PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 14 Mar 61	**2. LOCATION** 3853N 7951W ELKINS, W. VA	**12. CONCLUSIONS**
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 0250 GMT 140750Z	**4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION** ☐ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar	☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	**6. SOURCE** Civilian	☐ Was Astronomical METEOR ☒ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5 min	**8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS** 1 / **9. COURSE** NW-NE	☐ Other ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Dark objt with orange tail size of F-86 or F-94 and about 15' in length. Observer in a/c heading 268°. Objt 45° fwd of right wing when sighted. Disappeared 45° rear of right wing. Objt's altitude aprox 60,000'. Speed extimate 5000 mph.

11. COMMENTS Objt of this sighting has all characteristics of a meteor. There is no evidence which would indicate that this objt was not a meteor. Was probably a meteor of "fireball" class and initial experience of observer with type; therefore resulting in misidentification. It is concluded that objt of sighting was probably a metero.

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

F/arc

INCOMING

AF IN : 46628 (14 Mar 61)

NNNN
ACTION: CIN-14

INFO : OOP-2, OOP-CP-1, DSD-4, SAFS-3 (25)
SMD A243

JC673

PP RJEZHQ

DE RJESKB 52

ZNR

P 142130Z

FM 32AIRDIV DOBBINS AFB GA

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJEDSQ/ATIC WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC

RJEZHQ/OSAF WASH DC

RJEDSQ/COSMATIC WPAFB OHIO

RJEZDK/PROJECT SPACE TRACK LG HANSCOM FLD BEDFORD MASS

BT

UNCLAS 320IN 2791. HQ USAF FOR AFCIN AND AFCIN-1B1; OSAF FOR SAFIS, COSMATIC FOR AFCIN-4A. SUBJ (U) MOON DUST. PAR 15, AFR 200-2: A, (1) DARK OBJECT; (2) NO ESTIMATE; (3) NONE; (4) ONE; (5) N/A: (6) NONE; (7) ORANGE TAIL, SIZE AND SHAPE OF F-86 OR F-94 AND ABOUT 15 FEET IN LENGTH; (8) NONE; (9) NONE; B.(1) JUST HAPPENED TO BE LOOKING WHERE IT WAS SEEN; (2) OBSERVER IN ACFT HDG TWO SIX EIGHT DEG. OBJECT WAS FOUR FIVE DEG FWD OF RIGHT WING; (3) FOUR FIVE DEG REAR OF RIGHT WING. ALTITUDE OF OBJECT APPROX 60,000 FT; (4) STRAIGHT NORTH WEST TO NORTH EAST; (5) JUST FADED AWAY. SPEED ESTIMATE 5000 MPH; (6) FIVE MIN. C,(1) AIR VISUAL; (2) NONE;

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

(3) DC7-B; EASTER NR449, 18,000 FT, HDG 268 DEG, TAS 270KT, GNDSPD 230KT, IDEWILD AIRPORT. D,(1) 14,0750Z; (2) NIGHT, DARK SKY, NO MOON, STAR BACKGROUND, CLEAR ABOVE ACFT. E,(1) ACFT OVER ELKINS VOR (38-53N 79-51W) OBJECT 25 TO 50 NM NORTH OF VOR. F, (1) [redacted] AGE 38, COPILOT EASTERN AIRLINES, C/O LA GUARDIA N.T., A-1. G,(1) SCATTERED TO BROKEN BELOW ACFT, CLEAR ABOVE ACFT. SYNOPTIC SITUATION FOR 14 MARCH 1961 AT 0800Z LOW PRESSURE WAS LOCATED IN SOUTHERN MICH., MOVE NORTH-NORTHEAST AT 15 KNOTS. AN
occluded
9::)7$3D FRONT EXTENDED FROM LOW SOUTH EASTWARD TO NORTHWESTERN WEST VA, THEN SOUTHWARD AS A COLD FRONT OVER CENTRAL WEST VA, EXTREME WESTERN VA, AND EASTERN TENN. FRONT WAS MOVING EASTWARD AT 18 KNOTS. A WARM FRONT EXTENDED EASTWARD FROM NORTHWESTERN WEST VA, PASSING NORTH OF ELKINS, THEN SOUTHWARD OVER WESTERN VA TO N.C.-VA BORDER, THEN EASTWARD. THE WARM FRONT WAS MOVING NORTHEAST AT 10 KNOTS. CONDITIONS EAST AND NORTH OF WARM FRONT WERE 500 OVERCAST WITH CLOUDS LAYERED TO 15000 AND 24000 OVERCAST TOPS 35000 ABOVE. VSBYS 1-3 IN LIGHT RAIN AND FOG. CONDITIONS WEST OF WARM FRONT (INCLUDES AREA OF ERN WEST VA AND ELKINS AREA) WERE 35-70 BROKEN OVERCAST WITH TOPS TO 12000-14000 AND 24000 BROKEN TOPS TO 35000 ABOVE. VSBYS 7 MILES OR BETTER. WINDS ALOFTS: SURFACE 170DEGREES/08 KNOTS PLUS 9DEGREES

AF IN : 46628 (14 Mar 61)

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DECISION
UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE

INCOMING

PAGE THREE RJESKB 52

C, 6000 230DEGREES/40 KNOTS PLUS 5DEGREES C, 10000 240DEGREES/60 KNOTS-2DEGREES C, 16000 240DEGREES/55 KNOTS- 15DEGREES C, 20000 240 DEGREES/60 KNOTS-22DEGREES C, 30000 230DEGREES/70 KNOTS-45DEGREES C,50000 250DEGREE /55 KNOTS-59DEGREES C, 80000 NOT AVAILABLE.

ELKINS 0800Z WEATHER REPORT. E 70 BROKEN 7, SSE 5. SOME LIGHT RAIN SHOWERS WERE OCCURING IN EXTREME NORTHEASTERN WEST VA LOWERING CONDITIONS TO 2500 OVERCAST VSBY 500. H THRU J NEGATIVE; (DIRECTOR INTELLIGENCE 32D AIR DIVISION; COMMENTS: NONE; L. NONE).

BT

14/2138Z MAR RJESKB