIN-4X1~~			NOTE AND RETURN
4 Colonel ~~Long~~			SEE ME
~~AFCIN-4X2~~			SIGNATURE

REMARKS Gen Watson

Info re thinking of some scientists on "fireballs" and meteorites observed during last 1½ years - and how they may "trigger off" some grave international incident.

Mr Arcier -

Believe this should be sent to Gen Partridge for his info and possible action - If you agree such a letter be prepared — maybe for Gen Samford sig. Howe

FROM NAME OR TITLE Capt G.T. Gregory	DATE 1/3/58
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION AFCIN-4E4	TELEPHONE 69216

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

☆ GPO : 1958—O-403461

2 January 1958

1. The attached correspondence, reviewed by a number of IGY scientists was passed on to the undersigned by Dr. Hynek, with the suggestion that it be brought to the attention of the Air Force.

2. The grave consequences of military pilots, or members of the military or public, mistaking (and officially reporting) metecrites or "fireballs" striking the earth -- as Soviet missiles, during tense international situation or periods of impending hostilities (such as existed the few days before Pearl Harbor) is recognized. It was discussed at length by the undersigned with the Office of the Scientific Advisor last summer, as a prime reason for a "new" UFO regulation and the need for "UFO identification and guidance material."

3. New UFO regulation is now in the process of publication. A "UFO guidance and identification" manual is also in the process of completion by undersigned, workloads and other priorities permitting.

George T. Gregory

GEORGE T. GREGORY
Captain, USAF
AFCIN-4E4

Form No. 6
SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
(Feb. 1, 1951)

MEMO ROUTING SLIP

TO THE FOLLOWING IN ORDER INDICATED

	NAME OR TITLE	INITIALS—DATE
1.	Drs Hynek and Dr. Campbell	
2.	JAH	
3.	J.A.H.	
4.	For	

Your information	☑	Note and return	☐
Your comments	☐	Proper signature	☐
Necessary action	☐	Note and file	☐
Prepare reply	☐	See me	☐
Your recommendation	☐	Your initials	☐

REMARKS

For: I will take up with A.F. Noted with interest. Returned.

Rec'd

Believe UFO people answer letters.

FROM	DATE
FRED L. WHIPPLE	12/13
JCY	PHONE

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16—63985-1

This case, (Nichols Road) immediately attracted by press headlines throughout country & U.S. Govt to UFO

METEORITE MUSEUM

BOX 146, SEDONA, ARIZONA

December 2, 1957

Dr. Fred Whipple
Director
Astrophysical Observatory
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Dear Dr. Whipple:

Recently I made a fireball survey which revealed a situation that is frightening and I think perhaps you are the man in best position to do something about it.

On October 10,1957, a navy pilot of Lt.Commander rank was flying from Alameda,California to Norfolk, Va. , carrying military personnel. He was about 95 miles southeast of Salt Lake City when he said he sighted a large fireball on his left and ahead, coming in a collision course so he banked his plane and circled. As he did so "the fireball disintegrated under him."

There were many sightings of this fireball from widely separated points but the North American Defense Command at Colorado Springs took the pilot's statement at par and dispatched a searching party to the area where the pilot said it landed. I suppose they worked on the theory that it might possibly have been a missile instead of a meteorite. I discussed the matter with the Colonel who was in charge of that office and who himself led the searching party. When I had discussing the matter with him and his subordinates I was really and truly frightened though I tried not to reveal this state of mind to them. The point is my survey had revealed that the meteorite had disintegrated at a point more than 150 miles from where they searched yet two weeks after this event the Colonel and his staff were in a state of complete confusion and had reached the conclusion that nothing more could be done concerning the location or nature of that object.

My survey covered points on all sides of the end point of the fireball and the only thing about which the pilot was correct was the approximate direction from which it had come. That direction was approximately the same direction from which a Russian missile would be most likely to come yet I was unable to find that our radar screen had detected anything.

Now there is no question but that this was a meteorite and that it disintegrated at an altitude above ten miles,

probably nearer 15 miles,in the area between Aspen and Eagle, Colorado. The terrain was covered by a foot of snow between the time of its arrival and the completion of my survey hence no search can be made until next summer but the region is mountainous and it is doubtful whether a search is really justified or not. But that it not the point of this letter.

I am writing you because this high ranking pilot and the top officials of the North American Defense clearly revealed their inability to deal with problems of identity and location of such objects. Just like dozens of other pilots with whom I have met on similer surveys through the past 20 years they did all of the wrong things and none of the right things in attempting to report and analyse the situation. This constitutes a desperate threat under present international conditions.

I went carefully over the many dispatches that reached the DENVER POST office concerning this fireball. Anyone who understands the methods of dealing with subh reports could have sat there at his desk and telephone and in 20 minutes could have known positively that this was a meteorite and could have known the general area over which it passed and where it landed.

From now on, it appears to me that unless there is set up a processing office where all such reports will be entered- we are in danger of two international catastrophies. 1) a missile as a trial shot could arrive and the military would be unaware of it until its landing could be used by the enemy to correct their aim and literally blanket our country with atomic destruction, or 2) a meteorite could be mistaken for a missile and our retaliatory mechanism be set in motion initiating a war of complete destruction.

There is no question about the lack of preparation in pilots to deal with this situation. I have found it almost universal. One of the chief duties of this proposed processing office would be the proper instruction of pilots,military personnel, and forest service personnel. Our fire lookouts and control towers are of utmost importance in handling the problem,providing they know what to do.

I hope you will find some means of correcting this extremely dangerous situation.

Sincerely yours,

HHN:AN

Dr. H.H.Nininger

Dr. Menzel:
The above is nothing new. I have repeatedly brought this out in briefing — observing — as a generally overlooked aspect of the UFO. problem.
Capt. Ruppelt

December 12, 1957

Dr. H. H. Nininger
The Meteorite Museum
Box 146
Sedona, Arizona

Dear Harry:

Your letter of December 2 is a very important one and I certainly share with you misgivings of the type you describe. I shall pass along to the proper authorities a copy of your letter, with your permission, and will discuss it with them. If you wish to contribute more in alleviating the situation, I would appreciate your referring me to a good description of exactly how the observations of fireballs should be made so that the proper interpretations can be reached. If there is not a really good account of this that might be usable by pilots and other military observers, I suggest that you write down a few ideas and pass them around among the various meteorite students.

I really think there is a useful field of endeavor in this direction and will cooperate in any way possible.

Hope everything is going well with you.

Sincerely,

Fred L. Whipple
Director

FLW/cp

Dr. Nininger's ltr. to Dr. Whipple.

HX17A
URGENT
LEAD SALT LAKE CITY
VERNAL, UTAH, OCT. 10--(UP)--A WHITE OBJECT THAT "LOOKED LIKE THE MOON" AND TRAILED A "BLUE FLAME THAT PULSED LIKE A HEART" WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE CRASHED 20 TO 30 MILES EAST OF HERE SHORTLY BEFORE SUNRISE.

THE OBJECT FIRST WAS REPORTED SAS A "HUGE FIREBALL" SEEN OVER DENVER BY A CIVIL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATION SPOKESMAN AT 4:04 A.M., MST, (7:05 A.M. EDT). REPORTS OF A SIMILAR "FIREBALL" CAME FROM POINTS SCATTERED AS FAR AS TEXAS AND SOUTH DAKOTA. SOME PERSONS REPORTED SEEING IT OVER UTAH AND SOUTHWESTERN WYOMING.

THERE WAS SOME SPECULATION THE OBJECT MIGHT BE PART OF A ROCKET THAT PUT THE RUSSIAN SATELLITE IN AN ORBIT AROUND THE EARTH LATE LAST FRIDAY.

(HOWEVER, ALLEN HYNEK, DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. SATELLITE TRACKING PROGRAM, SAID IN BOSTON HE WAS "EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL" THAT THE FIREBALL HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE SATELLITE ROCKETS. HE SAID AT THE TIME OF THE FIREBALL'S CRASH, THE SATELLITE AND EMPTY ROCKET WHICH IS FOLLOWING IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN CIRCLING SOMEWHERE OFF SOUTH AFRICA.)

MORE MG1024A

HX18A
URGENT
ADD FIREBALL, VERNAL, X X X SOUTH AFRICA.)

A VERNAL RADIO STATION EMPLOYE, LAVON (CAP V) WALL OF STATION KVEL (CAPS) SAID TWO MEN HAD SEEN THE OBJECT, BELIEVED IT HAD CRASHED ABOUT 20 TO 30 MILES EAST OF HERE, AND HAD GONE TO LOOK FOR IT. THEY DESCRIBED IT AS "WHITE AND LOOKING LIKE THE MOON WITH A BLUE FLAMING TAIL THAT PULSED LIKE A HEART."

MRS. [redacted] SAID THE OBJECT "LIT UP THE ENTIRE SKY" IN THE VERNAL AREA BEFORE IT DISAPPEARED BEHIND LOW HILLS ABOUT 4:15 A.M. (MST).

EARLIER REPORTS ALSO SAID THE OBJECT HAD CRASHED 20 TO 30 MILES EAST OF MYTON, UTAH, A SMALL TOWN ABOUT 25 MILES SOUTHWEST OF HERE. DUCHESNE COUNTY SHERIFF LORIN STEVENSON SAID HE PLANNED TO SEND A SEARCH PLANE AFTER THE OBJECT ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE HAD FOUND NO ONE IN HIS AREA WHO HAD SEEN THE OBJECT--EITHER IN THE SKY OR ON THE GROUND.

(INCLUDES PREVIOUS).

MG1027A

UV00000X
HX23A
(WITH FIREBALL)
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNMN OCT. 10--(UP)--A WESTERN AIRLINES PILOT WHO SIGHTED THE FIREBALL WHICH WAS SEEN OVER SEVERAL WESTERN STATES TODAY SAID IT WAS "NO SAUCER FANTASY."

FIRST OFFICER BILL SCHULTZ OF LOS ANGELES SAID HE IS INCLINED TO DISCREDIT THE THEORY IT MAY HAVE BEEN A METEORITE, BUT WOULDN'T DISCREDIT THE POSSIBILITY IT MAY HAVE BEEN PART OF A ROCKET.

HOWEVER, [redacted] SAID THE CREW, AFTER DISCUSSING THE SIGHTING FOR SEVERAL HOURS, "HAVE TO ADMIT THAT IT COULD HAVE BEEN NOTHING OTHER THAN A METEORITE."

ONE THING WE KNOW FOR SURE", HE ADDED. "THIS WAS NO FLYING SACUER FANTSY."

HE SAID THE "RASCAL" WAS SO "REALISTIC IT BECAME A MATTER OF CONCERN TO US. IT WAS SO IMPRESSIVE WE KEPT OUR EYES ALERTED DURING THE REST OF THE NIGHT" BECASE WE "HAD NO IDEA WHAT WAS BEHIND US".

THE CREW OF WESTERN AIRLINES FLIGHT 770, EN ROUTE FROM LOS ANGELES TO MINNEAPOLIS, SIGHTED THE OBJECT AT ABOUT 4:08 A. M. (MST) AS IT CROSSED THE CONTINENTAL DIVIDE IN THE RAWLING WYO. AREA.

IT WAS FIRST SEEN AS A "SMALL WHITE LIGHT" BY CAPT. JOSEPH SEDAY.

IT THEN LOOMED ACROSS THE HORIZON, DISPLAYING [redacted] SAID, A "VERY CONSISTENT FLAME PATTERN WHICH WAS WHITE IN COLOR AND AT LEAST 50 FEET IN LENGTH."

HE SAID IT WAS FIRST SEEN NEARLY HORIZONTAL TO THE HORIZON, AND WHEN IT REACHED THE 2 O'CLOCK POSITION IT BEGAN TO DISINTEGRATE.

MORE RS 138P.

HX24A
ADD WITH FIREBALL X X X TO DISINTEGRATE.

"IT REMINDED ME", [redacted] SAID, "OF A WING BEING SHOT OFF AN AIRCRAFT."

SHULTZ SAID THAT "WITHIN SECONDS" AFTER THEY REPORTED SIGHTING THE OBJECT, OTHER PLANES ALSO CAME IN WITH CONFIRMATIONS.

HE SAID THE PILOT OF A NAVY TRANSPORT WAS "SORE THAT A ROCKET OR MISSILE HAD BEEN FIRED AND ENDANGERED HIS PASSENGERS".

THE NAVY PILOT SAID HE HAD TO TAKE EVASIVE ACTION, HE REPORTED SEEING IT CRASH.

SCHULTZ SAID THE OBJECT WAS IN SIGHT FOR ABOUT A MINUTE. HE SAID A "RIDICULOUS" ESTIMATE OF THE SPEED OF THE OBJECT WOULD BE 1,200 TO 1,30 MILES AN HOUR.

RS41P

MAZZA

464

1ST GENERAL LEAD FIREBALL

BY UNITED PRESS

THE NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE COMMAND AT COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., SAID TODAY IT BELIEVED A HUGE FIREBALL THAT HURTLED ACROSS THE PRE-DAWN SKIES OF FIVE WESTERN STATES WAS A METEOR.

COMMAND OFFICIALS SAID AN AIR FORCE INVESTIGATING TEAM WOULD BE FLOWN "IMMEDIATELY" TO THE NORTHEASTERN UTAH SITE WHERE THE OBJECT APPARENTLY CRASHED SHORTLY AFTER 4 A.M. MST (7 A.M. EDT).

THE COMMAND CONFIRMED REPORTS THE MYSTERIOUS FIERY OBJECT NARROWLY SIDESWIPED A NAVY PLANE IN AN AREA NEAR THE COLORADO-UTAH BORDER, BUT SAID IT COULD NOT IDENTIFY THE PILOT OR WHERE THE PLANE WAS BASED. IT GAVE THE PLANE'S NUMBER AS "NAVY 1607."

COMMAND OFFICIALS JOINED SEVERAL EASTERN SCIENTISTS IN RULING OUT THE POSSIBILITY THE FIREBALL WAS PART OF THE RUSSIAN SATELLITE LAUNCHING ROCKET. OTHER MILITARY SPOKESMEN IN THIS AREA REJECTED THE POSSIBILITY IT WAS A RUN-AWAY MISSILE.

"THIS IS A PERIOD OF HEAVY METEOR ACTIVITY," SAID ONE AIR FORCE OFFICIAL AT THE AIR DEFENSE COMMAND. "A SHOWER KNOWN AS 'GIACOBIMIDS' WAS DUE OCT. 9 (LAST NIGHT) WITH OTHERS DUE ON THE 18TH AND 23RD OF OCTOBER."

A WESTERN AIR LINES PILOT, CAPTAIN JOE SEDAY OF LOS ANGELES, SAID HE SAW THE OBJECT WHILE FLYING OVER SOUTHWESTERN WYOMING. HE SAID A FEW MOMENTS LATER HE TALKED AIR-TO-AIR BY RADIO WITH THE PILOT OF THE UNIDENTIFIED NAVY PLANE, WHICH HAD THE REPORTED NEAR-COLLISION WITH THE OBJECT.

"WE WON'T HAVE ANY DEFINITE INFORMATION ON THE WHOLE THING UNTIL AN AIR FORCE TEAM GETS IN THERE TO SEARCH THE AREA ON THE GROUND," THE COMMAND'S PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICE SAID. "I HAVE BEEN TOLD TO ANNOUNCE THAT A FULL-SCALE INVESTIGATION IS BEING MADE."

THE COMMAND SAID IT HAD A LIST "A MILE LONG" OF PEOPLE WHO HAD SPOTTED THE OBJECT. SOME DESCRIBED IT AS A BRIGHT RED FIREBALL. OTHERS SAID IT LOOKED LIKE A "WHITE MOON" WITH A BLUE FLAME TAIL.

~~THE OBJECT IS VVED~~

THE OBJECT IS BELIEVED TO HAVE CRASHED EAST OF VERNAL, UTAH, NEAR THE COLORADO BORDER.

(PICKUP 6TH PGH:.. THE OBJECT WAS SEEN ETC)

NZ

-0-

CORRECTION: IN 1ST PGH, ABV READ IT XXX OF SIX WESTERN STATES (STED OF FIVE)

HZ123P

T.

HE4

GENERAL LEAD "FIREBALL"
BY UNITED PRESS

A MYSTERIOUS FIERY OBJECT SKIPPED ERRATICALLY THROUGH WESTERN PREDAWN SKIES TODAY LEAVING IN ITS WAKE A FLOOD OF VARYING REPORTS AND SPECULATION BEFORE IT REPORTEDLY CRASHED NEAR THE UTAH-COLORADO BORDER.

SOME DESCRIBED IT AS A "FIREALL." OTHERS SAID IT LOOKED LIKE A "WHITE MOON" WITH A BLUE FLAME TAIL. SOME THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE PART OF THE RUSSIAN SATELLITE LAUNCHING ROCKET, ALTHOUGH THAT WAS VIRTUALLY RULED OUT. OTHERS THOUGHT IT WAS A METEOR OR GUIDED MISSILE GONE ASTRAY.

THE AIR DEFENSE COMMAND AT COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO:, SAID THE AIR FORCE WOULD MAKE A COMPLETE INVESTIGATION OF THE FIREBALL.

AT WASHINGTON, THE AIR FORCE SAID THE FIREBALL APPEARED TO BE A METEOR.

THE FIRST REPORT CAME FROM A NAVY PILOT WHO TOLD CIVIL AERONAUTICS ADMINISTRATION EMPLOYES IN DENVER AND SALT LAKE CITY HE NEARLY COLLIDED WITH THE OBJECT. HE SAID HE SAW THE "FIREBALL" CRASH EAST OF VERNAL, UTAH, NEAR THE COLORADO BORDER, SHORTLY AFTER 6 A.M. EST.

THE OBJECT WAS SEEN IN SCATTERED AREAS OF TEXAS, COLORADO, WYOMING, SOUTH DAKOTA, MONTANA AND UTAH.

WITNESSES AT VERNAL SAID THEY SAW AN OBJECT THAT "LOOKED LIKE THE MOON--WHITE WITH A BLUE FLAME THAT PULSED LIKE A HEART" DISAPPEAR BEHIND LOW HILLS 20 TO 30 MILES EAST OF THE CITY. SEARCHERS WERE SENT INTO THE VICINITY IMMEDIATELY.

MORE RS1255P

HX21A
ADD GENERAL LEAD FIREBALL X X X VICINITY IMMEDIATELY.

ONE OBSERVER AT VERNAL SAID THE OBJECT "LIT UP THE ENTIRE SKY."

THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE FIREBALL WAS CONNECTED WITH THE SOVIET SATELLITE APPEARED REMOTE. RADIO TRACKERS IN WASHINGTON CLOCKED THE MAN-MADE MOON OVER THE MIDWESTERN SATES AT THE TIME OF THE REPORTED FIREBALL CRASH.

THE DIRECTOR OF THE U.S. SATELLITE TRACKING PROGRAM, ALLEN HYNEK, SAID IN BOSTON HE WAS "EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL" THE FIREBALL HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE SATELLITE OR ITS ROCKET COMPANION. TWX Roch

AN AI
FORCE B-47 REPORTED SEEING THE FIREBALL OVER SOUTHWESTERN WYOMING. THE PILOT SAID HE BELIEVED IT WAS A METEOR.

SOME SPECULATED THE OBJECT WAS A GUIDED MISSILE GONE ASTRAY. HOWEVER, AN AIR FORCE SPOKESMAN AT THE MISSILE DEVELOPMENT CENTER NEAR ALAMOGORDO, N.M., SAID NO MISSILES WERE IN THE AIR AT THE TIME THE FIREBALL WAS REPORTED.

A SPOKESMAN AT THE AIR DEFENSE COMMAND HEADQUARTERS IN COLORADO SPRINGS EARLIER HAD DECLINED TO COMMENT ON REPORTS OF THE MYSTERIOUS OBJECT. HE SAID ONLY THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD TO "REFER ALL QUERIES TO WASHINGTON."

NEITHER OF THE PILOTS OF THE NAVY OR AIR FORCE PLANES WHICH REPORTED SEEING THE OBJECT WAS AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT.

RS1258P

Composite UFO TT MSG rec'd 1550 hrs 10 Oct 1957

95 DS/HX
FYI, SKEDDING WA'S FLU STY WHICH BLV WILL CARRY MAIN HOD TNI.
LC/NX
JM2P10/10

HQS USAF notified of itinerary & investigating team.

From Command Post

TO XIA Maj Byrne

10 OCT 1957

Lowry Flight Service recorded this at 1715Z. At 1105Z they had a report from Inglewood, Colorado, a ball of fire 200-300 yards long, falling rapidly north to south. At 1106, Navy aircraft 1c07, 2 miles East of Myton, Utah, East Bound on Victor 20, reported either a rocket, jet or unknown object passed on his port side at an angle of 30 degrees to the earth and burned out 20 to 50 miles East of Myton, Utah. Speed was estimated as Mach-2. At 1107 Western Airlines reported missile crossed his bow and crashed in Myton zone. At 1107 Granville, 3 SAC aircraft 35,000, 37,000 and 33,000, respectively saw object and gave location of crash as Myton, Utah. The object was higher than the aircraft but not much. Burn-out was in West-Southwest direction. Seen for 12 seconds. Brilliant object, very large, bright green. Checked with Central and Western forces and they have no missing aircraft. We have a site up in that area and have checked with them and they have made preliminary search and found nothing. No investigation being conducted as yet that I know of. None planned. Denver radio stations stated they had received reports from persons sighting the object.

(1006th AIS will investigate ADC Intel will advise of any additional info

call to SNIAD if this info. changes

Paul

Rcd. Call fr CP 0845
dlld COMD 0850

TIMES - Oct 10 - 1957

AF Believes 'Fireball' Was Meteor

By UNITED PRESS

The North American Air Defense Command at Colorado Springs, Colo., said today it believed a huge fireball that hurtled across the predawn skies of five Western states was a meteor.

Command officials said an Air Force investigating team would be flown "immediately" to the northeastern Utah site where the object apparently crashed early this morning.

THE COMMAND confirmed reports the mysterious fiery object narrowly sideswiped a Navy plane in an area near the Colorado-Utah border, but said it could not identify the pilot or where the plane was based. It gave the plane's number as "Navy 1607."

Command officials joined several Eastern scientists in ruling out the possibility the fireball was part of the Russian satellite launching rocket. Other military spokesmen in this area rejected the possibility it was a run-away missile.

"This is a period of heavy meteor activity," said one Air Force official at the Air Defense Command. "A shower known as 'Giacobimids' was due Oct. 9 (last night) with others due on the 18th and 23d of October."

"We won't have any definite information on the whole thing until an Air Force team gets in there to search the area on the ground," the command's public information service said. "I have been told to announce that a full-scale investigation is being made."

NX72A

INSERT AFTER 4TH PGH GENERAL LEAD SATELLITE UNDATED XXX THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE.

RADIO TRACKERS IN WASHINGTON REPORTED THAT THE FIREBALL WAS NOT SPUTNIK. OTHER OBSERVERS AT THE NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY SAID THE SOVIET SATELLITE STILL WAS MAINTAINING ITS ORIGINAL ORBIT AND SPEED.

RADIO SIGNALS FROM THE SPUTNIK WERE INTERCEPTED STRONG AND CLEAR AS THE SOVIET MOON SPED OVER THE UNITED STATES ON ITS NORTHWEST TO SOUTHEAST ORBIT, THE LABORATORY SAID.

..JM130P..

Oct 11-1957

-THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

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Big Fireball Traverses Western U.S. Sky

Denver (AP) — A brilliant ball of fire described as large as a house, blazed across western skies in the predawn darkness yesterday. It whizzed so close to a Navy plane that the pilot had to make a sharp turn to avoid a collision.

Scientists said they are sure the flaming object was a meterite and had no connection with the Russian satellite launched last week.

The Navy transport plane pilot, Lt. Cmdr. W. F. Norris, said after seeing the fireball, he circled over it and saw it crash in rugged country near the Colorado-Utah border. Norris said he had to bank sharply to avoid the fireball.

HEADQUARTERS of the North American Air Defense Command at Colorado Springs said fliers will search the area east of Myton, in east-central Utah.

Airplane pilots and night toilers all the way from North Dakota to Utah told of seeing the flaming sky wanderer illuminating the heavens.

The 16-man crew of the transport plane still was shaken when the plane landed at Norfolk, Va., nearly seven hours later.

Capt. E. A. Anderson, who was in the plane's cockpit when the fireball first was seen, said the object came driving out of the north.

"IT WAS A BLUISH green ball of fire," said Anderson, senior medical officer at the Norfolk Naval Air Station.

Anderson said the object flashed by the left side of the transport plane and appeared to have burned out about 1,000 feet below. The plane was flying at 17,000 feet at the time and was three minutes past its checkpoint at Myton, Utah.

In addition to the crew, the 4-engine plane carried 23 passengers. No one was hurt and the plane was not damaged.

An Air Force bomber pilot, Lt. George Wortell of Cleveland, said he thought for a time the fireball was on a collision course with his plane, and:

"When it passed instead of hitting us, excitement turned to awe. The cockpit was lit up like daylight . . . it was a big ball of blue-white fire only five or 10 miles away.

"It went by at terrific speed in a descending trajectory from about 50,000 feet, trailing a spectacular multicolored tail. It seemed to disintegrate before it hit ground, falling in many pieces."

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HX12A

URGENT

LEAD DENVER

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, OCT. 10--(UP--A "HUGE FIREBALL" HURTLED OVER SEVERAL WESTERN STATES TODAY AND NARROWLY MISSED STRIKING A NAVY PLANE BEFORE IT CRASHED IN THE VICINITY OF MYTON, UTAH, NEAR THE COLORADO-UTAH STATE LINE.

AN AIR TRAFFWC CONTROL SPOKESMAN HERE SAID THE PLANE WAS ALMOST HIT BY THE FIREBALL WHICH SHOT ACROSS THE PRE-DAWN SKIES OVER DENVER AT 4.05 A.M. MST.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE PLANE FOLLOWED THE FIREBALL AND SAW IT CRASH 20 TO 30 MILES FROM MYTON, WHERE IT APPARENTLY HAD SET OFF A NUMBER OF FIRES.

THE FIREBALL ALSO WAS SEEN OVER RAPID CITY, S.D., AND DALHART, TEX. THERE WERE OTHER REPORTS THAT IT WAS SIIGHTED OVER WYOMING.

THERE WAS SPECULATION THE "FIREBALL" MIGHT BE PART OF A ROCKET THAT PUT THE RUSSIAN SATELLITE IN AN ORBIT AROUND THE EARTH LATE LAST FRIDAY.

A CAA OFFICIAL IN DENVER SAID THE FIREBALL WAS THE LARGEST HE HAD EVER SEEN. HE SAID IT APPEARED TO BE BLUE AND WAS TRAILING LONG STREAMS OF FLAME.

(INCLUDES EARLY)

GY816A..

COPY HX

HX13A

FOLO FIREBALL, SALT LAKE (CQ)

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., OCT 10--(UP)--A SPOKESMAN AT THE NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE COMMAND HEADQUARTERS SAID TODAY HE WAS ORDERED TO "REFER ALL QUERIES TO WASHINGTON" ABOUT A HUGE FIREBALL THAT FLASHED ACROSS SEVERAL WESTERN STATES ABQUT 4:05 A. M. MST (7:05 A. M. EDT)

CAPT. ROBERT GIVENS, STAFF OFFICER IN CHARGE AT THE COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, SAID THE MYSTERIOUS FIREBALL HAD BEEN REPORTED TO OFFICIALS HERE "EARLY."

HE REFUSED TO CONFIRM OR DENY THAT ANY INVESTIGATING PLANES HAD BEEN SENT TO THE SITE WHERE THE FIREBALL IS BELIEVED TO HAVE CRASHED NEAR THE NORTHEASTERN UTAH TOWN OF MYTON.

WHEN ASKED WHEN HE GOT HIS ORDERS TO REFER AL

L QUERIES TO WASHINGTON ABOUT THE FIREBALL, GIVENS REPLIED: "WELL, THIS MORNING. IN UNUSUAL CASES LIKE THIS SUCH QUESTIONS ARE ALMOST ALWAYS SENT ON TO WASHINGTON."

TP950A

HX19A

FOLO VERNAL

ALAMOGORDO, N.M., OCT. 10--(UP)--A SPOKESMAN AT THE AIR FORCE MISSILE DEVELOPMENT CENTER NEAR HERE SAID TODAY A HUGE FIREBALL SEEN OVER SEVERAL WESTERN STATES WAS NOT A MISSILE FIRE FROM THE TESTING CENTER.

LT. VIRGIL V. DOMINIC, ASSISTANT CHIEF WITH THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE AT THE CENTER, SAID NO MATADOR MISSILE FIRINGS WERE SCHEDULED TODAY "AND NO OTHER MISSILE TESTS I KNOW OF."

THERE WAS CONJECTURE THE FIREBALL MIGHT HAVE BEEN A MISGUIDED MISSILE OR ONE OF THE MATADORS, WHICH RECENTLY HAVE BEEN ESCORTED ON CROSS-COUNTRY FLIGHTS FROM THE MISSILE DEVELOPMENT HERE TO A PRE-DETERMINED TARGET AREA IN UTAH.

..MG1134A

1 Mat Guided Missile Fires

WA14A

FOLO FIREBALL, DENVER

WASHINGTON, OCT. 10.--(UP)--A HUGE FIREBALL SEEN OVER DENVER AT 7:05 A. M. EDT TODAY WAS NOT SPUTNIK.

RADIO TRACKERS HERE CLOCKED THE SOVIET SATELLITE OVER MID-UNITED STATES AT 7:38 A. M. EDT. AT THAT MOMENT IT WAS FLYING IN A NORTHWEST-SOUTHEAST DIRECTION WEST OF A LINE BETWEEN DETROIT AND CLEVELAND.

THE RADIO TRACKING CONTROL CENTER HERE SAID SPUTNIK WOULD PASS WEST OF DENVER AT 9:34A M. EDT.

OFFICIALS HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING IMMEDIATELY WHETHER THE FIREBALL WAS ONE OF SPUTNIK'S COMPANIONS--THE THIRD STAGE ROCKET AND NOSE CONE--WHICH ALSO WERE REPORTED TO BE CIRCLING THE EARTH.

..S937A..

NX47A
FOLO FIREBALL, DENVER
BOSTON, OCT. 10.--(UP)--THE DIRECTOR OF THE SATELLITE TRACKING PROGRAM SAID TODAY HE WAS "EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL" THAT THE FIREBALL WHICH CRASHED IN UTAH WAS COONNECTED WITH THE RUSSIAN MAN-MADE MOON.
J. ALLEN HYNEK SAID AT THE TIME OF THE CRASH, THE SATELLITE AND THIRD STAGE OF THE ROCKET SHOULD HAVE BEEN SOMEWHERE OFF SOUTH AFRICA.
"IT WOULD HAVE TO BE TWO HOURS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE TO CRASH INUTAH," HE SAID, "UNLESS THE ORBIT HAS CHANGED RADICALLY. I'M EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL THAT IT WAS EITHER THE SATELLITE OR ROCKET."
...VV946A

J. Allen Hynek says in later comp

R2 HX

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...VV946A

CY HX

11 12/0140Z

NNNN | Witness ATIC

14 Oct 57 07 54

Oct 12 04 24 '57

27

1 2 3 4E4

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ME

T WPA037 YDA037 TYC048 TMB055NYA007

OO RJEPHQ RJEPNB RJEDWP RJEDEN

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FM COC 26ADIV ROSLYN AFS NY

TO RJEDEN/CMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJEDWP/CMDR ATIC WRIGHT PATERSON AFB OHIO

RJEPHQ/DIR INTEL HQ USAF WASH 25 DC

RJEPNB/CMDR DET 3 100674 AISS STEWART AFB NY

INFO RJEPNB/CMDR EADF STEWART AFB NY

BT

FUNCLASS/ATTN: CIC SUBJ: UFOB

1. DESCRIPTIONS:

A. ROUND AREA OF LIGHT

B. LARGER THAN A BASKETBALL

C. BLUE - GREEN

D. ONE

E. N/A

F. N/A

G. TRAIL - 3-4 TIMES SIZE OF OBJECT

H. NONE

I. NONE

2. DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A. APPEARED AHEAD OF CAR WHILE TRAVELING

B. 75 DEGREES FROM HORIZON

C. 30 DEGREEZ FROM HORIZON

D. STRAIGHT LINE OR A SLIGHT ARC

E. FADED FROM VIEW

F. TWO - THREE SECONDS

3. MANNER OF OBSERVATION:

A. GROUND/VISUAL

B. NONE

C. N/A

4. TIME & DATE OF SIGHTING

A. 12/0140Z

B. NIGHT

5. LEVITTOWN, NEW YORK

6. IDENTIFYING INFO OF ALL OBSERVERS

A. E[redacted] 36 YEARS [redacted] LEVITTOWN, NEW YORK

[redacted]

B. N/A

7. WEATHER

A. NONE

B. SURFACE 360 DEG 10 KT

6,000 DEG KT

10,000 290 DEG 25 KT

16,000 DEG KT

20,000 270 DEG 50 KT

30,000 260 DEG 65 KT

50,000 DEG KT

80,000 260 DEG 60 KT

C. CLEAR

D. 20 MILES

E. NONE

F. *

8. NONE

9. NONE

10. NONE

11. NONE

12. NONE

BT

12/0254Z OCT RJEPNY

K

now passing

Oct 11 — Dreamsicle's meter

(Thru Shower year.) (oct 19-23 Phuy

Put meter (Astro)