

## PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 20 October 1962	2. LOCATION Wells, Maine	12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input 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 Meteor <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 21/0430Z	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 Civilian		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 3 seconds 6 seconds	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE NE	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Object that appeared to be a meteor leaving a trail, or two trails - one from each side. Suddenly increased in size and became circular. Had points of light. Object dimmed after about 2 seconds. Sparks trailing. Almost disappeared three times during flight. Trail appearing to glow remained for about 5-8 minutes after object was gone. Dogs barked and howled although sound not audible to witness.		11. COMMENTS Witness indicates object was like meteor or decay; however, was curious at the persistence of the trail. No reported decay for this date. Case considered as possible meteor observation.	

~~Wells Maine~~  
Wells Maine  
October 24, 1962

Department of the Air Force  
Unidentified Flying Objects Department  
Washington D.C.

Dear Gentlemen:

On the night of October 20<sup>th</sup> at approximately 11:30 P.M. I was following a woods road through a small field in Wells, Maine when I saw a light look up and saw something in the sky that appeared to begin with to be a meteor leaving a very distinct trail behind it, in fact it appeared to be leaving two trails one from each side, which merged into one. Then suddenly it opened up into an object about the size of a dime and stayed thus way during most of the duration of the flight. The object appeared to be, or seem, about the size of a dime, circular in planform, and with high points of light on it. It was preceded by a small "bow-wave" of light and trail of light both of which retained their size (length & width) until the object disappeared and was visible for a second afterwards. It did not give out quickly as did the trails of meteors I have seen. It dimmed out taking about 2 1/2 seconds to do so. The object itself was visible about 3 seconds, and there were a few sparks.

(over)

The smoke trail moved in a north east by north direction to a point about  $80^\circ$  from the northern horizon about  $80^\circ$  from the eastern horizon. (moved  $20^\circ$  at least, from original position in a northerly direction).

The second originated from about where the first did,  $70^\circ$  above eastern horizon  $80^\circ$  above southern and traveled about  $30^\circ$  in a slight curve - to a position to a position about  $60^\circ$  above northern horizon about  $50^\circ$  above Eastern.

I don't know what these were, would like to know.

I think some good guesses might be:

1. a meteorite or fireball.

However the objects appeared to be stepping as a decomposing satellite or satellite carrier might due as it entered, bounced off, and reentered the earth's atmosphere, approximately 30 seconds before I saw the first object I did notice what appeared to be a satellite moving along about the same line of flight only higher up (about  $90^\circ$ ), from N. S. horizon moving in opposite direction, (from West to East), and noticed nothing unusual.

Ex 2. Shows the possibility of as said before of satellite or satellite carrier breakup. Chiefly because of the fact that no meteor or meteorite leaves no cloud, especially one that curls into a spiral

The object appeared to almost disappear - at least three times during its flight before it disappeared entirely.

It left behind it a trail of smoke or particles which appeared to glow. This was visible 5 or 8 minutes during which the trail curled into a single spiral with crookedly consisted of one turn.

About three minutes after I saw the first object (white smoke trail was finishing spirals) I saw something that appeared to be about the same size as a pinhead or two and as bright as Venus.

I heard a slight but distinct whoosh-Per-whump (the two sounds were intermingled) which occurred while watching the first object.

No sound was heard with the second object.

When the 1<sup>st</sup> object went over all dogs in the area barked and many howled violently for some time afterwards.

Here are the approximate positions of the objects. The first was sighted approximately  $70^\circ$  up from the eastern horizon, and traveled from N.E. by E to S.W. by W to about  $65^\circ$  above the western horizon following a course about  $30^\circ$  degrees off from being directly E to W. The line of flight was about  $80^\circ$  above southern horizon on the average beginning about  $90^\circ$  above southern horizon terminating about  $70^\circ$  above.

The second object could of been an extension  
or part of the first which was thrown up wards  
by initial contact with earths atmosphere, was  
in sharp contrast with first because left no trail  
of light and or smoke & heard no sound.

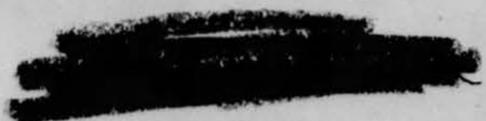
would it be possible for part of an object  
to be thrown upwards later to fall back 3 minutes  
later under conditions like this?

also would a meteor have points of light  
in an already unbelievably bright burning up  
of itself?

one more point. I'm not sure about this because  
I didn't really notice but it seemed to me that many dogs  
in the area were or started howling before I noticed the  
object. I know dogs can hear ultrasonic sounds. Do  
you suppose they heard this?

If you send me there address I would  
be glad to let known this info to any V. F. O. Clubs.

yours sincerely,



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OSAF

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