

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE <u>13 Apr 58</u>	2. LOCATION <u>West Indies</u>		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT <u>14/0155Z</u>	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Radar <u>Shipboard</u> <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 <u>Civilian</u>		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION <u>4 mins</u>	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS <u>one</u>	9. COURSE <u>Easterly</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>DECEL SFC 2</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Unusually brilliant meteor type obj. Appeared several times brighter than Venus. Obj emitted strong bluish light, also small balls of fire & smoke.		11. COMMENTS This is approx course used by Cape Canaveral Missile Test firing. Probably missile. <u>DECEL SPUTNIK II</u>	

Multi

73/015

22

ATIC

14 APR 58 07 32 00 22 58

RAPCS

SCB022 TYD043 TDAP22HQF026

YV*****MVVYY RJEDSO RJEPBF

DE RJEPHQ 801

Y 140557Z

FM AFCIN HEDUSAF

TO RJEPBF/COMDR AF CAMBRIDGE RESEACH CENTER

INFO RJEDSO/COMDR ATIC

Handwritten notes:
 1115
 1115
 44X
 (circled)

Y 140243Z

FM COCD SEVEN MIAMI FLA

TO RJEDBN/COMMANDER AIR DEFENSE COMMAND ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COLO

RJEPHQ/CHIEF OF STAFF USAF WASHDC

RBECK/COM EASTSEAIRON

INFO RBESBG/COM EASTAREA

RBEPJC/COMDR COGARD

USCG CRNC

BT

FOL RECD FROM LANTANA RADIO/BOE X FROM SS ANDROS MERCHANT/ELXW X FOR

YOUR INFO AT 0155 GMT 14TH IN POSN 14-49N 58-33W OBSERVED OBJECT

APPARENTLY ROCKET X COURSE 140 DEGS HEIGHT 100 TO 200 FEET REMAINED

VISIBLE FOR TWO OR THREE MINUTES X MASTER ANDROS MERCHANT

BT

E. OF ST. LUCIA ISLAND

CFN 0155 14TH 14-49N 58-33W 140 100 200

14/0247Z APR REENO

14/02 080206 207

110

Apr 14 00 32 '53
14 APR 50 07 33

0300024 TYBD44 TDAG 2500F030

*****Y RJEPSF RJEESO

DE RJEPHQ 804

Z 140610Z

FM AFCIN HEDUSAF

TO RJEPSF/COMER AF CAMBRIDGE RESEARCH CENTER

INFO RJEESO/COMDR ATIC

140610
3454
140610
C-15

Z 140416Z

FM CCCC8 SEVEN MIAMA FLA

TO RJEEDN/COMMANDER ADC ENT AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO

RJEPHQ/CHIEF OF STAFF USAF WASHDC

RDEGK/COMEAST SEAFRON

INFO RDEGDS/COMEAST AREA

RBEJJC/COMDT COGARD

USCG CRNC

BT

TO O X SITREP TWO UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT M/V MICHAEL J REPORTS

140200Z FLAMING OBJECT SIMILAR TO ROCKET TRAVELLING SOUTHEAST X

ALTITUDE 2000 FT TWO MILES DISTANT X OBJECT EMITTED STRONG BLUISH

LIGHT EXTENDING IN ITS WAKE FOR SEVERAL MILES X ALSO SMALL BALLS

OF FIRE AND SMOKE X REMAINED VISIBLE FOR ABOUT ONE FULL MINUTE

X POSITION VESSEL 1147N 64.45W COURSE TRUE NORTH WIND EAST FORCE

THREE SEA SLIGHT SKY CLEAR BAROMETER 29.96 TEMP 78 X GUADELOUPE

REPORTS FURTHER OBJECT WAS VERY LOW AND APPEARED TO ENTER SEA

NICINITY MARIE GALANTE ISLAND X CASE PENDING

BT

CFN 140200Z 1000 1147N 64.45W 29.96 78

140356Z APR RBEJJ

Check w/ Capt Mitchell

00 2074 8352

14/0420

14 APR 53 07 22 14 00 43 50
14/0550

33A079 TYD08PHOF088
*****Z2 RJEDSQ
DE RJEPHQ 805
Z 140816Z
FM AFCIN HEDUSAF
TO COMDR ATIC

14/0550
7-1124
+11X

Z 140550Z
FM CAA MIAMI FLORIDA
TO RJEDDN/CG ADC ENT AFB COLO
RUEPC/SEC DEF WASH DC
NAVY GRMC

Check w/ Capt Mitchell

GORRE D. 666?

BT
CLAVIS CAPT [REDACTED] REPORTS AT 0155 OBJECT SIGHTED 24 MILES EAST OF
LIN 666 45 DEGREES TO LEFT ON HORIZON PERSUING AN EASTERLY COURSE
STOP VISIBLE FOR APPROX 4 MINS STOP STREAM AT END OF OBJECT
POSOVPA 140420 MIAOWPA 140550.

BT
14/0631Z APR RJEPHQ

24 m. East of } Long. 66° W } Reported location
 } Lat 45° N }

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (100-100000)

RE: [Illegible]

DATE: 4/15/53

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (100-100000)

RE: [Illegible]

DATE: 4/15/53

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (100-100000)

RE: [Illegible]

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (100-100000)

RE: [Illegible]

DATE: 4/15/53

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000)

FROM: SAC, MIAMI (100-100000)

West of Martinique Island

RE: [Illegible] QUOTE ON APRIL 14 TR [Illegible] LAT

15-53N 65-34W OBSERVED AN UNUSUAL BRILLIANT METEOR TYPE OBJECT IT

APPEARED UNDER [Illegible] BEARING ABOUT 30 BEARING ABOUT 30 DEGREES

ALTITUDE ABOUT 15 DEGREES AND TRAVEL^{11/24} SOUTHWEST, DISAPPEARED ABOUT BEARING

130 DEGREES ALTITUDE. IT BEING THE OBJECT APPEARED TO BE SEVERAL TIMES

LONGER THAN VENUS AND IT WAS VISIBLE ONLY 3 MINUTES WIND DIRECTION

3 TO 4 BARO 29.93 TEMP 79 WEATHER CLEAR

END TRANSPORT

BT

BTN 14TH 1155 15-53 N 65-34W JD 15 137 15 3 3 4 20.93 79

BTN 14TH 1155 15-53 N 65-34W JD 15 137 15 3 3 4 20.93 79

① Location of Sighting → 50°-33W
14-49N

100-100000
44444



TO DUNN/COMMANDER ADC ENT AFB COLO SPRINGS COLO

WALPHO/CHIEF OF STAFF USAF WASHDC

USCIB/COMCASTS/AFROH

USCIB/COMCASTS/AFROH

USCIB/COMCASTS/AFROH

USCIB/COMCASTS/AFROH

West of Martinique Island

Note

15-53N 65-34W

MASTER ORETRANSPORT
AT
CFM 14TH 2155 15-53 N 65-34W 30 15 130 10 3 3 0 29.53 79
14/0346Z APR RDEMO
OBSERVED AS USUAL BRILLIANT WHITE TYPE
APPEARANCE UNDER AKAID BEARING ABOUT 30 BEARING ABOUT 30 DEGREE
ALTITUDE ABOUT 15 DEGREE AND TRACED ¹⁰⁰⁰ SOUTHEAST, DISAPPEARED ABOUT 130
130 DEGREE ALTITUDE IN WHICH THE OBJECT APPEARED TO BE SEVERAL TIMES
DIMETER THAN VENUS AND IT WAS VISIBLE ONLY 2 MINUTES WIND VELOCITY
3 TO 4 KNOTS 29.95 TEMP 79 WEATHER CLEAR

① Location of Sighting → 58°-33W
14-49N

3 of Golden

② ✓ 130° Bearing } (check with Missile Firings for Test day
✓ 10° Elevation } at approx. 0155 GMT (Z), 14 April 1958

③ ATLC COMMENT:

This is approximate course used by Cape Canaveral missile test firings.

② Unconfirmed report based on informant queries indicate missile test firings that day.

③ Thrust, pointing information - PROBABLE MISSILE OR ROCKET FIRING.

Not all spectacular UFOs are meteors, of course, any more than they are all planets or balloons or rockets. Sudden brilliant illuminations of the night sky can have any one of a dozen or more explanations. The atmosphere is crowded with potential Unknowns, more than at any time in man's history. The air surrounding our planet plays host not only to meteors and fireballs, birds and insects, but also to military and commercial planes, private planes, jets, helicopters, weather balloons, experimental rockets, and an ever-growing number of artificial satellites. An ear-shattering detonation that rattles a house or breaks a window may come from an exploding fireball or it may come from a jet penetrating the sound barrier. Without an exact knowledge of all the circumstances, only the foolhardy would attempt to say positively what caused any given unusual aerial phenomenon.

Let us consider a sighting that might have received various wrong interpretations and would probably have become one of the most famous of the UFOs cited by saucerdom, had investigators lacked one essential fact.

Shortly after midnight one spring morning reliable witnesses on the east coast, particularly in Connecticut and Long Island, reported a brilliant bluish-white object flying at high altitude and incredible speed. As it flashed overhead, it changed color to become reddish, and several smaller objects apparently detached themselves from the main body and followed it in orderly fashion. About five minutes later more than fifteen ships in the Caribbean area observed similar objects soaring overhead but the reports varied in many details. Ship number two saw brilliant short flames darting about behind the main body, which had a long, tapered tail. Ship number four saw a flaming white object more brilliant than the full moon. Ship number seven reported a flaming green ball followed by a group of several small objects. Ship number nine observed at least fifteen smaller objects that suddenly separated from the main body and fell into formation behind it. Ship number eleven saw an object with a trail several miles long, brilliant as a peacock's tail, so luminous that the deck and sea around were bathed in pale light as the mass crossed overhead. Ship number twelve reported, "The main body appeared to have a blue-white head, then a short dark space before the glowing orange-yellow tail. Twenty-seven separate particles were actually counted as they appeared in the main plume. Each followed the main body and each developed its own glowing tail on leaving it." The main body was several times brighter than Venus, while the offshoots were each twice the magnitude of Sirius. One observer described it as round on top and bright blue-white, while the lower half, which was emitting sparks, seemed to be flattened and reddish in color.

During this period of less than five minutes, similar objects were observed from the ground by witnesses in the Virgin Islands. One man in Martinique saw a luminous green globe, brighter than Venus, followed at a slight distance by a flaming red, enormously long, cigar-shaped object. Observers in Barbados saw two huge objects followed by from twelve to eighteen "offspring" shaped like the main body; some of the offspring subdivided to form two small cometlike objects. The object disappeared into a cloud bank and vanished. No observations were reported from areas farther south.

What was it?

In a single period of about ten minutes spectacular luminous unidentified flying objects were reported over an area stretching from Connecticut to the coast of British Guiana, a distance of some 2700 miles. They flew in a straight course. All of the objects were noiseless. They were remarkably brilliant. They seemed to have one or more leaders, to discharge smaller objects, and to fly in formation. They maintained a substantially horizontal path, and only the last observers, who saw the things disappear into the cloud bank, noted any tendency to descend. No fragments were ever found, and all witnesses agreed that the objects were not like meteors. If all the observers were describing the same single phenomenon, it was flying at the incredible speed of more than 16,000 miles an hour.

With only these facts to build on, an investigator might interpret the sightings according to his own prejudices: an invasion fleet from another planet making a reconnaissance in force, the mother ships discharging the smaller craft at intervals; a mass hallucination; a peculiar meteoric display; a single spacecraft darting over the earth with incredible speed.

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Without knowledge of one essential fact, some hundreds of landmen and seamen in the United States, the Caribbean islands, and the British West Indies might now feel firmly convinced that they had witnessed a genuine "Unknown." The date was April 14, 1958. The privileged observers had witnessed the death of Sputnik II, the Russian satellite launched on November 3, 1957.

The UFO reports inspired by this event presented no problem to the Air Force. All information on the re-entry of artificial satellites is immediately accessible to ATIC. Whenever a reported UFO shows any possible resemblance to a falling satellite, Air Force investigators check at once with Spacetrack. Astronomers who had been tracking this satellite as it circled the earth had predicted more than a month in advance that it would spiral toward the earth and fall sometime between April 12 and April 15. A few days before the actual event they had refined their estimate and predicted the time of the fall within a few hours [25].