

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 11 Oct 67	2. LOCATION Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado
3. SOURCE Civilian	10. CONCLUSION INSUFFICIENT DATA FOR EVALUATION
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION a few seconds	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS The observer saw an extremely bright white light in the western sky. The light traveled in a southerly direction and was invisible for several seconds till it disappeared behind cloud. No noise was heard at any time. COMMENTS: The description of the object is similar to that of an aircraft with its landing lights on, even though no noise was heard. The observer was sent a 164 to complete such information as the time of the sighting and also to get general information. Because this additional information was never submitted to us the case is being evaluated as INSUFFICIENT DATA.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual	
7. COURSE South	
8. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes ☒ No	

11 October 67

Pending

Miss Turnure/SAF-OIC/76526/Oct 19, 1967

~~October 19, 1967~~

Dear Mrs. [REDACTED]

This will reply to your letter of October 14, to the Secretary of Defense, with respect to your sighting of an unidentified flying object (UFO).

Without additional information, it is impossible, at this time, to offer an explanation as to what you saw. If you will complete the attached questionnaire and send it in the inclosed postage-free envelope to the address given on it, we will endeavor to determine for you what it was that you actually observed.

In the future, should you sight another UFO, please report it immediately to the UFO investigator at the nearest Air Force base. An immediate on-the-spot investigation is normally more productive than one conducted at a later time when some of the important details may have become hazy in the viewer's mind.

We hope that the inclosed material will be of interest in your further understanding of these objects. Thank you for your interest in our UFO program.

Sincerely,

DAVID L. STILES
Major, USAF
Acting Chief, Civil Branch
Community Relations Division
Office of Information

2 Attachments

Mrs. [REDACTED]

Denver, Colorado 80215

SAF-OIC

Coord Cy - SAF-OIC
Cmbk Cy - SAF-OIC
Activity Cy - SAF-OIC
Reader Cy - SAF-OIC
Stayback

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE ROUTING SLIP

TO	ADV ACT COPY TO	INFO COPY TO	TO	ADV ACT COPY TO	INFO COPY TO
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE			ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (M)		
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE			ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (PA)		
THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT			ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (SA)		
SECRETARY OF THE ARMY			GENERAL COUNSEL		
SECRETARY OF THE NAVY			ASST TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (AE)		
☒ SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE 01			ASST TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (LA)		
CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF			ASST TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE		
DIRECTOR, DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENG			DIR, DEF CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY		
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (A)			DIR, DEFENSE SUPPLY AGENCY		
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (Comp)			DIR, DEF ATOMIC SUPPORT AGENCY		
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (I&L)			DIR, DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY Mgr, National Communications System		
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (ISA)			DIR, DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY		

ACTION

PREPARATION OF REPLY FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SIGNATURE	INFORMATION AND RETENTION
PREPARATION OF REPLY FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SIGNATURE	DATA ON WHICH TO BASE A REPLY
REPLY DIRECT (Forward copy of reply to Secretary of Defense files)	COMMENTS AND/OR RECOMMENDATION
☒ APPROPRIATE ACTION	SEE REMARKS BELOW
COORDINATE REPLY WITH:	

REMARKS

THIS IS AN	☒ ACTION COPY	☐ ADVANCE ACTION COPY	☐ INFORMATION COPY
ACTION DUE NOT LATER THAN	ROUTING DATE 18 SEP 1967	OSD CONTROL NUMBER	

SD FORM 14
1 SEP 65

PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE.

1100/67
[REDACTED]
Denver, Colorado
October 14, 1967

80218

Secretary of Defense
Washington, D.C.

Subject: UFO

Dear Sir:

So little did I ever expect to observe any phenomenon that might remotely fall under the classification of Unidentified Flying Objects that I never retained in my mind the address of the U.S. Air Force officer to whom we were requested to submit such descriptions. I would therefore appreciate your office forwarding this letter to the interested authorities. The following unspectacular observation may be readily identifiable to experts, but it struck me as a complete oddity, even at the time.

The place of sighting was from a hillside off a bit from the Aspenglen Campground, a stretch of the road from the Fall River Entrance of the Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado. It was three nights ago on Wednesday, October 11th.

Darkness fell earlier than I had expected, and I was already tucked into my pup tent by seven o'clock, supine, with only my head in the open to view the skies with as little discomfort from the cold as possible. Parts of the sky were covered by easterly moving streaky clouds, so my first glimpse of the half moon was its rising within the crescent of the mountain twin peaks to the south of my campsite. With the clouds diffusing the moonlight, the sky never did get as black as I had been led to expect from planetarium lectures. Even when the moon was cloud hidden, the sky never was black. Thus it was rather longer than I expected before the first star became visible. It appeared directly overhead, rather dim, and not another star could be seen anywhere in the entire sky. A little later, a second star, brighter than the first, shone through the boughs of the tree to which the other end of my tent was secured. Then, shortly after, a sprinkling of stars became visible from horizon to horizon between the clouds. The ones overhead seemed brightest, and I turned after a while to study the ones toward my right. Though this experience of sundown and moonrise and being alone "roughing it" on a mountain for the first time was thrilling, I had to admit to myself that I had been able to see millions of more stars a thousand times brighter in North Reading, Massachusetts and that, in terms of a starshow, this demonstration was rather a flop.

As I watched one of the few stars, dimly visible in the western part of the sky, another suddenly appeared some distance directly "beneath" it - about half way between the dim star I was viewing and the mountain-rim horizon. In an instant it became the brightest star in the entire sky, and then to my surprise it began moving toward the left (southerly) in incredible white brilliance. At first I thought I must have mistaken an airplane for a star, but then I realized it couldn't possibly be a plane, for I have watched thousands of airplanes and jets streak across the skies at night - from as close as from within airfields for takeoffs and landings to as far away as when they just become visible ~~far away~~ in the sky - and none ever projected such powerful brilliance of their front white

lights as the light I was looking at - And when plane lights are brightest to the eye, the engine sound is deafening. No sound at all was heard during the passage of the light I viewed. Besides, this was a "sphere" of incandescence - there was no front or back nor top or bottom - it was total illumination - and there were no red and green lights visible as are compulsory on aircraft at night - and from its direction of movement, I would have been able to see the blinking colored lights if it had been a plane, but none existed. It was as though I were watching a star with brilliance at least ten times that of any star of the first magnitude - but it was moving on an absolute straight line parallel to the horizon. Its track were as though one had put a T-square across that piece of sky - and I realized watching it move in such an artificially straight line that the track of any craft I ever saw in the sky always had some degree of slope to the eye, even when traveling "straight as the crow flies." I was still marveling at the unnatural passage of the moving object when it disappeared behind a cloud - nor was its powerful light ever reflected from the cloud banks - nor did I see its light again through any break in the clouds or see the object emerge in the extrapolated courses of its track beyond the clouds. It simply disappeared completely. After it seemed certain that it would not reappear in my view, I looked at my watch by flashlight and noted it was 7:55 pm.

And I must admit everything I was experiencing as a city person camping for the first time in the Rockies was so new and marvelous, all contributing to such a uniquely poetic experience that when I viewed the passage of that object through the sky, I simply frowned a bit and thought "That's odd" and added it to the mind's album of the unique and novel - an esoteric collection that one goes over at leisure later when not so immediately concerned with survival on a cold windy hillside and hiking several miles for the first time with a backpack and food supplies.

Yet I could not help wondering - why had I not spotted the object moving from the right to left just before its appearance under the dim star, which at that time was the brightest in the area. When the object did first catch my eye, it was directly underneath the star I was viewing and increased in a millisecond from the dimmest ^{point} to the brightest light in the heavens - much more brilliant than the moon - and remained in that position just long enough for me to think it a "stationary" star before it proceeded on the straight-line track I described - with no change in that straight-line passage in the intensity of its incandescence - nor was there any "twinkling" phenomenon. It seemed to me it were a star distance away - yet even if it were as close as the highest jet track, it covered the distance faster than any jet I had seen - and I had during that day seen jet streams move across the skies over the mountains - and could hear the jets - yet they had not covered an equal distance as fast or ever in such an "unnatural" straight line.

I am doubtful as to the exact length of time that passed from my first perception of its emerging dimness to the disappearance of the brilliant object behind the clouds - it was a matter of a few seconds -

I apologize for not breaking camp and returning to town immediately the next morning and wiring this information to you - but it is only now having returned to Denver and recovered from the fatigue of hiking that I could apply my mind fully to the significance of the various events.

If this observation merits your attention, and I now believe it does, a more scientific description of the location of my sighting could probably be given to you by a group of young men that went hiking and rock tapping through the area the next day. We exchanged greetings as they passed, and they could not help but notice the green plastic "tent." They arrived and departed in a cream-colored station wagon with a license plate marked "Property of Colorado." I do not remember the license number, but undoubtedly one of the rangers at whatever Park Entrance they used could identify them for you.

Like many another citizen, I hope I was viewing some unique and advanced research instrument of our own scientific genius. And if so, it is probably of scientific interest for the developers to learn than even an average citizen can identify its appearance as an extraordinary phenomenon as it moves across the sky.

Needless to say, I am not about to advertise this experience elsewhere, and at this point in my life, it is the last thing I would desire having to report to the United States Government. Nevertheless, in conscience I feel it my duty to inform you of the event.

Sincerely yours,

A large, dark, irregular redacted area covering the signature of the letter.

Age: 43 years (November 19, 1923)
Eyes: 20/40 (but I was wearing my
glasses at the time)