

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 3 May 64		2. LOCATION Canberra, Australia		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 03/1605Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE civilian		2. ☒ Was Astronomical Star ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical	
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION several minutes		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS two		9. COURSE ENE(?)	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING First obj moved from WSW to ENE in wobbly manner. Second obj stationary. First obj was soft white, larger and brighter than second obj which had pinkish glow. No breakup of objs. Small obj (stationary) sputtered and disappeared. No noise. Speed slower than satellite. Turn to NW. Nearly as bright as Venus. Sudden speed for about 4 seconds as it neared the smaller stationary light. Did not wobble after collision with smaller light.				11. COMMENTS Stationary light probably star. Speeding up attributed to an illusion as obj approached star. Satellite schedules not available. Larger obj appearing to wobble either a/c or satellite. Flight through sky at steady pace. Wobbly effect attributed to atmospheric conditions. Case evaluated as possible Satellite and Star. <i>NOT ECHO I, POSSIBLE ECHO II IN SW</i>	

22 **AIRGRAM**

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : DEPARTMENT OF STATE 50

FROM : Amembassy CANBERRA

DATE: May 14, 1964

SUBJECT: Report of Unidentified Flying Object

REF : CH-9986 of June 14, 1962

911.802/6-1462

A sighting of unidentified luminous objects has been reported to the Embassy. An abstract of the details is given below followed by a narrative account:

- a) Date and time: May 3, 1964 at 0605 local time
- b) Place: Black Mountain, near Canberra, A.C.T., Australia
- c) Trajectory of objects: First object moved in wobbly manner from WSW to ENE, turned NW to collision with second object, bounced and moved out of sight to NNE. Second object stationary.
- d) Color: First object soft, white light, larger and brighter than second which had pinkish-orange glow.
- e) There was no break-up of the objects. The small one appeared to sputter, then disappeared.
- f) No noise was associated with the phenomenon.

Mr. [REDACTED], a resident of a tourist camp (semi-permanent trailer camp) on the side of Black Mountain, Canberra, A.C.T., reported an unusual event in the sky witnessed in part at least by his wife and a friend. Mr. [REDACTED] described the event occurring about 0605 local time, Sunday, May 3, 1964 to Mr. [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) of Embassy, about 8:30 a.m. after having first made an attempt to make personal contact at Mt.

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☒ In ☐ Out

FORM 4-62 DS-323

Dated by: PASiple/MJWilkinson:mr 5/14/64

Contents and Classification Approved by:

Clearance:

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Stromlo Observatory. Mr. [REDACTED] was quizzed during the next hour and a half by the Scientific Attache, Dr. Paul Siple, and two local NASA representatives, Mr. Meredith Glenn and Mr. Hugh Fletcher. The following is a paraphrase of Mr. [REDACTED]'s account.

Through the opened window of the trailer I saw a bright object in the sky moving from W.S.W. to E.N.E. over Black Mountain. It seemed to be moving slower and more erratically than most satellites I have seen before. It was much brighter and larger. It was nearly as prominent as Venus but looked bigger and more like the soft light in a frosted globe lamp than like the sparkly brilliance of a star or any point-source light.

I would not have given the passage of this "satellite" any special notice had it not been for two things: it was wobbling along its course "like a drunk"; and then it took a definite turn toward the N.W.

I was so surprised by these peculiar habits of what I thought was a satellite that I woke my wife and my companion (a friend in an adjoining trailer). We went outside to watch the light. The light seemed to move at a steady rate but its course was still weaving. I had been watching the light for about three minutes when I noticed a "pinkish-orange" tiny glowing light west of the bright moving light. The little red light did not appear to be moving but I feel certain that it was neither a star nor an airplane.

Suddenly the big bright light moved in a straight line very fast (about four seconds) to a collision with the fainter red light. The impact seemed to have caused both to bounce. There was no explosion or change in intensity of the light.

The big bright light moved off at a slower rate on a N.N.E. course and appeared to be no longer wobbling. Within about a half minute I lost sight of it in a bit of cloud. However, in the meantime, I glanced back at the little reddish light and found it to be still there. It seemed to be behaving erratically. It seemed to sputter and then disappeared.

My companion's eyes are not as good as mine. He saw the bright light same as I did but not the tiny red one.

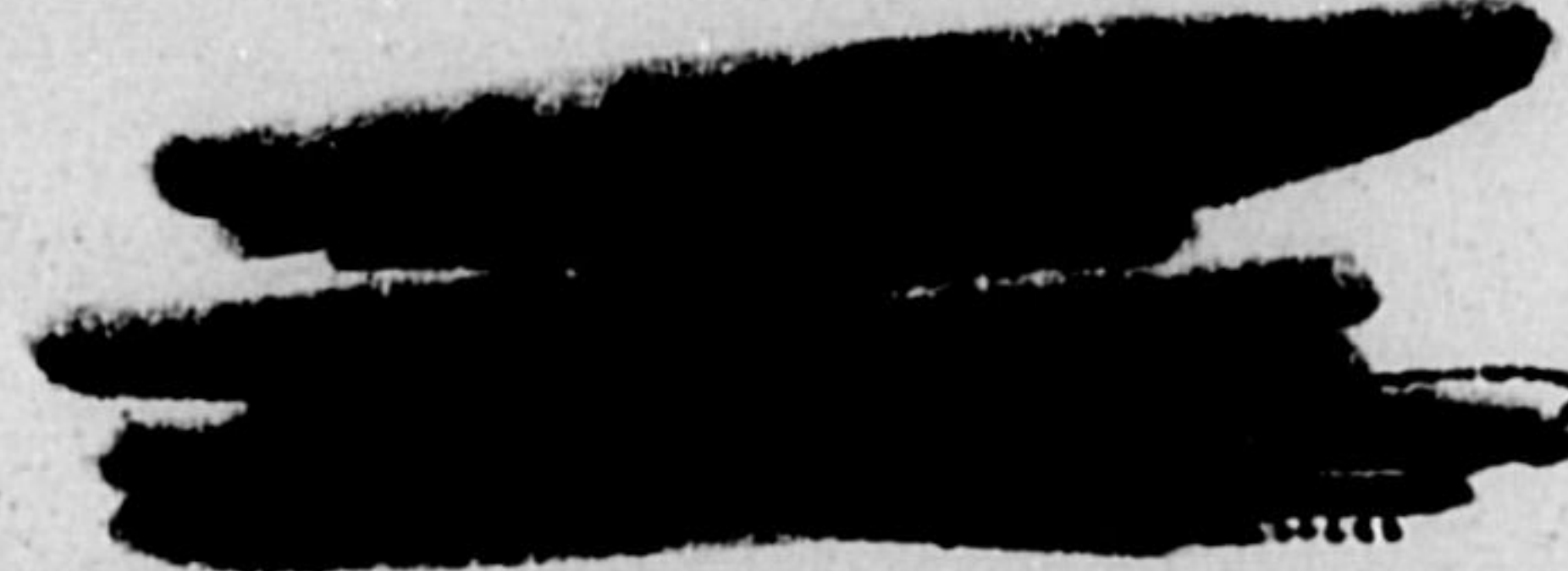
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Canberra
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Informal contacts with the Ministry of Supply by NASA representatives revealed no information of any flying objects over or visible from Canberra at or near the indicated date and hour.

For the Charge d'Affaires a.i.

A large, dark, irregular redacted area covering the signature of the First Secretary of Embassy.

First Secretary of Embassy

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Canberra
A-894

I admit what I saw frightened me because I've never seen anything like it before nor heard of satellites maneuvering as this one did. I want to know what I saw for my own peace of mind. (End paraphrase)

Mr. [REDACTED] was quizzed from the point of view of explanatory theories ranging from meteorological balloons, maneuvering aircraft, infra-red seeking missiles and foreign satellites. There was no immediate plausible explanation which satisfied either Mr. Hayden or his listeners.

The following details were ascertained from him. The sky was still dark enough to see stars although the waning moon was overhead and dawn light was becoming visible to the east. There had been a smokey (stable air - leaf fire smog) haze over Canberra the preceding evening. There had been some precipitation during the night. The Scientific Attache had noted about 0630 that the sky was fairly clear over the Black Mountain area; however, the rest of the sky was partly cloudy. The temperature was about 55°F, 15° to 20° warmer than for the past week at that hour.

Mr. [REDACTED] was reassured that if an explanation for his observed phenomena was possible, he would be informed. His sincerity and concern were apparent by the fact that he spent several hours, including a 25 mile round trip to Mt. Stromlo, thence to the American Embassy, thence to the home of the First Secretary, Mr. Lamm, and finally to the home of the Scientific Attache, to seek an explanation.

He referred to his vision with pride as 60 - 60. His descriptions were most colorful and it was the collision, as he described it "like a fish striking bait," that obsessed him.

A check with the Meteorology Department indicated no release of balloons at that hour on Sunday and, in fact, releases are normally made several hours earlier or later than the time in question.

The Canberra airport reported no aircraft in the air over Canberra at that hour nor were there any for a matter of an hour before or afterwards.

Information Only

Source: UFO Investigator, Vol III, No 2, April-May 65

Canberra, Australia
May, 1964

Another unusual incident, subject of an official State Department report, occurred on May, 1964, at Canberra, Australia.

Just before dawn, several ground observers near Canberra saw a large white-glowing object traveling northeast across the dark sky. It moved with an odd wobble as though losing power, or partly out of control. Then the observers saw a smaller object, visible with a faint red light, hovering ahead. The large white device flew straight toward the small UFO and appeared to strike it, bouncing back. Then the large UFO turned, no longer wobbling, and raced out of sight. The small red light sputtered and then disappeared. (It has been suggested that this could have been some unknown type of refueling or recharging process.)

The observers' report was investigated by the Scientific Attache of the American Embassy at Canberra, Dr. Paul Siple, and by two NASA engineers. They concluded that the objects were not any known earthmade craft and they had no explanation for the sighting. The report was sent via Airgram A-894 to the State Department, which forwarded copies to the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, NASA, the Army and the Navy.

MARCH-APRIL, 1965

Incident In Australia

Officials Excited!

A report forwarded by the Victorian Flying Saucer Research Society is most interesting although now a year old:

"On May 3, 1964, an incident occurred which sent officials of the U.S. State Department to rush out reports to the CIA, the National Security Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Army and the Navy. The incident was investigated by the Scientific Attache of the American Embassy at Canberra, Dr. Paul Siple and two NASA engineers.

Just before day near Canberra, a large, white glowing object travelled across the sky in a northeast direction. The object was wobbling and appeared to the observers to be out of control. Nearby a smaller UFO hovered, showing a faint red light. The large UFO moved in a straight line very fast for about four seconds and appeared to collide with the smaller UFO. The impact seemed to cause both to bounce. There was no explosion.

The large UFO then turned, no longer wobbling, moved slowly away from the smaller UFO, then accelerated away at a very high speed.

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