

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 12 Apr 58		2. LOCATION Bakersville, North Carolina		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	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 13/0120Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE Civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION not rptd		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE South	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Obj looked like shooting star observed Rptd as possible decay of Sputnik II. Followed curve toward Earth in fall. Red glow in color.				11. COMMENTS Sputnik decayed on 14 Apr. Obser- vation has characteristics of a meteor sighting & the case is evaluated as a meteor sighting.	

~~Dr. E. A. Tamm~~
~~navy~~

Bakersville, N.C.

Route # ~~1~~ Box ~~1~~

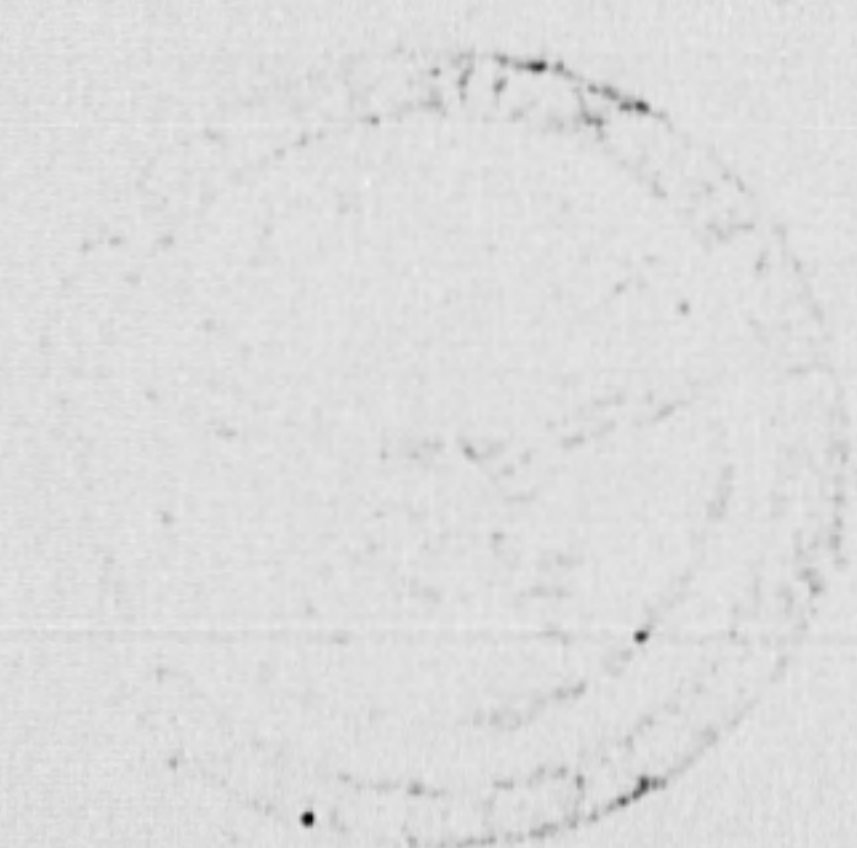
April 15, 1958

Mr. M^c Elroy -
Secretary of Defense
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I do not know if I saw the Sputnik falling.
I do not know its schedule for this part of the country.
I am sending the information that I did see. I
was one mile south of Bakersville facing east.
The time was about 8:20 P.M. Saturday April 12, 1958.
There was something in the sky traveling from north
to south. It looked like a shooting star. It was
a very clear night. The object did not follow a
straight line but more like that of one leg of a
parabola. The sharpest part of the curve turning into
the south. It seemed to slow down at the end.
It was a kind of red glow in color. I thought that
if this data corresponds to the correct time and
location that the Defense Department might like
to try to find it. I still can show you where
it fell north and south but don't know how far
west it was at that time.

Sincerely yours,
~~James H. [redacted]~~



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

Op-92281/7r
Ser 15809P92

1 AUG 1958

From: Director of Naval Intelligence
To: Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence, U.S. Air Force

Subj: Correspondence relating to "Sputnik"; forwarding of

Encl: (1) ltr from [REDACTED] of 9 May 1958 with CHINFO answer
thereto of 5 June 1958

(2) ltr from S. A. Bowditch of 15 Apr 1958 with CHINFO answer thereto
of 5 June 1958

1. Enclosures (1) and (2) are forwarded herewith for information.

MEMO ROUTING SLIP		NEVER USE FOR APPROVALS, DISAPPROVALS, CONCURRENCES, OR SIMILAR ACTIONS	
1 NAME OR TITLE Major [redacted]	INITIALS		CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION [redacted]	DATE		COORDINATION
2			FILE
			INFORMATION
3			NECESSARY ACTION
			NOTE AND RETURN
4			SEE ME
			SIGNATURE
REMARKS 1. The signature of [redacted] is evaluated to be possible aircraft (see typed letter). 2. The signature of [redacted] definitely has all the characteristics of a forgery. 3. The subject signatures were received by ATTIC four months after date of signing, precluding any type of investigation.			
FROM NAME OR TITLE Sgt. Bolien		DATE 18 Aug 58	
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION [redacted]		TELEPHONE [redacted]	

DD FORM 95
1 FEB 50

Replaces DA AGO Form 84, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

GPO: 1958-O-403481



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 14, 1958

15 MAY 1958

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PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEF OF INFORMATION, DEPT. OF THE NAVY

SUBJECT: Referral of Correspondence

The inclosed correspondence is forwarded for consideration and appropriate action to include direct reply to the writer who has not been notified of this referral. Information copy of your reply is not requested.

Incl: Ltr dtd 15 April 1958

~~████████████████████~~
Bakersville, N. C.

Personal Services Branch
Office of Public Services
Room 2D 776, The Pentagon
Liberty 5-6700, Ext. 76462

D34873



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE OF INFORMATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

01-340:EC6:blm

JUN 5 1958

Mr. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bor [REDACTED]
Bakersville, North Carolina

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]

The Secretary of Defense has requested me to thank you for your recent letter to him concerning your observations of a moving object in the sky believed to be Sputnik II.

Your thoughtfulness in forwarding this information is greatly appreciated by the Department of Defense.

I am forwarding your letter to the Office of Naval Intelligence for evaluation and possible use.

Your continued interest in the Government is solicited.

Sincerely yours,

Copy to:
ONI

Ernest O. SALTMAISH
Commander, U. S. Navy
Acting Head,
Public Inquiries Branch