PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE
11 Apr 61

2. LOCATION
Cape Canaveral, Florida

3. DATE-TIME GROUP
Local 0957
GMT 11/1457Z Apr 61

4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION
☐ Ground-Visual
☒ Ground-Radar
☐ Air-Visual
☐ Air-Intercept Radar

5. PHOTOS
☐ Yes
☒ No

6. SOURCE
Military

7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION
30 min

8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS
one

9. COURSE
varied.

10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING
Object picked up on radar. No visual contact. Estimated speeds of from 150 to 600 knots. Object orbited 6 or 7 times along an azimuth of 126 degrees and between 10 and 55 miles from the cape.

11. COMMENTS
Subsequent tests by base in question revealed that the radar return signals were from the SIF equipment aboard a U-2 type aircraft.

12. CONCLUSIONS
☐ Was Balloon
☐ Probably Balloon
☐ Possibly Balloon
☐ Was Aircraft
☒ Probably Aircraft
☐ Possibly Aircraft
☐ Was Astronomical
☐ Probably Astronomical
☐ Possibly Astronomical
☐ Other
☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation
☐ Unknown

ATIC FORM 329 (REV 26 SEP 52)

UFO was observed on radar, Cape Canaveral, 1457Z, 11 April 61. It was observed for at least 30 minutes. Object appeared to orbit in an orbit which extended from 10 miles from the Cape to a position approximately 55 miles from Cape Canaveral and the orbit was at all times on an azimuth of 125° to 127° SE of Cape Canaveral. According to radar reports the object disappeared when it got 44 miles away from Cape Canaveral appearing on radar and disappearing at the farthest end 6 or 7 miles. Made 6 or 7 long orbits. The object finally disappeared approximately 1530Z in the direction about 125° away from Cape Canaveral.

Radar Operator on an APS-8 radar. He could paint the object very well. The paint size of the object was approximately the same size of a C54 aircraft with no transponder operating. This radar was [illegible] tracking [illegible] was good. Atmospheric conditions were normal. There was no detection of this object on any height finder equipment. Experts opinions differ as to whether this UFO was extremely ~~f~~ high or extremely low.

The weather was -- high _____ , overcast, visibility 10 miles, wind ENE at 10 knots on the surface. No temperature inversion.

FPS-8 track of UFO [illegible] until target disappeared for a few seconds occasionally.

Rg 125° from C.C.

Flight path in shape of long narrow orbit between 10 mi. and est. 5 mi from C.C. along 125-127°

[illegible] that UFO remained [illegible] light circle of [illegible] seconds [illegible]

4CI FPS-20 picked up UFO once each 3 [illegible] of 30 seconds and [illegible] no trace [illegible] flight path.

ALTITUDE BECAUSE OF SCOPE INDICATIONS SOME RADAR OBSERVERS BELIEVE UFO WAS VERY LOW NAMELY 210 FT. ALTITUDE. OTHERS BELIEVE UFO WAS AT VERY HIGH ALTITUDE NAMELY MUCH HIGHER THAN NORMAL JET AIRCRAFT. ONE OBSERVER STATED THE ACTION OF THE UFO INDICATED A CURRENT KNOWLEDGE OF THE MISSILE LAUNCH COUNTDOWN IN THAT THE UFO WOULD RETIRE BEYOND THE RANGE OF THE RADAR SCOPE DURING THE PERIODS OF HOLD AND WOULD RETURN WHEN THE COUNT WAS RESUMED. RADAR OBSERVERS STATE THE UFO REMAINED IN A HOVERING POSITION OR IN AN EXTREMELY TIGHT CIRCCLE FOR SEVERAL SECONDS PERIODICALLY. AT OTHER TIMES THE UFO SPEED WAS APPROX THAT OF A C-54 AIRCRAFT WHICH WAS BEING TRACKED ON THE SAME SCREEN AND AT OTHER TIMES THE UFO SPEED WAS SIMILAR TO THAT OF

THE CF-100, APPROXIMATELY 400 KNOTS WHICH WAS BEING TRACKED ON THE SAME RADAR SCREEN AND UPON FINAL DEPARTURE OF THE UFO IT ATTAINED A SPEED ESTIMATED BY THE RADAR OBSERVER TO BE 600 MPH. THE POLARIS LAUNCH AZIMUTH WAS 116 DEGREES WHICH COINCIDES VERY NEAR TO THE AZIMUTH OF THE UFO ORBI NAMELY 125SDEGREES. IT IS THE CONSIDERED OPINION OF THE REPORTING OFFICER THAT THIS UFO WAS AN ENEMY AIRCRAFT OF THE U-2 TYPE WHICH AAS OBSERVING POLARIS TEST OPERATIONS WITH A CONTINUING KNOWLEDGE OF THE MISSILE LAUNCH STATUS. INVESTIGATION CONCLUDED. L. NEGATIVE.

BT

12/0010Z APR RJEXFQT

[redacted]

[redacted]

EMPLOYEE, CAPE CANAVERAL, FLORIDA, FPS-8 RADAR OPERATOR. RELIABILITY SUPERIOR. B. [redacted] (ADULT) PAA, CAPE CANAVERAL, FLA, ASSISTANT FPS-8 RADAR OPERATOR. RELIABILITY SUPERIOR (2) A. FLIGHT LIEUTENANT SKINNER, ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE, TEMPORARY DUTY AT PATRICK AFB, ASSISTED RADAR OPERATORS IN VECTORINGSCF-100 CANADIAN AIRCRAFT DURING TESTS. RELIABILITY EXCELLENT. B. CAPT. GORDON E. STANTON, AFMTC PILOT OF C-54 RANGE SURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT. RELIABILITY SUPERIOR. G (1) CLEAR SKY, HIGH CIRRUS, VISIBILITY 20 MILES, LIGHT HAZE AT R,000 FT IN THE AREA WHERE THE UFO WAS TRACKED BY RADAR. (2) AND (7) PAA WEATHER STATION CAPE CANAVERAL FLA REPORT FOR 1150Z. SURFFACE 030/9, 19C; 6000 274/1715C; 10000 275/24 8C; 16000 269/28 - 7C; 20000 282/44-14C; 30000 270/79-33C; 50000 279/73-67C; 80000 MISSING-54C (3), (4), (5), & (6) CAPE CANAVERAL WEATHER 0958E HIGH THIN OVERCAST, VISIBILITY 10, TEXPERA-TURE 72 DEGREES F, WIND E NE 10 KNOTS NEGATIVE THUNDERSTORMS. H. NEGATIVE UNUSUAL CONDITION I. NEGATIVE INTERCEPTION ACTION

BECAUSE GCI APS-20 RADAR PICKED UP UFO ONCE EACH THREE SWEEPS OVER AN INTERVAL OF ~~JEY~~ 36 SECONDS AND RECEIVED NO TARGET ON THE HIGH FINDER. J. NEGATIVE (. DCS/INTELLIGENCE, AFMTC, RADAR IDENTIFICATION OF UFO BELEIVED ACCURATE AND DEPENDABLE. RADAR AND RADAR OPERATORS HIGHLY DEPENDABLE WITH FREQUENT RADAR OPERATION. AFMTC RANGE SURVEILLANCE C-54 AAS VECTORED BY RADAR TO WITHIN 2 AND ONE HALF MILES OF UFO POSITION WITH UFO DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF C-54 AIRCRAFT. CAPT. STANTON AND CREW HIGHLY SKILLED, OBSERVED CAREFULLY AND STATED NOTHING WAS OBSERVED. EXPERT RADAR OBSERVERS DIFFER IN OPION OF UFO

B (1) UFO FIRST APPEARED AT 1457Z, 11 APRIL 61, ON THE FPS-8 RADAR SCOPE DURING RANGE CLEARANCE PROCEDURES PRIOR TO THE LAUNCHING OF TEST NUMBER 1352, A POLARIS MISSILE, SCHEDULED T TIME 1430Z WITH ACTUAL LAUNCH AT 1552 AND 51 SECONDS Z. THE PURPOSE OF THIS RADAR OBSERVATION IS TO DETERMINE ALL AIRCRAFT AND SHIPS WHICH MAY BE IN DANGER BY THE LAUNCH OF A MISSILE. (2) ELEVATION UNKNOWN, AZIMUTH 125 DEGREES FROM CAPE CANAVERAL. (3) ELEVATION UNKNOWN, AZIMUTH 125 DEGREES FROM CAPE CANAVERAL. (4) UFO FLIGHT PATH IN THE SHAPE OF LONG NARROW ORBIT. ORBIT EXTENDED BETWEEN JQP MILES FROM THE CAPE TO ESTIMATED 55 MILES FROM THE CAPE ALONG THE AZIMUTH OF BETWEEN 125 TO 127 DEGREES. UFO FADED FROM RADAR SCOPE AT RANGE 44 MILES TEHN REAPPEARED AFTER A FEW SECONDS ON THE INBOUND COURSE OF THE ORBIT AT RANGE 44 MILES. UFO ACCOMPLISHED 6 OR 7 ORBITS BETWEEN 10 MILES AND THE FADE OUT RANGE OF 44 MILES. (5) OBJECT RETREATED WHEN THE AFMTC RANGE SURVEILLANCE C-54 AIRCRAFT WAS VECTORED BY RADAR TO WITHIN 2 AFD ONE HALF MILES OF THE UFO. UFO COMMENCED DEPARTURE AT A SPEED APPROX THAT OF THE C-54 AIRCRAFT NAMELY 150 KNOTS AND DISAPPEARED FROM THE RADAR SCOPE AT RANGE 44 MILES AT 600 MPH ESTIMATED SPEED ALONG THE 127 DEGREE AZIMUTH FROMNCAPE CANAVERAL. (6) MORE THAN 30 MINUTES. K (1) GROUND ELECTRONICS, FPS-8 RADAR

USING THE NORMAL RECIVER, NOT THE MOVING TARGET RECIVER. (2) NEGATIVE (3) N/A D (1) 1457Z, 11 APRIL 61. (2) DAY E.FPS-8 RADAR SITE, SOUTH END CAOE CANAVERAL MISSILE TEST ANNEX, PATRICK AFD, FLA. F (1) [redacted] S (ADULT) PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS (PAA)

ATIC [redacted]

SQB027X

ADA 627FQB774QTB445

PPRJEDSQ R

DE RJEXFQT 59C

P 112320Z

FM AFMTC PATRICK AFB FLA

TO RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJESKB/32 AIRDIV DOBBINS AFB GA

RJEDSQ/ATIC WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH DC

RJEZHQ/OSAF WASH DC

BT

[redacted] MTW-11-4-2.

FOR HQ USAF (AFCIN) FOR USAF (SAFIS). UFO. A(1) RADAR RETURN SIMILAR TO A SKIN PAINT OF A C-54 OR SMALLER AIRCRAFT. (2) RADAR RETURN OF SIEE COMPARABLE TO A SKIN PAINT OF C-54 WITHOUT TRANSPONDER. (3) N/A (4) ONE (5) N/A (6) RADAR OBSERVATION ONLY. FPS-8 RADAR AT CAPE CANAVERAL, FLORIDA OBSERVED UFO WITH VERY GOOD PAINT, SKIN TRACK RETURN SIZE OF C-54 AIRCRAFT, RADAR SENSITIVITY GOOD, GROUND CLUTTER NORMAL, ATMOSPHERIC CONDITIONS CONSIDERED NORMAL. UFO TRACK WAS UNUSUAL IN THAT TARGET DISAPPEARED FOR A FEW SECONDS OCCASIONALLY. (7) NOT OBSERVED (8) NEGATIVE (9) NEGATIVE

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

AEROSPACE TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE
OHIO

REPLY TO ATTN OF: AFCIN-4E/Maj Friend/vw/69216

SUBJECT: Request for Analysis of UFO Report 13 April 1961

TO: AFCIN-4E1

Request your analysis and comments of the attached UFO report.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4E

1 Atch
Inc TWX, MTW-11-4-2, [redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted]

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

14 APR 61 20 38Z

Director DF 2412

PRECEDENCE		TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
		BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE			
ACTION Priority AF							
INFO			X		AF	X	

FROM:
ATIC WPAFB OHIO

TO:
COFS USAF WASH DC RTEZHR
AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD RTEZFF

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS
14
ENCODED
Initials
Time 1508Z
Checked By

4E official file copy

[redacted] FROM AFCIN-4E2 C-724

FOR AFCIN Maj Gen Walsh and For RDY Maj Gen Watson.

At 1457 Z, 11 April 61 an unidentified flying object was sighted on radar in the vicinity of Cape Canaveral. Three experienced observers watched the target on an FPS-8 radar for 30 minutes and estimated its speed as ranging between 150 and 600K. These observers reported that the object orbited 6 or 7 times along an azimuth of 126 degrees from Cape Canaveral and distances of 10 to 55 miles. The radar observers' estimates of the height of the UFO did not agree, some reporting the object as very low and others that it was extremely high. A range surveillance C-54 was vectored to within 2-1/2 miles of the object but reports from the crew were negative. No other intercept action was accomplished because GCI FPS-20 radar picked up the UFO only

1535

DATE	TIME
14	~~1600~~
MONTH	YEAR
Apr	61

WRITER

SYMBOL
AFCIN-4E2

TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required)
Maj Friend Robert J. Friend

PHONE 69216 | PAGE NR. 1 | NR. OF PAGES 2

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

RELEASER

SIGNATURE

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE
PHILIP G. EVANS
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Science & Components
[redacted]

DD FORM 1 MAY 52 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

JOINT MESSAGEFORM - CONTINUATION SHEET

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

FROM:

ATIC WPAFB OHIO

once each three sweeps over an interval of 36 seconds and received no target on the height finder. ATIC is currently collecting data on this incident and will follow with a report of our findings.

[redacted]

SYMBOL	PAGE NR	NR OF PAGES	SECURITY CLASS[redacted]	INITIALS
AFCIN-4E2	2	2		RJF

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173-1

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1958 -469064

RA167

CZCSQF973ZCVYC920

RR RJEDSQ

DE RJESNO 58

ZNR

R 142200Z

FM AFMTC PATRICK AFB FLA

TO ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

BT

UNCLAS MTW -14-4-3.

REFERENCE CONFIDENTIAL MTW-11-4-2 UFO . ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. C-54 RANGE WURVEILLANCE AIRCRAFT EQUIPPED WITH APS -42 RADAR AND APN-59. APN-59 NEGATIVE OPERATION. APS -42 RADAR WAS OPERATING PERFORMANCE NOT CONSIDERED OPTIMUM, PICKING UP SURFACE SHIPS ADEQUATELY. NEGATWE INDICATION ON APS-42 RADAR OF UFO OR ANY OTHER AIRCRAFT. REPEAT APS-42 NEGATIVE OF UFO.

BT

14/2208Z APR RJESNO

1961 APR 17 12 49

AUTOVON

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

21 APR 61 21 012

ENCODED
Initials SF
Time 21/2122Z
Checked By SF

1X

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION PRIORITY	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE			
INFO						

FROM:
ATIC WPAFB OHIO

TO:
COFS USAF WASH DC
AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD
[redacted] AFCIN-4E2

RJE CHF
RJE CHF

C-776

Director TD

PART I. FOR AFCIN MAJ GEN WALSH AND FOR RDY MAJ GEN WATSON

AT 1457 11 APR 61 AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT WAS SIGHTED ON RADAR IN THE VICINITY OF CAPE CANAVERAL PRIOR TO THE LAUNCHING OF TEST NUMBER 1352, A POLARIS MISSILE, SCHEDULED T TIME 1430Z. THREE EXPERIENCED OBSERVERS WATCHED THE TARGET ON AN FPS-8 RADAR FOR 30 MINUTES AND ESTIMATED ITS SPEED AS RANGING BETWEEN 150 AND 600 KNOTS. THESE OBSERVERS REPORTED THAT THE OBJECT ORBITED 6 OR 7 TIMES ALONG AN AZIMUTH OF 126 DEGREES FROM CAPE CANAVERAL AND BETWEEN 10 AND 55 MILES FROM THE CAPE. THE RANGE OBSERVERS' ESTIMATES OF THE HEIGHT OF THE UFO DID NOT AGREE, REPORTING EITHER THAT THE OBJECT WAS VERY LOW OR VERY HIGH. A RANGE SURVEILLANCE C-54 WAS VECTORED TO WITHIN 2½ MILES OF THE OBJECT BUT REPORTS FROM THE CREW WERE NEGATIVE. THE RANGE C-54 IS EQUIPPED WITH AN APS-42 AND AN APS-59 RADARS BUT UTILIZED ONLY THE APS-42 DURING THIS ATTEMPTED INTERCEPT.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

DATE	TIME
21	1550
MONTH	YEAR
April	61

WRITER

SYMBOL
AFCIN-4E2

TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required)
Major Robert Friend

PHONE 69216 | PAGE NR. 1 | NR. OF PAGES 3

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

RELEASER

SIGNATURE

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE
PHILIP G. EVANS
Deputy for Science & Components

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

[redacted]

JOINT MESSAGEFORM - CONTINUATION SHEET | SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

FROM:

ATIC WPAFB OHIO

CAPT WALTER FLINT, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE TEST, NOTIFIED THE LOCAL GCI SITE OF THE PRESENCE OF THE UFO, HOWEVER, NO INTERCEPT ACTION WAS ACCOMPLISHED BECAUSE OF THE GCI FPS-20 RADAR PICKED UP THE UFO ONLY ONCE EACH THREE SWEEPS OVER AN INTERVAL OF 36 SECONDS AND RECEIVED NO TARGET ON THE HEIGHT FINDER.

PART II. ANALYSIS OF THE AVAILABLE DATA LEADS TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE TARGET WAS REAL. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE IN THE REPORT TO SUGGEST RADAR MALFUNCTION, OR ~~FLASE~~ FALSE ECHOS. BECAUSE THE TRACKS WERE APPARENTLY WELL DEFINED AND HAD A DEFINITE PATTERN. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS WAS A RELATIVELY SMALL TARGET DUE TO THE FACT THAT IT CONSISTENTLY FADED AT 44 MILES OUTBOUND IN ITS ORBIT AND REAPPEARED AT APPROXIMATELY 44 MILES INBOUND. THERE IS NO LOGICAL REASON FOR THE INABILITY OF THE POWERFUL FPS-20 TO TRACK THE TARGET, UNLESS THIS EQUIPMENT WAS NOT FUNCTIONING PROPERLY AT THIS TIME OR THE TARGET WAS IN A DEAD AREA FOR THE STATION.

PART III. SINCE NO HEIGHT FINDER DATA WAS OBTAINED CERTAIN DEDUCTIONS MUST BE MADE RELATIVE TO THE TARGET HEIGHT. THE MINIMUM REPORTED RANGE OF THE TARGET WAS 10 MILES. SINCE THIS IS SLANT RANGE AND FURTHER SINCE THE MAXIMUM VERTICAL ANGLE COVERAGE OF THE FPS-8 IS 25-30° THE MAXIMUM TARGET HEIGHT WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 30,000 FEET WHICH OBVIOUSLY RULES OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE UFO BEING AN EXTREMELY HIGH FLYING TARGET. THE PERIODIC HIGH SPEEDS, AS HIGH AS 600 KNOTS, REPORTED FOR THE TARGET, COUPLED WITH THE FACT THAT THE MTI OF THE FPS-8 WAS NOT OPERATING, FURTHER TENDS TO RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE UFO BEING A VERY LOW FLYING

DD FORM NOV 53 173-1

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1958-478844

[redacted]

JOINT MESSAGEFORM - CONTINUATION SHEET | SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

FROM:

ATIC WPAFB OHIO

TARGET. CONSEQUENTLY, THERE IS NO LOGICAL EXPLANATION FOR WHY THE FPS-20 HEIGHT FINDER WAS UNABLE TO PAINT THE TARGET.

PART IV. CONTACT WITH LT/COL JAMES O. PAYNE, AFMTC, REVEALED THAT NO NAVY OPERATION COULD HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SIGHTING AND THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO SIMILAR INCIDENTS DURING SUBSEQUENT TESTS.

PART V. IT IS CONCLUDED BY ATIC THAT THE OBJECT SIGHTED ON RADAR AT CAPE CANAVERAL ON 11 APR 61 AT 1457Z WAS PROBABLY A REAL TARGET, FLYING AT AN ALTITUDE OF NO MORE THAN 35,000 FEET. NO DEFINITE EXPLANATION OF WHY THIS TARGET DID NOT APPEAR ON THE FPS-20 CAN BE REACHED, BUT INSPECTION OF THE SITE AND THE RADAR MAINTENANCE RECORD WOULD REVEAL IF THIS WAS DUE TO A DEAD AREA OR FAULTY EQUIPMENT. This coordination continuing efforts to resolve the case Tfc

[redacted]

Copy 1 of 2 copies

SYMBOL	PAGE NR	NR OF PAGES	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	INITIALS
AFCIN-4E2	3	3	[redacted]	

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173-1

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1958-488305

TH-12947

[redacted]

SQH

2 MAY 61 17 34Z

1
2
7
4E (VFO)
44X2A

[redacted]

Director IDO

AFR 205-1, Para 9-12a
2 JAN 68

[redacted]

[redacted]

3 MAY 61 17 30Z
PRIORITY

1
3 574E
4 4X2A

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

ENCODED
Initials SZ
Time 05/1700Z
Checked By SZ

5 MAY 61 16 20Z

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE			
ACTION PRIORITY				AF	X	
INFO						

FROM:
± ATIC WPAFB O

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

TO:
ADC ENT AFB COLO RJW 7Ah

Director IDP
Attention:
AFR 205-1, Par 24a
2 Jan 68

[redacted] AFCIN-4E C-882 ~~FOR GENERAL LEE.~~ BT

THIS MESSAGE IN TWO PARTS. PART I. RECENTLY THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL RADAR SIGHTINGS OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS AT CAPE CANAVERAL DURING THE PREPARATION AND LAUNCHING OF TEST MISSILES. ON 19 APRIL 1961, AT APPROXIMATELY 2200Z, 60 SECONDS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED LAUNCHING OF POLARIS MISSILE TEST # 1352, A FLYING OBJECT WAS OBSERVED ON BOTH THE FPS-8 RADAR AT CAPE CANAVERAL AND THE FPS-20 RADAR AT THE PATRICK AC&W SITE. INTERCEPTION WAS ATTEMPTED BY AN ADC F-102 AND THE INTERCEPTOR LOCKED ON TO THE UNKNOWN TARGET FOR TWO MINUTES. THE UNKNOWN TOOK EVASIVE ACTION AND DISAPPEARED PREVENTING FULL ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE INTERCEPT. PART II. THE POSSIBILITY OF THE NAVY CONDUCTING OPERATION IN THE AREA, EVEN" POSSIBLY UNCOORDINATED ASSOCIATION WITH THE TEST, IS WORTH CONSIDERING. REQUEST INFORMATION BE FORWARDED TO ATIC AS TO THE EXTENT OF COORDINATION EXISTING BETWEEN NAVY AND AIR FORCE, BEYOND NORMAL

2

0516002Z

DATE	TIME
05	~~0900~~ 1110
MONTH	YEAR
MAY	1961

SYMBOL
AFCIN-4E

TYPED NAME AND GRADE (Signature if required)
Maj Robert J. Friend

PHONE 69216 | PAGE NR. 1 | NR. OF PAGES 2

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION
[redacted]

RELEASER

SIGNATURE

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE

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

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED. DOD DIR 5200.10

DD FORM 1 MAY 62 173 REPLACES ... USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

[redacted]

JOINT MESSAGEFORM-CONTINUATION SHEET | SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

FROM:

ATIC WPAFB O

WARNINGS, FOR THE TESTING AT CAPE CANAVERAL. SCP 3

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR
INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY
DECLASSIFIED. DOD DIR 5200.10

SYMBOL	PAGE NR	NR OF PAGES	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	INITIALS
AFCIN-4E	2	2	[redacted]	rjf

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173-1

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955-489834

[redacted]

CONF MTW-11-4-2; (2) 19 APRIL , POLARIS SUBMARINE LAUNCH AT 23 DEGREES 15 MINUTES NOTH 80 DEGREES 03 MINU TES WEST TEST NR 1365 REPORTED BY TELETYPE SECRET MTW 26-4-4 AND (3) 27 APRIL JUNO TEST NR 814 REPORTED BY TELETYPE SECRET MTW 27-4-6. ATTEMPTS TO IDNTIFY THE UNKNOWNS BY ADC FIGHTER ENTERCEPTION HAS NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL DUE TO THE FACT THAT ON 19 APRIL AND 27 APRIL WHEN AN F-102 INTERCEPTORS WAS SC RAMBLED FROM JACKSONVILLE, THE UNKNOWN TARGET DEPARTED FROM THE AREA BEFORE THE ENTERCEPTOR ACCOMPLISHED INTERCEPTION. FOR MISSILE LAUNCHES BETWEEN 1 MAY AND 9 MAY ADC F-101 INTERCEPTORS WERE BA SED AT PATRICK AFB. THREE UNIDENTIFIED PADAR TARGETS WERE OBSERVED AND WERE IN TERCEPTED AS FOLLOWS: THE FIRST INTERCEPT IDENTIFIED A TURBO PROP AIRLINR APPROX 15 MILES WEST OFNORMAL COURSE. THE SECOND SCRA MBLE IDENTIFIED A US NAVY SIERRA-2 FOXTROT FROM THE AIRCRAFT CARRIER LAKE CHAMPLAIN TO PATRICK ON A DVFR FLIGHT PLAN WHICH HAD NOT BEEN APPROPRIATELY DISSEMINATED. THE THIRD INERCEPT WAS ACCOMPLISHED ON A REAGE US NAVEY P2V WHICH WAS NOT AT HIS PRESCRIBED POSITION. PART THREE. THREE THEORIES WERE STUDIED BY HE DCS/INTELL-IGENCE, AFMTC. THEORY 1 - THAT THE U-2 AIRCRAFT OPERATION DOWN RANGE FROM CAPE CANAVERAL MAY BE CAUSING THE UNIDENTIFIED RADAR TARGETS. THEORY 2- THAT RANGE TIMING DIGNALS CAUSED THE OCCURRENCES. THEORY

[redacted]

Return to E

1961 MAY 13 19 43

SQB 097

ADB173FQB946157?231

PP RJEDSQ

ZDK

Director TDP

AFR 205-1, Para 2-17a
2 Jan 68

PP RJEZFF RJEZHQ RJWFAL RJESKB RJESQ RJWZJB RJEXGL

DE RJEXFQT 90C

P 121535Z

FM AFMTC PATRICK AFB FLA

TO RJEZFF/AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH 25DC

RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJESKB/32 AIR DIV DOBBINS AFB GA

RJEDSQ/ATIC WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/OSAF WASH DC

INFO RJWZJB/BSD LOS ANGLES CALIF

RJEXGL/APGC EGLIN AFB FLA

BT

[redacted] MTW-12-5-5. SEC NE OF TWO.

AFSC FOR SCF, HQ USAF FOR AFCIN , OSAF FOR SFIS, IN FO BSD FOR DCS/I,
INFO APGC FOR DCS/I. SUBJ: FINAL REPORT CON CERNING UNKNOWN RADAR
TARGETS ATLANTIC MISSILE RANGE BETWEEN 11 APRIL AND 9 MAY. MESSAGE
IN NINE PARTS. PART ONE. REFERENCE IS MADE TO TELETYPES CONF MTW-
11-4-2, SECRET MTW-26-4-4, SECRET MTW-27-4-6, SECRET TW-3-5-1,
SECRET MTW-5-5-2,AND SECRET SCFA-1-5-3. PART TWO. DURING THE
PERIOD 11 AP RIL THROUGH 27 APRIL 3 UNKNOWN RADAR TARGETS WERE
DETECTED ON HE ANR WITHIN 50 MILES OF CAPE CANAVERAL. THESE
OCCURRED ON (1) 11 APRIL, POLARIS TEST NR 1352 REPORTED BY TELETYPE

[redacted]

3- THAT THE UNIDENTIFIED RADAR TARGETS WERE CAUSED BY UNKNOWN FORGIEN AIRCRAFT OBSERVING M ISSILE LAUNCH OPERATIONS. PART FOUR. A SUMMARY OF NON-AIR-BREATHING MI SSILE LAUNCHES ON THE AMR FROM 11 APRIL THROUGH 9 MAY INDICATI NG RADAR DETECTION AND U-1 POSITION FOLLOWS. 1. 11 APRIL POLARIS TEST NR 1352 UNKNOWN TARGET DETEC TED BY FPS-8 NEGATIVE TARGET DEETECTED BX FPS-20 AND FPS-6. U-2 POSITION 125 DEGRES 260 MILES. 21 19 APRIL POLARIS SUBMARINE LAUNCH TEST NR 1365 UNIDENTIFIED RADAR TARGET APPEARED ON FPS-8, FPS-20,K FPS-6 AND FF-102 INTERCEPTOR. AC&W UNKNOWN TRACK NR 606. U-2 POSITION 114 DEGREES 410 MILES. 3. 25 APRIL MERCURY ATLAS TEST NR 835 NEG-TIVES UNKNOWN TARGETS. U-2 P OSITION 243 DEGREES 150 MILES. 4. 27 APRIL JUNO TST NR 814 UNKNOWN RADAR TARGET ON FPS-8 AND FPS-20. NEGATIVE TARGET ON FPS-6 HEIGHT FINDER . NEGATIVE INTERCEPT BY F-102. AC&W UNKNOWN TRAC K NR 641. U-2 POSITION 098 DEGREES 220 MILES . 5. 1 MAY PO LARIS TEST NR 1356 NEGATIVE UNKNOWN RADAR TARGETS. U-2 POSITION 296 DEGREES 175 MILES. 6. 2 MAY MERCURY REDSTONE CANCELLED LAUNCH TEST NR 108 NEGATIVE UNKNOWN RADAR TARGETS. NGATIVE U-2 FTIGHT. 7. 3 MAY POLARIS SUBMARINE LAUNCH TEST NR 1364NEGATIVE UNKNOWN RADAR TARGETS . NEGATIVE U-2 FLIGHT. 8. 5 MAY MERCURY REDSTON E MANNED FLIGHT TEST NC108 NEGATIVE UNKNOWN TARGETS

NEGATIVE U-2 FLIGHT . 9. 8 MAY POLARIS TEST NR 2296 NEGATIVE UNKNOWN RADAR TARGETS. U-2 POSITION 296 DEGRES 175 MILES. 10 9 MAY TS609A LAUNCH TES T NR 405 NEGATIVE UNKNOWN RADAR TARGETS. NEGATIVE U-2. PART FIVE. DISCUSSION OF THEORY 1 - U-2 AIRCRAFT. AT APPROX 1700Z, 9 MAY, A TEST WAS RUN BY AFMTC USING A U-2 AIRCRAFT. THIS AIRCRAFT FLEW OVER CAPE CANAVERAL AT A HEADING OF 120 DEGEES AT APPROX 65,000 FOOD ALTITUDE AND PROCEEDED 250-270 MILES DOWN RANGE. WHEN IT APPROACHED THE 250 MILE POINT, A SIF RETURN APEARED ON THE FPS-8 RADAR SCOPE BUT NOT ONT HE FPS-20. THE P AINT INDICATED A TARGET AT APPROX 50 MILES FROM THE CAPE. AT THIS POINT, THE CONTROLLER AT THE CAPE HAD THE U-2 T URN HIS IFF ON AND OFF. AT EACH INSTANCE THAT THE IFF WAS TURNED OFF THE PAINT DISAPPEARED FROM THE FPS-8 SCOPE. EACH TIME THE U-2 TRNED HIS IFF ON, THE PAINT RETURNED. A CONTINUING COMARISON OF THE U-2 POSITON PLOTTED BY MOD 2 CAPE RADAR AND THE POSITION OF THE IFF REFLECTION ON THE FPS-8 RADAR WERE ATT ALL TIMES APPROX 220 MAUTICAL MILES APART. PART SIX. THEORY 2 - TIMING SIGNALS . CONSIDERABLEANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

ERE MADE CNCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF RANGE TIMING SIGNALS CAUSING THE UNKNOWN RADAR ARGETS. THERE APPEARS TO BE NO LOGICAL INDI CATION TO CONFIRM THIS THEORY, IN THAT BOTHFPS-8 AND FPS-20 RADAR

CONFIRMED 2 OF THE 3 UNKNOWN TARGETS, AND DURING 6 LAUNCHES AFTER 27 APRIL NO UNIDENTIFED RADAR TARGETS WERE DETECTED WITH NO CHANGE IN TIMING SIGNALS. PART SEVEN. THEORY 3 - FOREIGN OR UNAUTHORIZED AIRCRAFT. THE THEORY THAT FOREIGN OR UNAUTHORIZED AIRCRAFT WERE PRESENT ON THE RANGE IS STILL CONCLUDED TO BE PROBABLE. DURING 19 APRIL POLARIS TEST NR 1365 THE U-2 WAS AT A POSITION 410 NM FROM CAPE CANAVERAL ON AN AZIMUTH OF 114 DEGREES. THE FPS-8 NOTED THE TARGET. THE FPS-20 NOTED TT,, THE FPS-6 HEIGHT FINDER RECORDED THE TARGET AT 1,000 FEET ALTITUDE AT 2030" AND AT 6,000 FEET AT 2045Z, AND THE F102 INTERCEPTOR PILOT EMPHARICALLY STATES THAT HIS AIR-BORNE RADAR LOCHED ON THE TARGET WHICH WAS LATER LOST, THIS OCCURRENCE WAS DESIGNATED AS TRACK NR 606 BY THE PATRICK AC&W SITE COMMANDERS POSITIVELY TO HAVE BEEN A LIVE AIRCRAT TRACK. DURING THE JUNO LAUNCH TEST NR 814, 27 APRIL THE UA-2 AIRCRAFT WAS DEGREES. THE FPS-20 AND FPS-8 RADAR CONFIRMED THE TRACK OF THIS UNKNOWN WHICH WAS IDENTIFIED BY THE PATRICK AC&W SITE AS AN UNKNOWN TRACK NR 641. THE HEIGHT FINDER FPS-8 DID NOT DETECT THIS UNKNOWN TARGER. PART EIGHT. CONCLUSION OF THE COMMANDER, PATRICK AC&W

BT

12/1540Z MAY RJEXFQT

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR
INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED: DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted]

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

HQA284

RR RJEDSQ

DE RJEZFF 28C

1961 JUN 6 22 10

R 061316Z

FM AFSC ANDREWS AFB

TO RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH

INFO RJESNO/AFMTC PATRICK AFB FLA

RJEDSQ/ATIC WPAFB OHIO

BT

[redacted] SCFAE 6-S-2

FOR AFCIN 2B3, INFO, MTW, 4E2C. SUBJECT: UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT ON THE ATLANTIC MISSLE RANGE. 11 APRIL UFO HAS BEEN DEFINITELY DETERMINED TO BE AN SIF REPLY FROM U-2 AIRCRAFT. 19 AND 27 APRIL RADAR TARGETS WERE UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON POINT OF DEPARTURE OR DESTINATION. SUBSEQUENT TO THESE THREE INCIDENTS, INTERCEPTORS F-101 WERE STATIONED AT PATRICK AFB FOR TWO WEEKS. DURING EACH TEST DURING THAT PERIOD, UNIDENTIFIED RADAR TARGETS WERE INTERCEPTED AND INDENTIFIED AS COMMERICAL AIRLINERS OR US NAVY AIRCRAFT. THERE HAVE BEEN NO UNIDENTIFED TARGETS SINCE

PAGE TWO RJEZFF 28C

27 APRIL. IT IS THERFORE CONCLUDED ON THE BASIS OF EVIDENCE TO DATE THAT UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT HAVE BEEN OPERATING IN THE VICINITY OF CAPE CANAVERAL DURING MISSILE LAUNCHES. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE TO [redacted]

1
2
3 - 4E(4FU)
4 - 4x2a

PROVE THA THEY ARE UNFRIENDLY FOREIGN AIRCRAFT AND NO PHOTO OR ELECTRONIC MISSION HAS BEEN DETECTED. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE RANGE MAY BE UNDER SURVEILLANCE BY AIRCRAFT BASED ON FOREIGN SOIL; HOWEVER, THIS APPROACH APPEARS TO BE UNLIKELY BECAUSE OF THE ACCESSIBILITY OF THE CAPE TO OTHER MORE EFFECTIVE MEANS OF OBSERVATION. THE RANGE AND ALTITUDES OBSERVED TO DATE RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE PRESENCE OF A MACH PLUS, SUPER PERFORMANCE VEHICLE. THIS COMMAND WILL CONTINUE TO EXERCISE STRINGENT SURVEILLANCE OF THE AMR WITH ALL FACILITIES AVAILABLE AND REPORT ANY SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS OF THIS NATURE. SCP-3

BT

Ø6/19Ø6Z JUN RJEZFF

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS; NOT AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED. DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] SECT II

1 - 4C2
2 - VE1
3 - 4F3
4 - 4X3a

D

UNCLASSIFIED

1961 MAY 13 04 18

SQB043MDC 753 FQB 919 QTB 21

PP RJEDSQ

ZNK RJESNO

PP RJEZFF RJEZHQ RJWFAL RJESKB RJEDSQ RJWZJB RJEXGL

DE RJEXFQT 91C

P 121535Z

FM AFMTC PATRICK AFB FLA

TO RJEZFF/AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD

RJEZHQ/HQ USAF WASH 25 DC

RJWFAL/ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJESKB/32 AIRDIV DOBBINS AFB GA

RJEDSQ/AFIC WPAFB OHIO

RJEZHQ/OSAF WASH DC

INFO RJWZJB/BSD LOS ANGELES CALIF

RJEXGL/APGC EGLIN AFB FLA

BT

[redacted] MTW-12-5-5. SECTION TWO OF TWO

SITE ARE QUOTED FROM HIS TELETYPE SECRET MTQFC CITE MT-66503 TO 32 AIRDIV DOBBINS AFB GA, INFO: 679 ACW SQ JACKSONVILLE FLA.

QUOTE. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS PHENOMENA ACCOUNTS FOR SOME OF THE UNKNOWNS SEEN IN THIS AREA AND IS EXPLAINED AS FOLLOWS: THE FPS-8 HAS A 360 PRF AND THEIR IFF (SIF) HAS A 360 PRF. WHEN AN INTERROGATION IS TRANSMITTED, THE SIGNAL CONTINUES TO 220 MILES, AND AT THAT POINT THE RECEIVER BLANKS OUT AND A SECOND PULSE IS TRANSMITTED. MEANWHILE THE FIRST SIGNAL INTERROGATED THE ACFT AT 250 - 270 MILES AND SENT AN SENT A REPLY BACK. THIS WAS RECEIVED WHEN THE RECEIVER WAS [redacted]

SET TO RECEIVE THE SECOND INTERROGATION THAT WAS TRANSMITTED. THIS PHENOMENA WOULD THUS CAUSE AN IFF PAINT AT 50 - 70 MILES FROM THE FPS-8 AND COULD BE CONSIDERED AS A SECOND BANG PHENOMENA. THE REASON THAT OUR FPS-20 DID NOT EXPERIENCE THIS ACTIVITY WAS BECAUSE WE HAVE OUR RADAR AT 360 PRF, BUT OUR IFF AT 180 PRF. THIS ENABLES OUR IFF RECEIVER TO RECOVER AND NOT ACCEPT A SECOND BANG RETURN. THUS, THIS IS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY THE FPS-8 HAD UNKNOWNS AND THE FPS-20 DID NOT. WE HAVE RECOMMENDED TO AFMTC THAT THEY ADJUST THEIR IFF (SIF) TO 180 PRF AND PART OF THE PROBLEM WOULD BE SOLVED. HOWEVER, THIS DOES NOT ANSWER WHY WE PAINTED UNKNOWNS ON BOTH THE FPS-8 AND THE FPS-20 RADARS AS WELL AS THE FPS-6 RADER. THE FPS-6 DOES NOT ACCEPT BEACON RETURNS. FURTHER, WHEN AN F-102 WAS SCRAMBLED FROM JACKSONVILLE ON 27 APR 61, THE PILOT REPORTED TO THE JAX ACW COMMANDER THAT HE HAD A LOCK ON FOR TWO MINUTES ON A TARGET THAT DISAPPEARED FROM HIS SCOPE. IT THUS APPEARS FROM THE SPECULATIVE STANDPOINT THAT WE HAVE TWO PROBLEMS, ONE RESULTING FROM ELECTRONIC PHENOMENA AND THE OTHER AS A RESULT OF ACTUAL UNKNOWNS. ALTHOUGH THE ADC ACTIVITY WAS KEPT QUIET DURING THIS PERIOD, THE MERE PRESENCE OF ACFT WITH ADC MARKINGS COULD CAUSE LACK OF ACTIVITY BY THOSE CAUSING THE UNKNOWNS. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT

SHOULD A REQUIREMENT BE PLACED ON ADC TO FURNISH SUPPORT IN THE FUTURE, THAT THE ACFT BE POSITIONED AT MCCOY AFB WITH A SCRAMBLE LINE TO THE JAX ACW SQ. PART NINE. CONCLUSIONS OF THE DCS/INTELLIGENCE, AFMTC FOLLOW. IT IS CONCLUDED THAT: 1. TIMING SIGNALS HAVE NOT CAUSED ANY OF THE UNKNOWN RADAR TARGETS. 22. THE IFF BEACON OF THE U-2 CAUSED THE FPS-8 RADAR TARGET ON 11 APRIL DURING POLARIS TEST NR 1352. 3. THE UNIDENTIFIED RADAR TARGET ON 19 APRIL DURING POLARIS SUBMARINE LAUNCH TEST NR 1365 IS CONCLUDED TO HAVE BEEN A LIVE AIRCRAFT TARGET IN THAT FPS-8, FPS-20, FPS-6, AND F-102 RADAR CONFIRMED THE TARGET TND THE U-2 WAS 410 MILES DISTANT, WHICH IS BELIEVED TO MINIMIZE THE PRODABILIHFLOF THE TARGET BEING CAUSED BY THE U-2 IFF. 4. THE RADAR TARGET DETECTED ON 27 APRIL DORING JUNO LAUNCH TEST NR 814 COULD POSSIBLEY BE A SO CALLED "SECOND BANG" OF THE U-2 IFF IN THAT THE U-2 WAS 220 MILES DOWNRANGE ON AN AZIMUTH 098 DEGREES AND THE FPS-8 HEIGHT FINDER DID NOT DETECT THE UNKNOWN TARGET. THIS TARGET COULD ALSOSVERY POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN A LIVE AIRCRAFT IN THAT IT WAS DETECTED BY BOTH THE FPS-20 AND THE FPSGAI RADAR AND WAS DESIGNATED AS AC&W TRACK NR 641, AND THE FACT THAT THE UNKNOWN TARGET WAS APPROX 190 MILES FROM THE U-2 INSTEAD OF THE DEMONSTRATED 220 MILES AND THE FACT THAT THE UNKNOWN TARGET

ACCOMPLISHED A SAW TOOTH COURSE BY CHANGING DIRECTION APPROX 10 TIMES DURING A PERIOD OF 35 MINUTES AND FLEW IN A DIRECTION OF WEST, NORTH, NORTHEAST, AND NORTHWEST DURING THE 35 MINUTE SOLID TRACK

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UNCLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN : 28780 (21 Apr 61) F/scc

ACTION: CIN-14

INFO : OOP-2, OOP-CP-1, SAFS-3 (21)

W

DE RJEDSQ 7XC
P 212050Z ZEX
FM ATIC WPAFB
TO RJEZHQ/COFS USAF WASH DC
RJEZFF/AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD
BT

UNCLASSIFIED

A. Director, TD
Intelligence
05 MAY 1970
AFR 205-1, Par 2-12a
2 Jan 68

[redacted] AFCIN-4E2 C-776.

PART I. FOR AFCIN MAJ GEN WALSH AND FOR RDY MAJ GEN WATSON

AT 1457 11 APR 61 AN UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT WAS SIGHTED ON RADAR IN THE VICINITY OF CAPE CANAVERAL PRIOR TO THE LAUNCHING OF TEST NUMBER 1352, APOLARIS MISSILE, SCHEDULED T TIME 1430Z. THREE EXPERIENCED OBSERVERS WATCHED THE TARGET ON AN FPS-8 RADAR FOR 30 MINUTES AND ESTIMATED ITS SPEED AS RANGING BETWEEN 150 AND 600 KNOTS. THESE OBSERVERS REPORTED THAT THE OBJECT ORBITED 6 OR 7 TIMES ALONG AN AZIMUTH OF 126 DEGREES FROM CAPE CANAVERAL AND BETWEEN 10 AND 55 MILES FROM THE CAPE. THE RANGE OBSERVERS' ESTIMATES OF THE HEIGHT OF THE UFO DID NOT AGREE, REPORTING EITHER THAT THE OBJECT WAS VERY LOW OR VERY HIGH. A RANGE SURVEILLANCE C-54 WAS VECTORED TO WITHIN 2 1/2 MILES OF THE OBJECT BUT REPORTS FROM THE CREW WERE NEGATIVE. THE RANGE C-54 IS EQUIPPED WITH AN APS-42 AND AN APS-59 RADARS BUT UTILIZED ONLY THE APS-42 DURING THIS ATTEMPTED INTERCEPT.

AFHQ FORM NOV 59 0-309a
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING MESSAGE

UNCLASSIFIED

CAPT WALTER FLINT, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE TEST, NOTIFIED THE LOCAL GCI SITE OF THE PRESENCE OF THE UFO, HOWEVER, NO INTERCEPT ACTION WAS ACCOMPLISHED BECAUSE THE GCI FPS-20 RADAR PICKED UP THE UFO ONLY ONCE EACH THREE SWEEPS OVER AN INTERVAL OF 36 SECONDS AND RECEIVED NO TARGET ON THE HEIGHT FINDER.

PART II. ANALYSIS OF THE AVAILABLE DATA LEADS TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE TARGET WAS REAL. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE IN THE REPORT TO SUGGEST RADAR MALFUNCTION, OR FALSE ECHOS. BECAUSE THE TRACKS WERE APPARENTLY WELL DEFINED AND HAD A DEFINITE PATTERN. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS WAS A RELATIVELY SMALL TARGET DUE TO THE FACT THAT IT CONSISTENTLY FADED AT 44 MILES OUTBOUND IN ITS ORBIT AND REAPPEARED AT APPROXIMATELY 44 MILES INBOUND. THERE IS NO LOCICAL REASON FOR THE INABILITY OF THE POWERFUL FPS-20 TO TRACK THE TARGET, UNLESS THIS EQUIPMENT WAS NOT FUNCTIONING PROPERLY AT THIS TIME OR THE TARGET WAS IN A DEAD AREA FOR THE STATION.

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[redacted]

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING MESSAGE

BEING AN EXTREMELY HIGH FLYING TARGET. THE PERIODIC HIGH SPEEDS, AS HIGH AS 600 KNOTS, REPORTED FOR THE TARGET, COUPLED WITH THE FACT THAT THE MTI OF THE FPS-8 WAS NOT OPERATING, FURTHER TENDS TO RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE UFO BEING A VERY LOW FLYING TARGET. CONSEQUENTLY, THERE IS NO LOGICAL EXPLANATION FOR WHY THE FPS-20 HEIGHT FINDER WAS UNABLE TO PAINT THE TARGET.

PART IV. CONTACT WITH LT/COL JAMES O. PAYNE, AFMTC, REVEALED THAT NO NAVY OPERATION COULD HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SIGHTING AND THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO SIMILAR INCIDENTS DURING SUBSEQUENT TESTS.

PART V. IT IS CONCLUDED BY ATIC THAT THE OBJECT SIGHTED ON RADAR AT CAPE CANAVERAL ON 11 APR 61 AT 1457Z WAS PROBABLY A REAL TARGET, FLYING AT AN ALTITUDE OF NO MORE THAN 35,000 FEET. NO DEFINITE EXPLANATION OF WHY THIS TARGET DID NOT APPEAR ON THE FPS-20 CAN BE REACHED, BUT INSPECTION OF THE SITE AND THE RADAR MAINTENANCE RECORD WOULD REVEAL IF THIS WAS DUE TO A DEAD AREA OF FAULTY EQUIPMENT. THIS ORGANIZATION CONTINUING EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE CASE.

BT

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN : 28780 (21 Apr 61) F/scc

ACTION: CIN-14

INFO : OOP-2, OOP-CP-1, SAFS-3 (21)

Director, TDP
A. Quintanilla Jr.
1969
AFR 205-1, Par 2-17a
2 Jan 68

DE RJEDSQ 7XC
P 212050Z ZEX
FM ATIC WPAFB
TO RJEZHQ/COFS USAF WASH DC
RJEZFF/AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD
BT

[redacted] AFCIN-4E2 C-776.

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AFHQ FORM NOV 59 0-309a
PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING MESSAGE

CAPT WALTER FLINT, WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE TEST, NOTIFIED THE LOCAL GCI SITE OF THE PRESENCE OF THE UFO, HOWEVER, NO INTERCEPT ACTION WAS ACCOMPLISHED BECAUSE THE GCI FPS-20 RADAR PICKED UP THE UFO ONLY ONCE EACH THREE SWEEPS OVER AN INTERVAL OF 36 SECONDS AND RECEIVED NO TARGET ON THE HEIGHT FINDER.

PART II. ANALYSIS OF THE AVAILABLE DATA LEADS TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE TARGET WAS REAL. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE IN THE REPORT TO SUGGEST RADAR MALFUNCTION, OR FALSE ECHOS. BECAUSE THE TRACKS WERE APPARENTLY WELL DEFINED AND HAD A DEFINITE PATTERN. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THIS WAS A RELATIVELY SMALL TARGET DUE TO THE FACT THAT IT CONSISTENTLY FADED AT 44 MILES OUTBOUND IN ITS ORBIT AND REAPPEARED AT APPROXIMATELY 44 MILES INBOUND. THERE IS NO LOCICAL REASON FOR THE INABILITY OF THE POWERFUL FPS-20 TO TRACK THE TARGET, UNLESS THIS EQUIPMENT WAS NOT FUNCTIONING PROPERLY AT THIS TIME OR THE TARGET WAS IN A DEAD AREA FOR THE STATION.

PART III. SINCE NO HEIGHT FINDER DATA WAS OBTAINED CERTAIN DEDUCTIONS MUST BE MADE RELATIVE TO THE TARGET HEIGHT. THE MINIMUM REPORTED RANGE OF THE TARGET WAS 10 MILES. SINCE THIS IS SLANT RANGE AND FURTHER SINCE THE MAXIMUM VERTICAL ANGLE COVERAGE OF THE FPS-8 IS 25-30 DEGREE THE MAXIMUM TARGET HEIGHT WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 30,000 FEET WHICH OBVIOUSLY RULES OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE UFO

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING MESSAGE

BEING AN EXTREMELY HIGH FLYING TARGET. THE PERIODIC HIGH SPEEDS, AS HIGH AS 600 KNOTS, REPORTED FOR THE TARGET, COUPLED WITH THE FACT THAT THE MTI OF THE FPS-8 WAS NOT OPERATING, FURTHER TENDS TO RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE UFO BEING A VERY LOW FLYING TARGET. CONSEQUENTLY, THERE IS NO LOGICAL EXPLANATION FOR WHY THE FPS-20 HEIGHT FINDER WAS UNABLE TO PAINT THE TARGET.

PART IV. CONTACT WITH LT/COL JAMES O. PAYNE, AFMTC, REVEALED THAT NO NAVY OPERATION COULD HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SIGHTING AND THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO SIMILAR INCIDENTS DURING SUBSEQUENT TESTS.

PART V. IT IS CONCLUDED BY ATIC THAT THE OBJECT SIGHTED ON RADAR AT CAPE CANAVERAL ON 11 APR 61 AT 1457Z WAS PROBABLY A REAL TARGET, FLYING AT AN ALTITUDE OF NO MORE THAN 35,000 FEET. NO DEFINITE EXPLANATION OF WHY THIS TARGET DID NOT APPEAR ON THE FPS-20 CAN BE REACHED, BUT INSPECTION OF THE SITE AND THE RADAR MAINTENANCE RECORD WOULD REVEAL IF THIS WAS DUE TO A DEAD AREA OF FAULTY EQUIPMENT. THIS ORGANIZATION CONTINUING EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE CASE.

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UNCLASSIFIED

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING MESSAGE

AF IN : 28780 (21 Apr 61) F/scc

ACTION: CIN-14

INFO : OOP-2, OOP-CP-1, SAFS-3 (21)

Director of D
A. Quintanilla Jr.
Date MAY 1959
AFR 205-1, Para 2-17a
2 Jan 68

DE RJEDSQ 7XC
P 212050Z ZEX
FM ATIC WPAFB
TO RJEZHQ/COFS USAF WASH DC
RJEZFF/AFSC ANDREWS AFB MD
BT

[redacted] AFCIN-4E2 C-776.

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PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM MAY BE USED.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
STAFF MESSAGE DIVISION
INCOMING MESSAGE

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PART III. SINCE NO HEIGHT FINDER DATA WAS OBTAINED CERTAIN DEDUCTIONS MUST BE MADE RELATIVE TO THE TARGET HEIGHT. THE MINIMUM REPORTED RANGE OF THE TARGET WAS 10 MILES. SINCE THIS IS SLANT RANGE AND FURTHER SINCE THE MAXIMUM VERTICAL ANGLE COVERAGE OF THE FPS-8 IS 25-30 DEGREE THE MAXIMUM TARGET HEIGHT WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 30,000 FEET WHICH OBVIOUSLY RULES OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF THE UFO

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
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INCOMING MESSAGE

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AFHQ FORM NOV 59 0-309a
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