PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE
16 Jan 61

2. LOCATION
Fitchburg, Massachusetts

3. DATE-TIME GROUP
Local
GMT 170430Z

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 1/2 hrs

8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS
4

9. COURSE

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Main object appeared as large as dime at arms length; three smaller objects appeared pea sized. All four appeared round and bright silver or aluminum in color. Estimated altitude 20,000 to 25,000 ft. Appeared 45° elevation, 290° azimuth. Disappeared 45°, 360°. Larger object would appear to hover, with 3 smaller objects hanging back Vee formation. One would approach, appear to close in, then drop back; then nest would approach.

11. COMMENTS Objects were sighted in area used by SAC on high altitude refueling. Maneuvers made by objects are very similar to those made by a/c just before, during, and after a refueling operation. Duration appears rather long; possible 1 tanker refueled more than 3 a/c. When in original witness went inside after watchi first operation to get other witnesses, first 3 a/c probably broke off and others began to refuel. Second operation was probably one seen by other witnesses.

12. CONCLUSIONS
☐ Was Balloon
☐ Probably Balloon
☐ Possibly Balloon

☐ Was Aircraft REFUEL OP.
☒ Probably Aircraft
☐ Possibly Aircraft

☐ Was Astronomical
☐ Probably Astronomical
☐ Possibly Astronomical

☐ Other
☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation
☐ Unknown

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

Ltr, 3245th Ops Gp (CWOB), 24 Jan 61, Report of Unidentified Flying Objects

2nd Ind (CWOB) 8 March 1961

3245th Ops Gp, LG Hanscom Fld, Bedford, Mass.

TO: ATIC (AFCIN-4E2x), Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

[redacted] was personally interviewed 7 March 1961 by me.

2. He appears to be a sound and reliable citizen; a father of an airman stationed in Texas.

3. The amateur astronomer, M[redacted], has moved and at present his whereabouts are unknown. Last information available was that he worked in Worcester, Mass., telephone number Pla[redacted] This number was called without success. No one knew of him at this number.

4. Reference paragraph 2, 1st Ind:

a. Objects were under constant observation the first one and one-half hours, then Mr[redacted]re-entered his store to call Mr[redacted](the amateur astrologer) and his son. Together they observed the four objects the remainder of the stated period.

b. The main object appeared as large as a dime held at arm's length; while the three smaller objects appeared to be pea-sized. All four objects were round and bright silver or aluminum in color.

c. The objects maneuvered in approximately a four foot square area from where the observation took place.

d. From conversation and directions pointed out by Mr.[redacted] I find that his direction in both elevation and azimuth to be fairly accurate to within 5 degrees.

5. Further description of flight path and maneuvers were obtained.

6. The larger object would appear to hover with the three smaller objects hanging back in Vee formation. First one would approach, appear to close in, then drop back, then the next would approach in turn. Periodically the large object would dance wildly in the sky and circle back into position then all three smaller objects would back off then attack again, one at a time. Suddenly the larger object shot off at a high rate of speed. In a matter of seconds covering 30 degrees of arc from the northwest toward north and disappeared. The other objects had disappeared when Mr.[redacted]r looked for them after the disappearance of the larger object.

HEADQUARTERS
3245TH OPERATIONS GROUP
3245TH AIR BASE WING
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
LAURENCE G. HANSCOM FIELD, BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

REPLY TO ATTN OF: CWOB

24 January 1961

SUBJECT: Report of Unidentified Flying Objects

TO: Air Technical Intelligence Center
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

Subject report is forwarded for your information and necessary action in accordance with AFR 200-2.

Richard N Woda

RICHARD N. WODA, Capt, USAF
Asst Base Operations Officer

1 Atch
a/s

1st Ind (AFCIN-4E2x)

9 FEB 1961

Aerospace Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

TO: 3245th AB Wg (CWOB), L G Hanscom Fld, Bedford, Mass

1. Reference attached copy of report of unidentified flying objects. The report indicates that Mr [redacted] was the only witness interviewed. If this is true, it is requested the other witnesses be contacted and their impressions of the sighting be forwarded to this Center.

2. It is also requested the following information be forwarded to ATIC, Attn: AFCIN-4E2x:

a. Were the objects viewed continuously during the 2½ hours, or did they disappear for some time, then reappear?

b. Were all four objects of the same color, shape, and size?

c. In how large an area of the sky did the objects maneuver?

d. How were the elevations and azimuths determined?

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Nicholas Pat

PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science and Components

1 Atch
n/c

7. Mr [redacted] was queried as to whether the objects were similar to aerial refueling. He stated that he had seen pictures of refueling and this maneuver did not coincide with maneuvers of known aircraft.

Richard N Woda

RICHARD N. WODA, Capt, USAF
Asst Base Operations Officer

1 Atch
n/c

REPORT OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS	Date 18 Jan 1961

The word "negative" in reply to any numbered item of the following report format will indicate that all logical leads were developed without success. The phrase "not applicable" (N/A) will indicate that the question does not apply to the sighting being investigated.

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF OBSERVER(S)

Civilian *(Name, age, mailing address, occupation)*

[redacted], Fitchburg, Mass., Tel No. [redacted]

Military *(Name, grade, organization, duty, and estimate of reliability)*

Shop Owner

LOCATION OF OBSERVER(S)

Exact latitude and longitude of each observer, or Georef position, or position with reference to a known landmark

Address at Fitchburg

TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING

Zulu time-date group of sighting	Light conditions *(use one of the following terms: Night, day, dawn, dusk)*
17:0430Z thru 17:0700Z	Clear night

DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECT(S)

Size compared to a known object *(use one of the following terms: Head of a pin, pea, dime, nickel, quarter, half dollar, silver dollar, baseball, grapefruit, or basketball)* held in the hand at about arms length

Dime Size

Shape	Color	Number	Formation, if more than one
Round	Fiery Brilliance	1	Plus 3 smaller objects

Any discernible features or details

NONE

Tail, trail, or exhaust, including size of same compared to size of object(s)

NONE

Sound, if heard, describe sound

NONE

Other pertinent or unusual features

NONE

DESCRIPTION OF COURSE OF OBJECT(S)

What first called the attention of observer(s) to the object(s)?

Closing his store - called his son and an amateur astronomer to verify his siting.

Angle of elevation and azimuth of the object(s) when first observed

45° elevation) (AZ 290°

Angle of elevation and azimuth of the object(s) upon disappearance

45° at 360°

Description of flight path and maneuvers of object(s)

Looped and zigzagged with three (3) smaller objects chasing UFO. Estimated altitude of objects at 20,000 to 25,000 feet.

Manner of disappearance of object(s)

Dimmed from view to the north.

Length of time in sight

2 hours 30 min

MANNER OF OBSERVATION

Use one or any combination of the following items: Ground-visual, ground-electronic, air-electronic. ***(If electronic, specify type of radar)***

NONE

Statement as to optical aids ***(telescopes, binoculars, and so forth)*** **used and description thereof**

NONE

If the sighting is made while airborne, give type aircraft, identification number, altitude, heading, speed, and home station.

N/A

WEATHER AND WINDS-ALOFT. CONDITIONS AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTINGS

Observer(s) account of weather conditions

BED 17/0455Z M26 ⊕ 12
17/0555Z 26 ⓪ 10

17/0639Z —X 1 6F
17/0647Z CLR 5 6F
17/0655Z CLR 7

Report from nearest AWS or U. S. Weather Bureau Office of wind direction and velocity in degrees and knots at surface

6,000′	350/20	30,000′	310/25
10,000′	350/25	50,000′	260/45
16,000′	360/30	80,000′	
20,000′	350/30		

Ceiling

Visibility

Amount of cloud cover

Thunderstorms in area and quadrant in which located

Any other unusual activity or condition, meteorological, astronomical, or otherwise, which might account for the sighting

No weather available for Fitchburg

Interception or identification action taken ***(such action may be taken whenever feasible, complying with existing air defense directives)***

None [redacted] info received late next day - report was delayed as Mr. Meyer didn't know who to report this info to.

Location of any air traffic in the area at time of sighting

SAC/TAC HIGH ALTITUDE REFUELING AREA IN THIS VICINITY

Position title and comments of the preparing officer, including his preliminary analysis of the possible cause of the sighting(s)

Richard N. Woda, Capt, USAF, Asst Base Ops Officer. Checked with Space Track at LG Hanscom - no information available.

Existence of physical evidence, such as materials and photographs

NONE