

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 9/0345Z 8 Feb 53	2. LOCATION Dobbins AFB, Georgia
3. SOURCE MILITARY	10. CONCLUSION ASTRONOMICAL: STAR/PLANET
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS ONE	Star/Planet observation. Most likely Jupiter.
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION FIFTEEN MINTS	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS Object observed from both NW of Dobbins and from Knoxville. Disappeared simultaneously below horizon. No triangulation was made but description suggests astro sightings at Presque Isle or Mithcell in Oct and Dec.
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION GROUND VISUAL	
7. COURSE 270 DEG	
8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

UNCLASSIFIED

15

1953 FEB 9

10:14

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

*Multiple*

WPE012FZ

YDB008K



- 1. ATIA
- 2. ATIC
- 3. C. Files

CBA005

YMB003

JEDKF 010

VOPPOP JEDEN JEDWP JWPHQ 333

DE JEDKF 07A

OP 090445Z ZNJ

FM CG 35TH AIR DIV (D) DOBBINS AFB GA

TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTELLIGENCE HQ USAF WASHINGTON 25 DC

JEDKF AIR TECHNICAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

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

*ATIC*

DISPATCHED

*08/21/42 EST  
ROBBINS AFB, GA*

3TP/CG ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPGS COLO

~~REDACTED~~/FLY OBRPT COC 960 ATTN: ATIAA-2C AN OBJECT  
EMITTING A BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT CHANGING TO RED AND YELLOW AT TIMES  
WAS OBSERVED NORTHWEST OF DOBBINS AFB 8 FEB 53 AT 2145 EST. IN  
COMPARISON TO RED OBSTRUCTION LIGHTS ON CONTROL TOWER AND HANGARS  
OBJECT APPEARED LARGER AND BRIGHTER. OBSERVED BY AC&W PERSONNEL ON  
DUTY IN AIR DEFENSE CONTROL CENTER FOR APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES. IT  
MOVED IN EAST TO WEST DIRECTION DISAPPEARING FOM VIEW BELOW HORIZON.  
FIRST REPORT RECEIVED FROM AC&W UNIT IN KNOXVILLE TENN AREA WHO HAD  
RECEIVED REPORTS AND OBSERVED THEMSELVES A BRIGHT LIGHT IN THE SKY  
TO THE WEST OF KNOXVILLE. DISAPPEARANCE IN DOBBINS AREA CINCIDED  
WITH DISAPPEARANCE IN KNOXVILLE AREA. ALL SIGHTINGS WERE VISUAL NO ELECT<sup>ELECTRONIC</sup>  
SIGHTINGS. NO REPORTED AIR TRAFFIC IN AREA AT TIME. WEATHER FOR  
DOBBINS KNOXVILLE AND CHATTANOOGA WAS CLEAR SKIES WITH 15 TO 30 MILES  
VISIBILITY AND NO DISCERNABLE SURFACE WINDS WINDS ALOFT AT DOBBINS  
~~12,000 FT FROM NW AT 29 KNOTS 20,000 FT FROMWNW AT 58 KNTS 30,000 FT~~  
~~FROM WNW AT 84 KNOTS 40,000 FT FROM W AT~~  
87 KNOTS

09/0553Z FEB 53

UNCLASSIFIED

ACTION

Cy-1

Dobbins Air Force Base, Georgia

8 February 1953

**I. Description of Incident**

Military personnel observed a red-yellow-white stationary object from this base as well as Knoxville, Tennessee, at 2145 EST which was observed for 15 minutes before slowly disappearing below the horizon. It appeared in the west and was brighter than red obstruction lights on the control tower at Dobbins.

**II. Discussion of Incident**

No triangulation from the two observing points was made which would have been extremely helpful and should be attempted in sightings such as this. The description and manner of disappearance strongly suggests astronomical sightings at Presque Isle AFB and Mitchel AFB in October and December of 1952.

**III. Conclusion**

Probably astronomical (bright evening star).

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UNCLASSIFIED

FLYING SAUCERS

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Extract from the "Asheville Citizen" Feb 12, 1953.

JET CHASES RED OBJECT OVER STATE. MARINE PLANE NO  
MATCH FOR STRANGE BODY.

Cherry Point N.C.

The Marine Corps reported today that one of its jet planes had chased and then lost -- a red lighted object that flashed through the sky at astonishing speed. An F9F Panther jet fighter pilot chased the object over coastal North Carolina Monday night an official Marine Corps said, but the speedy jet turned out to be no match for the object, whatever it was.

The Marine Corps statement was issued at headquarters of the Second Marine Air Wing here. It included the report of First Lt. Ed Balocco, 24, of Antioch, Calif, the pilot who chased the object. The statement gave these details: Planes at the Marine Auxiliary Air Station at Edenton, N.C. had been alerted by a Navy signal tower at Norfolk, Va, to watch for a silver object which had been reported sighted from the ground over an area near the Virginia - N.C. border.

Balocco went to the area, but sighted nothing after cruising around for half an hour. He then took a southerly course to return to his base at Edenton. Over Washington, N.C. I saw what looked like an aeroplane with red lights which appeared below at about 20000 feet. What caused me, Balocco said, to look back at the object was the fact that it moved from below me 10000 ft vertically in a matter of seconds. Balocco said that he turned about and chased the object at a speed of better than 500 mph but was unable to gain on it.

He estimated the object was about ten miles away from him during the three to four minutes chase. At that distance, he said, the object was about a quarter of an inch wide and three inches long. The object was the colour of white heat and it threw out a red glow behind it. It had two red lights on the left hand side, bouncing and flashing off the end, encircling an arc.

Balocco said he seemed to gain on the object for a time but the plane suddenly dropped from his altitude and disappeared towards the coast. Balocco called in other planes to help in the search. Captain Thomas W. Riggs was one of several pilots who responded. Riggs said he sighted an object flying low near the Carolina coast but couldn't identify it. The Marine Corps said it later received a call from Gerald Midget, a farmer living near Oriental, on the coast. Midget reported seeing a flash in a desolate swampy area, and then a ground fire. Marine helicopters searched the swampland and found a small forest fire but no signs of a crash.

The Marine Corps statement said the object was first sighted by a helicopter, which reported the incident to the Navy tower at Norfolk. A Marine Ground Control Interceptor Squadron failed to make any contact. Meanwhile, Balocco had answered the Navy alert.

BALOCCO, THE MARINE CORPS SAID, IS AN  
EXPERIENCED PILOT WITH 1000 HOURS OF  
AIR TIME, 500 OF THEM IN JET PLANES.

WITS. Feb. 12/1953.

## Marines Say Jet Pilot Chased Glowing Object

By the United Press.

CHERRY POINT, N. C., Feb. 12. —The Marine Corps air station here reported today that a Marine jet pilot chased a mysterious, glowing object through the skies Monday night at more than 500 miles an hour.

A spokesman said the Norfolk Naval Air Station tower alerted Marine Lt. Ed Balocco to watch for a silvery object sighted from the ground. Lt. Balocco was flying at 20,000 feet near Edenton, N. C. He flew toward Cherry Point and sighted "what looked like an airplane with red lights."

Says Object Waited.

"It appeared to be below me. What caused me to look back at the light was the fact that it moved from below me 10,000 feet vertically in a matter of seconds," Lt. Balocco said.

He estimated that the object was about 10 miles from him.

He reported that suddenly he

began catching up to the object as if it were "waiting for him," the spokesman said. Then again it speeded up.

Lt. Balocco reported that he dived toward the object and saw "a sudden flash" and it disappeared.

Several Saw Object.

The spokesman said a similar flash was seen by a Navy pilot over Norfolk and a civilian, at nearby Oriental, N. C.

Lt. Balocco reported that the object was "the color of white heat, throwing out a glow" and had "what appeared to be two red lights on the left side, flashing and bouncing off the end in a described arc."

A helicopter spotted the mysterious object south of Norfolk about dusk Monday, the spokesman said. Ground control interceptor squadrons failed to make contact with radar.

9 FEB

3

[REDACTED]  
Albemarle, N.C.  
May 9, 1963

Air Force Headquarters  
the Pentagon  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

We the directors of U.F.O. Research Associates, would like any information that you could give us in the two cases involving UFO's mentioned below.

Case No. 1, involves the reported destruction of a Piper Cub belonging to one Fred Reagan. The incident which was to have taken place on a day in July, 1951 when Regan's plane was said to have been cut open by a UFO traveling at high speed.

Case No. 2, Cherry Point, N.C. - Feb. 11, 1953 - The Marine Corps reported that jet planes had chased a red lighted object which had flashed through the sky at better than 500 miles per hour.

Any information you could give us would help in our of the UFO PHENOMENA.

Sincerely,  
Richard L. Hinson  
Palmer W. Cook  
Scott L. Bennett Jr.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

AFTER 8 DAYS RETURN TO

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Albemarle, N.C.



54701

Air Force Headquarters  
the Pentagon  
Washington, D.C.