

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

<p>1. DATE</p> <p><u>18 Apr 52</u></p>	<p>2. LOCATION</p> <p>Bethesda, Maryland</p>		<p>12. CONCLUSIONS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon</p>
<p>3. DATE-TIME GROUP</p> <p>Local <u>0130</u></p> <p>GMT <u>0630</u></p>	<p>4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar</p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft</p>
<p>5. PHOTOS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>6. SOURCE</p> <p>4 civilians</p>		<p><input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical</p>
<p>7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION</p> <p>4-8 seconds</p>	<p>8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS</p> <p>7-9</p>	<p>9. COURSE</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unknown</p>
<p>10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING</p> <p>Orange-yellow color. Lights in V Formation. Straight and level maneuvers.</p>		<p>11. COMMENTS</p> <p>Sighted V shaped formation of lights. Data on formation in report. No a/c in area.</p>	

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CSAF ITEM 9/P [REDACTED]

S [REDACTED]

TO ATIAA-2C RUPPELT FM AFOIN-V/TC FOURNET

TT 102
18 Apr 52
CSAF ITEM 9
ATIAA

FOLLOWING INFO REPORTED THIS MORNING VIA TELEPHONE BY MR

[REDACTED] NW, WASHINGTON, D.C.:

AT ABOUT 0100 HRS TODAY, WHILE STANDING IN YARD OF FRIEND IN
BETHESDA, MD., MR [REDACTED] AND 3 FRIENDS OBSERVED WHAT APPEARED TO
SPHERICAL OBJECTS FLYING IN VEE FORMATION. OBJECTS DESCRIBED AS FAINT
OR DIFFUSED LIGHT, ORANGE IN COLOR AND FAIRLY SHARPLY DEFINED. FORMATION
CONTAINED BETWEEN 7 AND 15 OBJECTS, ALL PERFECTLY SPACED AND MAINTAINING
PERFECT FORMATION. INCLUDED ANGLE OF VEE ESTIMATED AT 40 DEGREES. FIRST
OBSERVED IN SSE AT ELEVATION OF ABOUT 50 DEG. TRAVERSED ARC APPROX 100 DEG IN
ABOUT 5 SECONDS AND LOST FROM VIEW ALMOST DUE NORTH AT APPROX 30 DEG ELEVATION.
NO SOUND HEARD. ESTIMATED THAT OBJECTS ACCOUNTED FOR ABOUT 30 PERCENT OF
TOTAL SPACE ALONG A LEG OF THE VEE. WEATHER DESCRIBED AS CLEAR WITH NO
CLOUDS NOTICED.

[REDACTED] L SEEMED TO BE VERY INTELLIGENT, SINCERE AND MOST COOPERATIVE. THIS IS
PRELIMINARY INFO. WILL MAKE EFFORT TO CONTACT OTHER THREE OBSERVERS THIS
AFTERNOON, THEN, IF IT APPEARS WARRANTED, WILL CHECK ON JET FLIGHTS FROM
ANDREWS. WILL ADVISE YOU OF ANY OTHER DETAILS WHICH BECOME AVAILABLE. PLS
ADVISE WHAT ACTION YOU CONTEMPLATE, IF ANY.

END CSAF ITEM 9 [REDACTED]

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR PREPARING AND SUBMITTING FORM

1. Submit ONE copy of the completed form to ATIPA by 1000 hours of day message is to be sent. Unless special arrangements are made with ATIPA for late submission, messages received after 1000 hours will not be sent until the following conference.

2. Complete form as follows:

Block 1. Preparing office omit. Will be completed by telecon operator.

Block 2. If a classified message, stamp in security classification. If not a classified message, enter "Unclassified".

Block 3. Enter date the message will be sent, not date prepared.

Block 4. Enter name and symbol of sender.

Block 5. Enter name and symbol of receiver.

Block 6. If a classified message, enter as the first two words of the message "Security Information," then proceed with the message. If not a classified message, omit the words "Security Information." .

Block 7. Originator enter signature and symbol. (May or may not be the same person whose name appears in Block 4.)

Block 8. Coordinators enter name and symbol.

Block 9. Air Adjutant General enter signature.

Bottom of form. If a classified message, stamp in security classification.

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ATIAA

TT 104
22 Apr 52
CSAF ITEM 7

CSAF ITEM 7 ~~RESTRICTED~~

SECURITY INFO

TO ATIAA-2C RUPPELT

FROM AFOIN-V/TC FOURNET UNCLASSIFIED

REF CSAF ITEM 7 TT 102 DTD 18 APR 52.

ACTION

ADDITIONAL INFO THIS SIGHTING. MR. ~~REDACTED~~

~~REDACTED~~ WHO

WAS FIRST OF 4 OBSERVERS TO SIGHT OBJECTS,
WAS CONTACTED BY TELEPHONE AND REPORTED HIS
IMPRESSIONS AS FOLLOWS:

ESTIMATES TIME 0130 HRS ON 18 APR.

STANDING IN FRONT YARD OF FRIEND IN BETHESDA

MD WITH 3 FRIENDS, INCLUDING MR. ~~REDACTED~~

WHO GAVE FIRST REPORT FIRST

SIGHTED OBJECTS AT ABOUT 40 DEG ELEV IN SOUTH.

OBSERVED CONTINUOUSLY FOR 4 TO 8 SECONDS WHILE

OBJECTS CONTINUED TOWARD NORTH ON STRAIGHT

PATH AND LOST FROM VIEW AT ABOUT 60 DEG/

ELEV IN NORTH WHEN TREE OBSTRUCTED VISION.

OBJECTS DESCRIBED AS FORMING VEE FORMATION

CONSISTING OF 7 OR 9 OBJECTS PLUS ONE IN CENTER

ABOUT AT INTERSECTION OF LINES DRAWN BETWEEN

SECOND OBJECT IN ONE LEG AND THIRD OBJECT IN

OPPOSITE LEG, THUS GIVING IMPRESSION OF

LETTER A. OBJECTS SPACED UNIFORMLY WITH

ONE AT A PEX AND 3 OR 4 IN EACH LEG OF VEE.

INCLUDED ANGLE OF VEE ABOUT 40 DEG.

OBJECTS MAINTAINED PERFECT POSITION IN

FORMATION THROUGHOUT.

ALL OBJECTS UNIFORM IN SIZE AND COLOR.

DESCRIBED AS ORANGE YELLOW COLOR LIGHT SOURCES

CLOSER TO ORANGE THAN YELLOW. DISC SHAPED IN

LATERAL PLANE BUT COULD NOT ASCERTAIN SHAPE

IN VERTICAL PLANE. EACH OBJECT SHARPLY

DEFINED. DIAMETER ONE OBJECT ESTIMATED
TO BE 15 PERCENT TOTAL LENGTH OF ONE LEG OF

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS.
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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DEFINED. DIAMETER ONE OBJECT ESTIMATED
TO BE 15 PERCENT TOTAL LENGTH OF ONE LEG OF
FORMATION.

UNABLE TO NOTICE ANYTHING BETWEEN OBJECTS.

NO SOUND HEARD. FORMATION " SEEMED TO

GLIDE," MR [REDACTED] ESTIMATES SPEED EQUIVALENT

TO 500 MPH I AT 1000 FT ALT. WEATHER

SAID TO BE CLEAR WITH NO CLOUDS NOTICED AND

AND DID NOT RECALL SEEING MOON. MR [REDACTED]

APPEARED TO BE QUITE INTELLIGENT AND VERY

COOPERATIVE. HE IS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IN BETHESDA, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], TELEPHONE [REDACTED] ON

WASHINGTON EXCHANGE. STATES THAT VISION

RATED UP TO UP TO 20/15. HE HAD NOT SEEN LIFE

ARTICLE PRIOR TO SIGHTING.

MR [REDACTED] VE,

BETHESDA, ANOTHER MEMBER OF GROUP WAS ALSO

CONTACTED BY PHONE. IT WAS AT HIS HOME

THAT SIGHTING WAS MADE. HE CORROBORATES TIME

AND GENER) ^{DATA OF SIGHTING AS} 8-5-91 2458,2 - REPORTED BY

MESSRS [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED]. HOWEVER HE

STATES VISION VERY POOR (WEARS CONTACT LENSES)

AND CONSEQUENTLY HIS IMPRESSION VERY HAZY.

HE DID NOT SEE OBJECTS UNTIL ALMOST DIRECTLY

OVERHEAD AND LOST FROM VIEW AT ABOUT 30

DEG-ELEV IN NORTH. ESTIMATES TIME OF OBSERVATION

3 OR 6 SECONDS. APPEARED TO BE HAZY WHITE

SINGLE MASS OF LIGHT IN SHAPE OF ELONGATED

U WITH SHARP APEX LIKE VEE. NO SOUND

APPEARED TO TRAVEL AT HIGH SPEED. NO OTHER

PERTINENT INFO AVAILABLE FROM MR [REDACTED]

PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF POOR VISION AND SHORT PERIOD

10 300 MPH 1 AT 1000 FT ALT. WEATHER
SAID TO BE CLEAR WITH NO CLOUDS NOTICED AND
AND DID NOT RECALL SEEING MOON. MR [REDACTED]
APPEARED TO BE QUITE INTELLIGENT AND VERY
COOPERATIVE. HE IS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] IN BETHESDA, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], TELEPHONE [REDACTED] ON
WASHINGTON EXCHANGE. STATES THAT VISION
RATED UP TO UP TO 20/15. HE HAD NOT SEEN LIFE
ARTICLE PRIOR TO SIGHTING.

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AND CONSEQUENTLY HIS IMPRESSION VERY HAZY.
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OVERHEAD AND LOST FROM VIEW AT ABOUT 30
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SINGLE MASS OF LIGHT IN SHAPE OF ELONGATED
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PERTINENT INFO AVAILABLE FROM MR [REDACTED] S
PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF POOR VISION AND SHORT PERIOD
OBSERVATION.

CCC ITEM 7

LINE 57 FROM THE TOP SHOULD READ
GENERAL DATA OF SIGHTING AS REPORTED BY
MESSRS POERSTEL AND MIRAGE.

DOWNGRADED AT 8 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

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~~SECRET~~ STATUS SECRET 6
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APPENDIX VII

Bethesda, Maryland - 18 April 1952

I. DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

Four civilians reported that they observed a V-formation of from 7 to 9 lights traveling north over Bethesda, Maryland, at 0130 EST on 18 April 1952.

The included angle of the formation or "V" was estimated to be 40°. There was one light at the apex and three to four in each leg. Each light appeared to be orange-yellow, circular, and to occupy 15 percent of the total length of the leg.

The formation, or object, was first sighted at an elevation of about 60° in the south and disappeared behind some trees at 60° in the north. The total time of observation was from four to eight seconds and there was no sound.

All four observers were interrogated and their accounts of the incident were similar. They stated that they had not seen the Life Magazine article describing the Lubbock incident prior to the sighting.

II. STATUS OF INVESTIGATION

The possibility of jet aircraft in the area was checked. A similar report of light formations did turn out to be very probably a B-45 type aircraft, however, no jets were known to be in the area at the time of this incident.

III. CONCLUSIONS

None.

7-3710-46
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 18 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

T52-10889

18

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~~SECRET~~