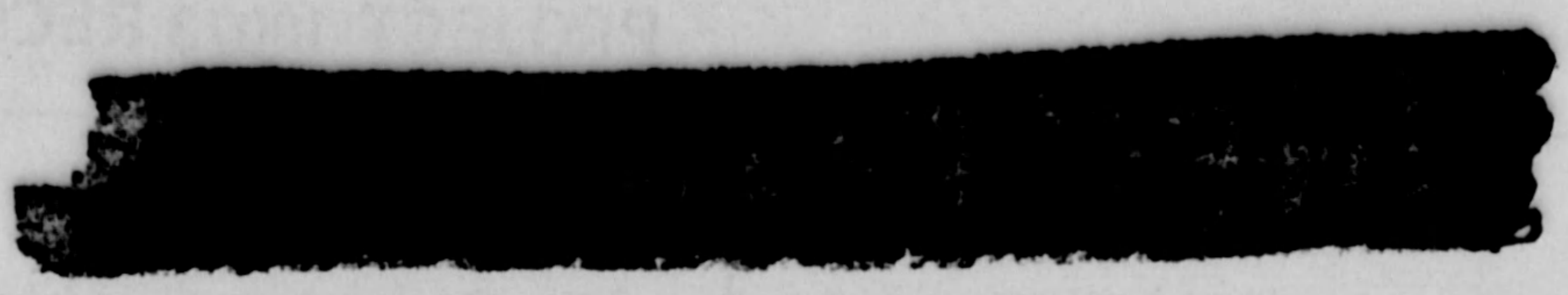


PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 12 Feb 59	2. LOCATION W of Tanana, Alaska		12. CONCLUSIONS <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <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 13/0115Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Air-Intercept Radar		
5. PHOTOS <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Military		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION not given	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	9. COURSE N/A	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Balloon approximately 50 ft diameter and 30% longer from top to bottom. Box suspended below balloon. Approximately 100 ft of cable or rope extended below box. Balloon shot down, but not yet recovered.		11. COMMENTS Source of balloon and equipment cannot be determined until recovery.	

A PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED EXCEPT PRIOR TO
CATEGORY B ENCRYPTION--PHYSICALLY REMOVE
ALL INTERNAL REFERENCES BY DATE-TIME GROUP
PRIOR TO DECLASSIFICATION

HQAO36AGDO17
PP RJEDSQ
DE RJKDAG 13
P



FM COMDR AAC ELMENDORF AFB ALASKA
TO RJEZHQ/COFS HQ USAF WASH DC
INFO RJWFAL/CINCORAD ENT AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO
RJEDSQ/COMDR ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

UNCLASSIFIED

BT
// [REDACTED] // FROM ACS/INT AAC 50015
ACTION HQ USAF ATTN AFCIN... INFO NORAD J-2. THIS REPORT
CONCERNS AN UNIDENTIFIED BALOON, SHOT DOWN OVER ALASKA, TRACK
W2G, 13 FEB ZULU IN THREE PARTS. PART I. CAPT J. J. VOYNICH
HQ 11TH AIR DIVISION DIVERTED TO TART IN T-33 FOR CHASE.
1/LT G. H. MEYERS, 317TH FIS WAS ALREDY ORBITING TARGET IN
E-102. ON ARRIVAL OF T-33 OF F-102 MADE A FIRING PASS AT
0115Z WITH 2.75 ROCKETS AND MISSED FOLLOWING WHICH HE RECOVERED
AT GALENA AFS. T-33 CONTINUED TO ORBIT TARGET, ALTITUDE 33,000
TO 34,000 FEET. PILOT DESCRIBES AS FOLLOWS: BALOON PORTION

1
2 > 4E4
3 4E
4 - 4X2a2

PAGE TWO RJKDAG 13
ELONGATED VERTICALLY, APPROXIMATELY 50 FEET ACROSS AND 30
PERCENT LONGER FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. MILKY-CLEAR APPEARANCE.
BACK OR NEAR BLACK BOX SUSPENDED IMMEDIATELY UNDER BALOON
ESTIMATED 3 BY 3 BY 4 FEET. GREATEST LENGTH VERTICAL HEIGHTH.
ONE SIDE APPEARED TO HAVE A MIRROR BRIGHT SURFACE. APPROXI-
MATELY 100 FEET ONE HALF INCH OR LARGER CABLE OR ROPE EXTEND-
IND DOWN BELOW BOX. EASILY VISIBLE FROM ONE HALF MILE. TWO
ADDITIONAL FGAQPWS ARRIVED IN AREA AT APPROXIMATELY 0135Z.
CAPT Y. L. ISBELL, 317TH FIS MADE SUCCESSFUL FIRING PASS AT
0148Z WITH 2.75 ROCKETS, ALTITUDE 33,000 TO 34,000 FEET. T-33
SAW BALOON COLLAPSE AND DESCEND AT ABOUT FREE FALL SPEED.
GAVE CHASE, LOSING ALTITUDE AT ABOUT 6,000 FEET PER MINUTE.
BALOON WAS STREAMING ABOVE BLACK BOX. OBJECTS DISAPPEARED
INTO HAZE AT ABOUT 20,000 FEET. T-33 CONTINUED DOWN TO
APPROXIMATELY 7,000 FEET BUT HAD NO FURTHER CONTACT. RECOVERED
AT GALENA AFS. SECOND F-102 ORBITED AND WENT DOWN AS LOW AS
4,000 FEET IN AREA. PILOT CAPT Y. H. HANSON, 317TH FIS,
REPORTED LAST CONTACT AT 16,000 FEET AT 0226Z, RECOVERED AT
GALENA AFS, 0300Z PARA PART II: TIN CITY ACW STATION THEN
CAMPION ACW HAD CONTINUOUS SURVEILLANCE OF TARGET FROM 122105Z

71.4'

14 FEB 59 15 40

ATIC


Classification Cancelled
OR Changed to UNCL
Auth: AER 205-1D
PARA 2-176 (ii)
By: [Signature]

PAGE 3 RJKDAG 13
TO 130115Z AT WHICH TIME THE FIRST F-102 MADE AN UNSUCCESSFUL
FIRING. AT BLLF 1020. AT THIS POINT TARGET APPEARED TO ORBIT,
COMING OUT OF ORBIT AT 0224Z. POSITION AT 0228Z BLNE 2530.
CONTACT LOST BLNE 5026 AT 0243Z. PARA PART III. ACS/INT AAC
COMMENTS. 1. ORIGIN OF OBJECT UNKNOWN. 2. IT IS BELIEVED

SURVEILLANCE OF TARGET BY CAMPTON ACW PROBABLY CEASED OR BECAME UNRELIABLE AT 130115Z, SINCE PLOTS BECAME ERRATIC FOLLOWING THAT TIME. IT IS CONSIDERED PROBABLE THAT TARGET AND ORBITING AIRCRAFT BECAME CONFUSED. 3. IT IS BELIEVED THE TARGET FELL STRAIGHT TO EARTH AT OR VERY NEAR THE POINT OF THE SUCCESSFUL FIRING PASS AT 0148Z, BLME 1557. 4. IT IS BELIEVED ALL OR A PORTION OF THE BALOON ENVELOPE FLAILED OR BROKE LOOSE FROM THE BOX AND FLOATED EARTHWARD AT A MORE LEISURELY RATE RESULTING IN SUBSEQUENT TARGET REPORTING. PARA 5. THE TARGET PAYLOAD PROBABLY STRUCK THE EARTH AT OR NEAR TERMINAL VELOCITY FORCE RESULTING IN RUPTURE AND BURYING IN SNOW. DARKNESS AND POOR WEATHER HAVE PREVENTED SEARCH OF THE AREA. PARA. 6. RESULTS OF SEARCH EFFORTS ARE BEING REPORTED TO NORAD THROUGH OPERATIONAL CHANNELS UNTIL SUCH TIME AS OBJECT IS FOUND. AT THAT TIME WE WILL FORWARD THROUGH NORMAL

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE FOUR RJKDAG 13
INTELLIGENCE CHANNELS TO ALL CONCERNED.
BT
14 FEB RJKDAG



Sup P 1/25/59

*→ 4E
2 4E 4A TIC
34X2a*

NNNN

ZCZCSQPS280CZCSQF877ZCJYD136

PP RJEDSQ

DE RJEZHQ 838

P 181634Z

FMHHEDUSAF

TO COMATC

BT

UNCLASSIFIED FROMHAF CIN-1A1 36239

FOR CIN-4E. REQUEST YOUR EVALUATION AND COMMENTS ON AAC MESSAGE

57015 *Ref msg dated Feb 14th*

BT

18/1648ZHFEB RJEZHQ

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

AC PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED EXCEPT PRIOR TO CATEGORY B ENCRYPTION—PHYSICALLY REMOVE ALL INTERNAL REFERENCES BY DATE-TIME GROUP PRIOR TO DECLASSIFICATION—NO UNCLASSIFIED REFERENCE IF THE DATE-TIME GROUP IS QUOTED

1728

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION ROUTINE	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE	AF	AFCIN 1A1 36239	UNCL
INFO			X			

FROM: **COMDR, ATIC**

20X

TO: **HQ., USAF, WASHINGTON, D. C.**

FROM: AFCIN-4E4 *IC 40438*

REF MSG AFCIN1A1 36239, DTD 18 FEB 59, CONCERNING AAC MSG 50015, DTD 14 FEB 59. IF THE PILOT'S ESTIMATE OF SIZE IS CORRECT, THE BALLOON WAS TOO SMALL TO BE A SKYHOOK BALLOON. A CHECK FAILS TO REVEAL ANY PROJECT IN OPERATION THAT UTILIZES THIS TYPE BALLOON, OR ONE THAT WOULD HAVE DRIFTED TO ALASKA. IT IS POSSIBLE THE BALLOON COULD HAVE DRIFTED OVER FROM USSR TERRITORY, OR BEEN RELEASED FOR THIS PURPOSE. HOWEVER, WHERE THE BALLOON CAME FROM OR ITS SPECIFIC PURPOSE CANNOT BE DETERMINED UNLESS THE BOX IS RECOVERED AND SUCCESSFULLY ANALYZED.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

RJEZHQ

ENCODED

Initials *EK*

Time

Checked By *JR*

COORDINATION:

AFCIN-4E4 *R. J. Glaser* DATE *24 Feb 59*
Col. Glaser

AFCIN-4E *W. Gilbert* DATE *2/24/59*
Col. Gilbert

DATE *24* TIME *0915*

MONTH **FEB** YEAR **1959**

SYMBOL **AFCIN-4E4**

TYPED NAME AND TITLE *(Signature)*
Maj. R. J. Friend

PHONE **69216** PAGE NR. **1** NR. OF PAGES **1**

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SIGNATURE *R. J. Harrell*

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE
LOUIS J. HARRELL
Captain, USAF
Assistant Administrative Officer

JOINT MESSAGE FORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

APR 14 21 06 '59

4E4g 15 0338Z
44E MW

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION ROUTINE	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE	AF	AAC 50015	CONF
INFO			X			

FROM: ATIC, WP-AFB

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

TO: AAC, ELMENDORF AFB, ALASKA *WKDAG*

4-716-E
/UNCLASSIFIED/FROM: AFCIN-4E4g
REF MSG ACS/INT AAC 50015, DTD 14 FEB 59, REQUEST ALL AVAILABLE INFO CONCERNING SUBJECT BALLOON AND EQUIPMENT BE FORWARDED TO THIS CENTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WHEN THE EQUIPMENT IS RECOVERED, REQUEST IT BE FORWARDED TO THIS CENTER.

COORDINATION:
AFCIN-4E *George J. Gray* DATE *13 Apr 59*
for Col Rethman
AFCIN-4E *Walt* DATE *4/14/59*
Col Gilbert

DATE	TIME
10	0915
MONTH	YEAR
APR	1959

WRITER

SYMBOL: AFCIN-4E4g

TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required): MAJ ROBERT J. FRIEND

PHONE: 69216

PAGE NR.: 1

NR. OF PAGES: 1

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED

RELEASEE

SIGNATURE: *L. J. Harrell*

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE: LOUIS J. HARRELL, CAPTAIN, USAF, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

