

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

<p>1. DATE</p> <p>28 April 1955</p>	<p>2. LOCATION</p> <p>Dahlgren, Virginia</p>		<p>12. CONCLUSIONS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon</p>
<p>3. DATE-TIME GROUP</p> <p>Local _____</p> <p>GMT 28/1820Z</p>	<p>4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input checked="" 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>Military</p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical Jupiter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical</p>
<p>7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION</p> <p>1 hr, 30 mins</p>	<p>8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS</p> <p>one</p>	<p>9. COURSE</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Unknown</p>
<p>10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING</p> <p>Round, 20-30 feet in diameter. Silver-metallic. Moving slowly.</p>		<p>11. COMMENTS</p> <p>Jupiter in approximate position reported. Daylight observation. Object not visible to naked eye. Visible only through theolite.</p> <p>RADAR EVAL: BALLOON.</p>	

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NUMBER Flight 3-4E-46026 ATSS	REPORT DATE 31-08013-4-55	PAGE TWO PAGE 3 OF 8 PAGES
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I. SOURCE: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED], US Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia

Age: 27

Occupation: Petty Officer 1st Class, USN

Education: High school graduate

Qualifications: Aerographer

II. RELIABILITY: Unknown. SOURCE was contacted by phone.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: SOURCE was working inside the Operations Building, Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia (GAR 320) when at 23/1820Z April he was called outside by AGJ William A. Cantlon (refer to Part One, this report) who had spotted an object through the eyepiece of the theodolite he was then using in tracking a weather balloon which had just been released at this station.

SOURCE went outside to have a look at the object which could not be seen with the naked eye. He stated that the object as observed through the theodolite was the size of the head of a pin.

The color of the object appeared to be a metallic silver and its edges were sharply defined.

It moved at a relatively slow speed and did not change its course. SOURCE believed that it moved South-West to West from his point of observation.

The object was round, but it seemed to take on an elongated shape at times, and also waver.

SOURCE had no explanation for the object and returned inside the Operations Building to notify his superiors and remained at the telephone, handling all phone traffic in reference to the object. He left for brief periods to have another look.

From 23/1820Z to 23/1940Z SOURCE observed the object intermittently for an estimated total period of five minutes.

SOURCE stated that the object might have been a balloon of a type unknown to him because his experience was limited to the regular type weather balloon which bursts upon reaching certain altitudes.

SOURCE had never observed anything like this object before.

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATION REPORTS:

1. A check with Andrews AFB (GJFD 0818) Operations and Weather was made for balloon releases at the time of the sighting. Negative results.
2. Operations and Weather of the Marine Air Station at Quantico (GJNY 4230) was checked with for balloon releases at the time of sighting. Negative results.
3. The US Weather Service, Washington, D.C. (GJWA 5856) was contacted for information of balloon releases in the Chesapeake Area at the time of sighting. Negative results.
4. Operations and Weather of Langley AFB (GJRB 1010) were contacted for information of balloon releases. Negative results.
5. Fleet Weather Central, Norfolk Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia (GJFC 4356) was contacted and furnished the following information by phone and TT message:

Fleet Weather Central released a Rasonde balloon at 28/1403Z April which was 82 inches long, flaccid and white. An AN/MT-4A Rasonde was attached.

The balloon was lost at 20/1436Z. Last azimuth obtained 277 degrees, last elevation angle 60.5 degrees. Location at termination approximately 5 miles west of Norfolk Naval Station. Altitude at termination 45,774 feet.

Weather data during observed flight of balloon:

Altitude	Degrees	Knots
5 000	008	24
10 000	053	35
16 000	062	08
20 000	146	12
25 000	142	08
30 000	153	14
35 000	182	06
40 000	138	15
45 000	190	08

Information received by phone conversation with the Fleet Weather Central revealed that there was a good possibility that the object sighted at the Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia was the Rasonde balloon released at Norfolk Naval Base.

6. For weather data at the Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia at the time of sighting refer to paragraph 7 A, B, C, D, E, of Inclosure 1, Part One, this report.

1 Inclosure:

TT MSG FM FLEWEACEN NORVA

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency)	REPORT NO.	Part Three
Flight 3-B, 46026 ATSS	3H-UBOB-4-55	Page 7 of 8

Incl. #1, PART THREE
FM MSG FM BIEWEACHEN NORVA

M245 TTCL

MSA034 M245 TTCL 50RT275

BIRK AS20
BEKA 270
RR JIGMIC
DE BIRKAA 12
R 051430Z
FM BIEWEACHEN NORVA
TO MCCUIRE AFB
NAVY CHNO
BT

PASS TO 010 FBI SE 4609 AIR INTELLIGENCE SERVICE SQUADRON X BOMBAY
OF 2 MAY RECEIVED X BWC NORVA RELEASING 500 GM RASONDE BALLOON 281408Z
APRIL X STATE 82 IN TRENCH THACID X COLOR WHITE X AN/AVE 44 RASONDE
ATTACHED X LAST AZIMUTH OBSERVED 277 DEG X LAST ELEVATION ANGLE 60.3
DEG X LOCATION AT TERMINATION APPROX 5 MI WEST WAS NORFOLK X TD DURING
RTD 3000 FT BIRK CHDS VIS 8 MI X AIR OF BALLOON AT TERMINATION
45774 FT X BALLOON LOST AT 281436Z X WINDS DURING 3000 000 DEG
14 KNS X 5000 FT 008 24 X 10000 FT 033 15 X 16000 FT 062 08 X 20000
FT 145 12 X 25000 FT 142 09 X 30000 FT 152 X 35000 FT 182 06 X
40000 FT 138 15 X 45000 FT 190 08
BT

CPN 3H 4602 2 500 281408Z 82 44 277 60.3 5 3000 8 45774 281436Z 000
14 5000 008 24 10000 033 15 16000 062 08 20000 145 12 25000 142 09
03/1505Z MAY BIRKAA

TRUE COPY-

Charles E. Hanson
CHARLES E. HANSON
Captain, USAF

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

REPORTING OFFICER Flight S-1, 46026 MISS	REPORT NO. 35-0808-4-55	PAGE FOUR	PAGE 8 OF 8
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COMMENTS of Preparing Officer:

In the opinion of the Preparing Officer, this sighting was probably caused by the Resonde balloon releases by Fleet Weather Central, Norfolk Naval Base, Norfolk, Virginia for the following reasons:

a. The object's general behavior and appearance was that of a balloon and the color of the object as described by SOURCES A&I coincided with the color of the Resonde balloon.

b. Both SOURCES agreed that the object could have been a balloon but were not sure because of inexperience with large type balloons, size of object, altitude of object, radar returns from object and direction of course.

- (1) The size of the object as given by SOURCES (20 to 30 feet in diameter) was computed from two estimates, altitude 38 000 feet and image size in eyepiece of theodolite (head of a pin). SOURCE stated that this may be inaccurate.
- (2) An AN/ALT 4A Resonde was attached to the balloon and according to information furnished by Fleet Weather Central, this equipment would give a radar return.
- (3) One of the main factors causing SOURCES to doubt that the object was a balloon was its course. However, Fleet Weather Central at Norfolk estimated that the course of the balloon would be approximately in a northwest direction.

Chester E. Hanson
 CHESTER E. HANSON
 Captain, USAF
 Officer-in-Charge

COMMENTS of Approving Officer:

Concur in the opinion of the Preparing Officer that sighting was caused by the designated Resonde balloon released at Norfolk Naval Base.

J. J. [Signature]

V WPG179 YMA200LSA22. *Multi*

ATIC
al 1 *ATA*
2 *ATMg 2*
3 *R File*
39
phoned
28/20509

20 APR 1955 15 58 20

ATIC--IN

OO JEDEN JEPNY JEDWP JEPHQ

DE JEDLS 01H

O 281950Z

FM COMDR FLT SVC CNTR OLMSTED AFB PA

TO JEDEN/ CMDR ADC ENT AFB ROLORADO

JEPNY/ CMDR 26TH AD DEF ROSLYN NY

JEDWP/ CMDR AIR TECHNICAL INTEL CEN WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

DEPHQ/ DIR OF INTEL HQ USAF WASH "5 DC

BT

UFOB

1 DESCRIPTION

A. ROUND

B. 20-30 FEET DIAMETER

USING GRND THEOLITE

C. SILVER METALLIC

D. ONE

E. N/A

F. ELONGATE AND WAVER COULD BE ILLUSION

G. NONE

PAGE TWO JEDLS 01

H. NONE

I. NONE

2 DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

A. TAKING PIBAL AND TRACKING IT WHEN THEY CAME UPON UFOB

B. 31.8 DEG ELEV "40 DEG RELATIVE BEARING FROM DAHLGREN OPERATIONS VA.

16 MILES AT 28/1820Z 19.8 DEG ELEV "59 DEG TRUE BEARING AT 28/1940Z

FROM SAME LOCETION

C. STILL VISIBLE AT 29 DEG

D. MOVING VERY SLOWLY DROPPED TO 29 DEG ELVE 245 DEG RELATIVE BEARING

2 DESCRIPTION OF COURSE

- A. TAKING PIBAL AND TRACKING IT WHEN THEY CAME UPON UFOB
- B. 31.8 DEG ELEV "40 DEG RELATIVE BEARING FROM DAHLGREN OPERATIONS VA. 16 MILES AT 28/1820Z 19.8 DEG ELEV "59 DEG TRUE BEARING AT 28/1940Z FROM SAME LOCETION
- C. STILL VISIBLE AT 29 DEG
- D. MOVING VERY SLOWLY DROPPED TO 29 DEG ELVE 245 DEG RELATIVE BEARING AT 28/1820Z
- E. STILL PRESENT
- F. 1 HR 30 MINS

3. MANNER OF OBSERVATION

- A. GROUND VISUAL AND GROUND ELECTRONIC - AIR SURVEILLANCE RADAR
- B. THEDI.

TES

C. N/A

4. TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING

A. 281820Z

B. DAY

5. LOCATION OF OBSERVER

LAT 3820N 770"Z AT DAHLGREN BASE OPNS VA

PAGE THREE JEDLS 01H

BYM IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF ALL OBSERVERS

A. N/A

B. [REDACTED] N(4L PROVING GRD DAHLGREN VA EA OBSERVOR

[REDACTED] AG1 SAME ORGAN AND SAME DUTY

RELIABILITY UNK

7. WEATHER AND WINDS ALCT CONDITION AT IME AND PLACE OF SIGHTING

A. 250 SCATTERED CLDS 20000 SCATTERED CLDS VIS 15 MILES WINDS SSW 25

KTS

B. 6000 FT 010 DEG 24 KT

10000 FT 020 DEG 17 KT

16000 FT 040 DEG 11 KT

RELIABILITY UNK

7. WEATHER AND WINDS ALG. CONDITION AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTING
- A. 250 SCATTERED CLDS 20000 SCATTERED CLDS VIS 15 MILES WINDS SSW 25 KTS
- B. 6000 FT 3010 DEG 24 KT
10000 FT 020 DEG 17 KT
16000 FT 040 DEG 11 KT
20000 FT 090 DEG GPE KT
~~30000~~ 30000 FT 10 DEG 13 KT
50000 FT 250 DEG 06 KT
80000 FT 260 DEG 15 KT
- C. SAME AS 7 A ABOVE
- DBM 15 MILSE
- E. 2/1
- F. N/A
8. NONE

PAGE FOUR DEDLS 01H

9. AD TYPE A/C BUT OUT OF RANGE 35-40000 FT
- 10 NONE
11. OPERATIPN OFFICER FLT SVC CEN OLMSTED AFB PA
POSSIBLY WEA BATTOON SINCE WINDS ARE NEGL19)3
- ?12 NONE
- BT
- 2 /2015T AHR JEDLS

UFOB INDEX CARD

1. DATE 28 April 1955		2. LOCATION Dahlgren, Virginia		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <i>Jupiter</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 28/1820Z April 1955		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		6. SOURCE Military (USN)			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION One hour and fifty-six Min.		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS One (1)	9. COURSE Semi-Stationary		
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING One (1) object, round, white, sharply defined edges, estimated at 38,000 feet, to be approx 30 feet in diameter. Theodolite eyepiece used by observer.			11. COMMENTS Observer commented that the object looked like a balloon. Investigation by Flight 3 ^{possibly} disclosed that this object was/a Rasonda balloon released by the Norfolk Naval Base. <i>Jupiter (?)</i>		

CLASSIFICATION	FORM NO. 28-11708-1-55	Form No. 28-11708-1-55
AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		
REPORT NUMBER	DATE OF REPORT	DATE OF INFORMATION
[REDACTED]	6 May 1955	28 April 1955
REPORTING OFFICE	[REDACTED]	
CHESTER B. HANSON, USAF		

Phone conversation between Capt. B. Gunnell, HQ, 4602d AFS and Capt. Hanson
 28 Apr 55 - 1820Z AMST. (AIR 0150017) SMO (AIR 0150017) AIR RA 05000 28/1820Z AMST.

II. USE

1. PART ONE

DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING BY AFI [REDACTED] OFFICER
 Grade, US Naval Flying Ground, Dahlgren, Va. (Call 5820)

DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING BY AFI David W. Robinson, AFI
 Grade, US Naval Flying Ground, Dahlgren, Va.

SUPPLEMENTARY INVESTIGATIVE EFFORTS

COMMENTS OF PREPARING OFFICER

SUMMARY: An unidentified flying object was sighted at Naval Flying Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia (Call 5820) at 28/1820Z AMST. The information contained in this report was obtained from persons observing this object and from an investigation conducted to determine the possible cause of the sighting.

INVESTIGATORS: W/Sgt Wolfgang B. Thoennesen AF 12014950

Chester B. Hanson
 CHESTER B. HANSON
 Captain, USAF
 Officer in Charge

2 (See Individual Parts) R

APPROVED
John M. White Jr.
 JOHN M. WHITE JR.
 Colonel, USAF
 Commander

D/E USAF, Comdr, 1510, D/E 26th ADiv, Comdr, 4602d AFS, OIC, Flight 2-8, 4602d AFS.

UNCLASSIFIED

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. SI-UROR-4-55	Part One 1-2	8
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Flight 3-B, 46026 ATSS

I. SOURCE

Address: [REDACTED] Naval Proving Ground,
Danlgren, Virginia

Age: 32

Occupation: Petty Officer 1st Class, USA

Education: High school graduate

Qualifications: Aerographer

II. RELIABILITY: Unknown. SOURCE was contacted by phone.

III. SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF SIGHTING: SOURCE had released a weather balloon from his station at operations, Naval Proving Ground, Danlgren, Virginia (GRID 5820) and was tracking it by use of a theodolite when at 23/1820Z April SOURCE observed an object in the sky in the general direction of the weather balloon. SOURCE discontinued further observation of the weather balloon and trained the theodolite, estimated 20X, on the object.

The object as seen through the eyepiece of the theodolite was the size of the head of a pin. It could not be seen with the naked eye.

The object was round, white in color, and had sharply defined edges. It appeared that it did assume an elongated shape at times and wavered.

SOURCE notified AGI [REDACTED] of the sighting (refer to Part Two, this report). He then continued tracking the object, recording elevations and bearings.

In the course of observing the object, SOURCE was informed that the local, alerted radar station had received returns from the object by use of Air Surveillance Radar. From his own records and those available from the radar station SOURCE estimated that the object was at an altitude of 38 000 feet and was 20 to 30 feet in diameter.

SOURCE believed that the object may have been a balloon of the sky-hook type, but since he had no experience with large balloons he did not want to commit himself.

The information contained in the following paragraphs of Incl 1, TM message from Commander, 26th AD, dated 23/2340Z was furnished by SOURCE: 1 Description, A, B, D & E; 2 Description of Course, A, B, C, D, E, F; 7 Weather and Winds-aloft Conditions, A, B, C, D, E, & F.

SOURCE observed the object for a period of one hour and 56 minutes.

I. Incl:

1. TM MSG FRM CQC 26TH ADIV ROSLYN NY

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

REPORTING 3-1-0208-4-55	Part One
Flight 3-R. 46026 ATSS	Page 5 of 8

Incl. #1, PART ONE
FM MSG RM 600 26TH ADIV ROSLYN NY

OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE

NY 00
00 JERRY
DIE JERRY 67
O 282340Z
FM COC 26TH ADIV ROSLYN NY
TO WRIGHT SB 4602 ATSS MC GUERRE AIRB NEW JERSEY

O 281950Z
FM COMDR JERRY SFC GUERRE GIMMELWOOD AIRC PA
TO JEDEN/COMDR ADC JERRY AIRC COLORADO
JERRY/COMDR 26TH ADIV ROSLYN NY
JEDINE/COMDR AIR WASHINGTON AIRC WRIGHT HANGARSON AIRC OHIO
DIEHO/DIEB OF JEDINE HQ USAF WASH DC
BT

- UPOE
- DESCRIPTION
 - A ROUND
 - BAR 29-30 INCH DIAMETER
 - USING GRIND PAPER
 - SEEKING MECHANISM
 - ONE
 - N/A
 - ELONGATED AND WAVER COULD BE IDENTIFIED
 - NONE

PAGE TWO JEDIE 01

- NONE
- NONE
- DESCRIPTION OF COURSE
- TAKING BEAR AND TRACKING IT WHEN THEY CAME UPON UPOE
- 51-3 DEG TRUE "40 DEG RELATIVE BEARING FROM DALLERON OPERATIONS VA
16 MILES AT 28/1820Z 19-3 DEG TRUE "59 DEG TRUE BEARING AT 28/1940Z
FROM SAME LOCATION
- STILL VISIBLE AT 29 DEG
- MOVING VERY SLOWLY DROPPED TO 29 DEG ELVE 245 DEG RELATIVE BEARING
AT 28/1820Z
- STILL PRESENT
- 1 HR 30 MINS
- MANNER OF OBSERVATION
- GROUND VISUAL AND GROUND ELECTRONIC - AIR SURVEILLANCE RADAR
- WIDOWS
- N/A
- TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING
- 281820Z
- DAY
- LOCATION OF OBSERVATION
- AT 5920N 770W AT DALLERON BASE OPNS VA

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT, U.S.C. TITLE 18, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. IT MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY OTHER THAN UNITED STATES AIR FORCE PERSONNEL WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE.

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

Flight 5-B, 46026 A135	REPORT NO. SR-000B-4-55	FORM ORG 100 4 8
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PAGE THREE JEDDS 018

BY IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF AIR OBSERVERS

A. N/A

B. [REDACTED] AGE NAVAL PROVING GRD DALLERIN VA WEA OBSERVER
[REDACTED] AGE SAME ORGAN AND SAME DUTY

RELIABILITY UNKNOWN

7. WEATHER AND WINDS ABOVE CONDITION AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTING

A. 250 SCATTERED CLOUDS 20000 SCATTERED CLOUDS WIND 15 KNOTS WINDS 85-25 KTS

B. 5000 FT 3010 DEG 24 KTS

10000 FT 020 DEG 17 KTS

16000 FT 040 DEG 11 KTS

20000 FT 080 DEG 6-10 KTS

30000 FT 10 DEG 15 KTS

50000 FT 250 DEG 06 KTS

80000 FT 260 DEG 15 KTS

C. SAME AS ABOVE

DBM 15 MILSEC

E. 2/1

F. N/A

G. NONE

PAGE FOUR JEDDS 018

9. AD TYPE A/C BUT OUT OF RANGE 35-40000 FT

10. NONE

11. OBSERVER OFFICER 1ST SVC GEN OASSTED AIRC MA

POSSIBLY WEA BATTALION SINGLE WINDS ARE NEGLECTABLE

112. NONE

BT

2/20/54 ARR JEDDS

TRUE COPY

Chester E. Hanson

CHESTER E. HANSON
Captain, USAF