

PROJECT 10073 RECORD

<p>1. DATE - TIME GROUP 1 Oct 54 01/0900Z</p>	<p>2. LOCATION ZERBST, GERMANY</p>
<p>3. SOURCE CIVILIAN (PAA)</p>	<p>10. CONCLUSION OTHER? MUNITIONS TEST</p>
<p>4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS ONE</p>	
<p>5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION SEVERAL SECONDS</p>	<p>11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS PAA flight in Berlin Corridor observed 4 - 3 MIG's. Source also observed a falling obj 5 - 7 miles to the right of his a/c, while at 5,000 ft. Obj appeared to be falling vertically with trail much like a flare. Glow was intense and concealed the configuration of the obj. No smoke, just trail like flame. When obj struck the ground there appeared to be a boiling action and black smoke immediately followed. At this time the view was obstructed by clouds.</p>
<p>6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION AIR VISUAL</p>	
<p>7. COURSE C FALLING</p>	
<p>8. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>COMMENTS: Apparently a munitions test of some sort with a short burning interval.</p>
<p>9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	

GERMANY

706-54

AEIC #199165  
AF 638422

Subject: Activity in [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Soviet Zone Germany

7350th Base Complement Sq.

4 October 1954

1 Oct 54

Edward J. Pilecki 1st Lt. USAF

[REDACTED] Capt. Pan American Airlines

1. On 1 October 1954, Captain Rickard, Pan American Airlines pilot offered to this office the following information:

a. PAA outbound flight #185 from Berlin to RHEIN/MAIN via the south corridor was approaching ZERBST Airfield (5200N/1208E) when Captain [REDACTED] noticed MIG-15 type aircraft flying N to S in the area. The MIG-15 type aircraft were flying in "V" formation of 3 or 4 aircraft. Altitude of PAA aircraft was 7,000 feet climbing, broken scattered clouds above and below altitude. At approximately 0900Z, as PAA flight approached ZERBST, source also observed and unidentified object falling toward the edge of a wooded area at approximately (5208N/1208E). The unidentified object was approximately five miles to seven miles to the right of PAA aircraft's position and at time of first visual contact 5,000 feet. Source observed no aircraft or contrails in the area of the falling object. Source stated that the unidentified object appeared to be falling almost vertically and emitted a glow much like a flare. The appeared very intense and concealed the configuration of falling object. No smoke trail observed behind unidentified object. When object struck the ground source stated that an intense, red-orange colored, dome shaped flame appeared which had a boiling action. A dense black colored smoke immediately followed. At this time source's view was obscured by scud which lasted only a few seconds. After scud was passed thry source saw no further effect on ground in aforementioned area and no aircraft was observed flying in this area.

18/

EDWARD J. PILECKI  
1st Lt., USAF  
Air Intelligence Officer

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

UNCLASSIFIED

[REDACTED]