

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 14 December 1962	2. LOCATION Pound Ridge, New York Wilton, Connecticut		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local <u>525PM, 530PM</u> GMT <u>14/2225Z</u>	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		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Aircraft <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Aircraft
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Civilian		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical Meteor <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION not rptd	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE SE	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Comet-like object flashing across sky to SE flaming tail, head brilliant blue-white, sparks falling. Low altitude. Believed by observer to be meteor or decay.		11. COMMENTS Observation confined to local area & although duration not rptd most probable cause was a meteor.	

~~██████████~~
Paul Ridge, U.S.
December 26, 1962

Duty Officer
Air Force Command Post
Pentagon
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

On December 14th at approximately
5:30, I saw a brilliant flash, flash,
and sparks descending from a low
altitude to the ground. At that time,
I reported the incident to the New
York State Police. However since that
time, I have been in contact with
Dr. ~~██████████~~ of Wilton, Connecticut,
who witnessed the same incident

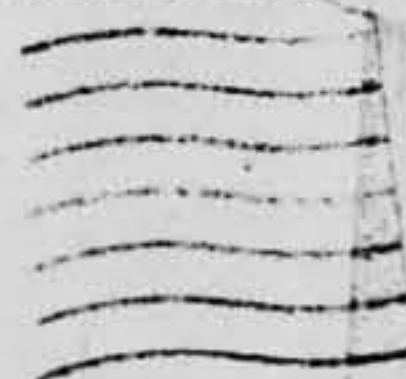
and reported it to the Air Force
and advised us to do the same.

If this information is at all
helpful (direction, etc.) I shall be most
happy to cooperate.

Yours truly,

~~John Doe ()~~

Covill
Rt. 1, Box 94A
Pound Ridge, N.Y.



Dist. Officer
Air Force Command Post
Prudgom
Washington, D.C.

14/1725 Local

Sent to AFCAW

RLM

January 7, 1963

Air Force Command Post
Pentagon Building
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a clipping taken from the
Wilton Bulletin of December 19, 1962.

I thought it might be of interest to
you to know I also sighted the same object from
Wilton at 5:25 P.M. December 14th. falling in a
south easterly direction toward the town of
Weston, Connecticut.

Very truly yours,

encl.

~~_____~~
~~_____~~
Wilton, Connecticut

Like a Comet:

Dr. Heller Sights Brilliant Object Near Ridgefield-Wilton Border Dec. 14

A comet-like object, flashing across the sky near the Wilton-Ridgefield town line was observed by Dr. John H. Heller of Glen Hill Road, Wilton, at 5:25 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14, as he was travelling south on Route 33 toward Wilton from his work as director of the New England Institute for Medical Research in Ridgefield.

Proceeding from west to east on a flat projectory of 45 degrees, the object's head was a brilliant blue-white. A cometary tail followed it with many

sparks falling. It resembled a roman candle bolt toward earth from a relatively high altitude, Dr. Heller reported.

Because of the visibility of sparks falling, the object must have been at a relatively low altitude when observed, although the specific height cannot be guessed at since the size was unknown, he said.

Two Possibilities

Two possibilities are that (1) this was a meteor of significant size or (2) that it was a piece of disintegrating satellite which

had come out of orbit and was effecting re-entry. In any event, for the object to have successfully penetrated sufficiently far down in the atmosphere so that sparks in its cometary tail were visible, it must have been reasonably large and probably dense, which is to say, metallic.

Pieces of a Soviet satellite effected re-entry recently and one piece was found embedded in the main street of a Mid-Western community. Such pieces of material are most important scientifically. Because of their protracted exposure in outer space they have been exposed to a large amount of interplanetary matter, ranging from micrometeorites to high-energy cosmic rays and particles from solar sources as well as electromagnetic radiation. The recovery of such material if it struck and embedded in the earth before being burned completely, is quite important to scientists.

Dr. Heller guesses, in this case

Dr. Heller guesses in this case that because of the presumptive altitude, this chunk of material was not destroyed completely. If anyone sees an unusual streak, or hole, or pieces of material, it would be most useful to explore these to ascertain their nature.

This observation has been reported to the Pentagon Air Force Command Post and is being fed into computers in order to determine whether one of the many orbiting satellites or boosters, whose trajectories are constantly being tracked, may be anticipated to have a trajectory bringing it down in this area. If not, and if the object

seen was meteoric, its scientific value would still be quite important, Dr. Heller said.

Dr. Heller is a member of the Space Science Board of the National Academy of Sciences — National Research Council which serves as advisors to the National Aeronautics and Space Agency.

AFTER 5 DAYS RETURN TO

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Wilton, Conn.



Air Force Command Post
Pentagon Building
Washington, D. C.

WILTON, CONN.
JAN 7 1963

encl.

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