

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 10 October 1957	2. LOCATION Thermopolis, Wyoming Myton, Utah Western U.S.		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local approx 4:15 MST GMT 10/1104Z	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 Various/military & civilian		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical Fireball <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 1 to 45 seconds	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE W - SW	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Large brilliant blue-white flaming object observed in Myton, Utah & other widely separated areas. Sighted by Navy and Air Force pilots also. The former stating that it narrowly missed his aircraft. Obj rptd as having a blue-flamed tail.		11. COMMENTS This sighting resulted in creating nation-wide attention to the incident, following on the heels of the Satellite launched only a few days before by the Soviets. Obj was a rarely seen form of meteorite, a fireball.	

DE RJWFAM 86D

O 181433Z

FM LOWRY FLIGHT SERVICE CENTER LOWRY AFB COLO

TO RJEDEN/CMDR ADC ENT AFB COLO

RJEDWP/CMDR AIR TECH INTL CEN WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO

RJWFDN/CMDR 34TH AIR DIV KIRTLAND AFB N MEX

RJWPGU/CMDR 29TH AIR DIV MALSTROM AFB MONT

RJEPHQ/DIR OF INTEL HQ WASH 25DC

BT

1 DESCRIPTION A ROUND WITH A TAIL B UNK C SOME GREEN, SOME FLAME
D ONE E N/A F NONE G TAIL-200-300 YDS H HISSING & EXPLOSIONS FROM
GROUND I LIT SKY LIKE SUNLIGHT, WAS FLAMING & BITS OF MATERIAL WERE
FALLING OFF

2 DESCRIPTION OF COURSE A CONSENSUS OF OPINION WSW B LEVEL TO 030DEG
DOWN TO FALLING RAPIDLY C SAME AS 2B D LEVEL TO FALLING E HIT GROUND
OR BURNED OUT F 8-12 SECONDS

3 MANNER OF OBSERVATION A GROUND-VISUAL AIR-VISUAL B NONE C 3B47'S
33000', 35000', 37000' WESTERN A.A. NBR702 UNK ALT. V1607, C118, 17,000
EASTBOUND ON V200

4:08 AM

Oct. 10 - Colo - Utah - 4am (MST) - Blueish-green Fireball, misses Plane, EXPLODES!

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4 TIME AND DATE OF SIGHTING A 091104Z TO 091107Z B NIGHT

5 LOCATION OF OBSERVERS

GRANDVILLE 15 45DEG 22'N 102DEG 09'W

GRANDVILLE 49 45DEG 30'N 105DEG 30'W

GRANDVILLE 29 45DEG 42'N 102DEG 05'W

41 00Z 0MIN NE MILTON UTAH

Utah
Colo.
Colo

AFCIN-4A2/Lt Col W C Vitunac/eeek/54204
11 October 1957

Gen. Watson
MEMORANDUM FOR ~~COLONEL WEINBERGER~~ *GM*

1. Reference "Fire Ball" of Utah, Captain Gregory states:

"The object was not the Soviet Satellite. The Soviet Satellite was near South Africa at that time and this object was seen simultaneously from widely separated areas, attesting to its great altitude. The 1006th Air Intelligence Service Squadron is investigating because of public concern. Investigators arrived at Miton, Utah area late yesterday afternoon (10 Oct 57). Incident is similar to Pan American Airways case, which was identified this unit as a "Fire Ball". The Chief, OSI, is coming in this afternoon for details. The PRO is being kept informed."

Data on "Fire Ball": Official message from Lowry Flight Service Center, Lowry AFB, Colorado (10 Oct - 1433Z) to AFIC, states that this object "was probably a meteorite." The following descriptive data was included in this message: The object was round with a tail 200 to 300 yards long, flaming, made hissing noises which, together with explosions, were heard from the ground. Parts of material were seen falling off. The flame and explosions lit the sky brightly. It was travelling on the course of West/Southwest. Descent was estimated at an angle of 030 degrees to falling rapidly. It either hit the ground or burned out in 8 to 12 seconds. Observations were made by three B-47 aircraft at 33,000, 35,000, and 37,000 feet respectively, one Westbound airliner, altitude unknown, and one Eastbound C-118 at 17,000 feet. Time and date of sighting was 091104Z to 091107Z at night. Area of sighting was Grandville, Michigan, and Miton, Utah. Identifying information of all observers and all reports received second hand from Senior Controller at Denver Control. Reliability estimated good, particularly on air sightings. Weather was clear to high scattered clouds and broken at the surface. Wind was from the West/Northwest, varying from 5 to 35 knots. Weather Station said comet was supposed to be in area. All reports compare very well.

2. Reference UFO over New York area approximately 20 September:

Two official reports available to Captain Gregory were received (3 September 1957 and 20 September 1957). The 3 September 1957 report, from Commander, Stewart AFB, New York, identifies the object seen by Mrs. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ housewife, as most probably Comet "MARKOS", which had been in view for the past several nights from area of observation. Description of object as follows:

- a. Could not see object, just the tail which was orange/yellow in color, approximately one foot long.
- b. Altitude estimated at 20,000 to 30,000 feet, from the West/Northwest.
- c. Observed for three minutes. Went up and then arced downward and faded.
- d. Time of observation was on the 28th of August at 2350Z to 2355Z at dusk.

The second sighting in September was reported by the Commander, 26th Air Division, Roslyn AFS, Roslyn, New York, and was considered by the Air Division Intelligence Service to most probably be a weather balloon. It was observed by Francis McNeill of Long Island, New York, a former WWII gunner on an aircraft carrier. He described it as follows:

- a. Round, twice the size of a basketball at arm's length, shiny, silver or gray, looked like a balloon but the speed of departure was unusual.
- b. He observed it for approximately three minutes from the ground, the 19th of September at 1905Z. The object moved slowly at first, then suddenly moved Northwest very rapidly.
- c. The weather at time of observation was clear, surface wind South/Southeast, 10 knots, increasing to 34 knots at 54,000 feet from the Northwest.

COMMENT: Many cases are reported exclusively to the press, the AF having no knowledge until the press hits it. We do not take cognizance of any sighting not reported to us.

3. Reference Soviet Reconnaissance Aircraft over 6th Fleet: On 3 October 1957, a TWX was sent to AFCIN-1A1 requesting any photographs or information available on this aircraft. In addition, Mr. [REDACTED], of AFCIN-4F2, had his Naval Reserve Commander write directions to ONI requesting either photographs or information. There have been no results to date.

Walter C. Vitunac

WALTER C. VITUNAC
Lt Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4A2

NNNN

10 OCT 57 14 49

1 } 4E4
2 }
3 - 4X 2

219

10 OCT 57
aka

12:25

JEDWP H084M WPD154 YDA090 WYB073 WMA058AMA056

OO RJEDEN RJWFDN RJEDWP RJEPHQ RJWPGU

STATE PATROLMEN AT ARVADA, GRANDJUNCTION, FORT COLLINS, SHERIDAN, STEANBOAT SPRINGS ← Colo

6 IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF ALL OBSERVERS A ALL REPORTS RCVD SECOND HAND FROM SENIOR CONTROLLER AT DENVER CONTROL B RELIABILITY ESTIMATE GOOD PARTICULARY ON AIR SIGHTINGS

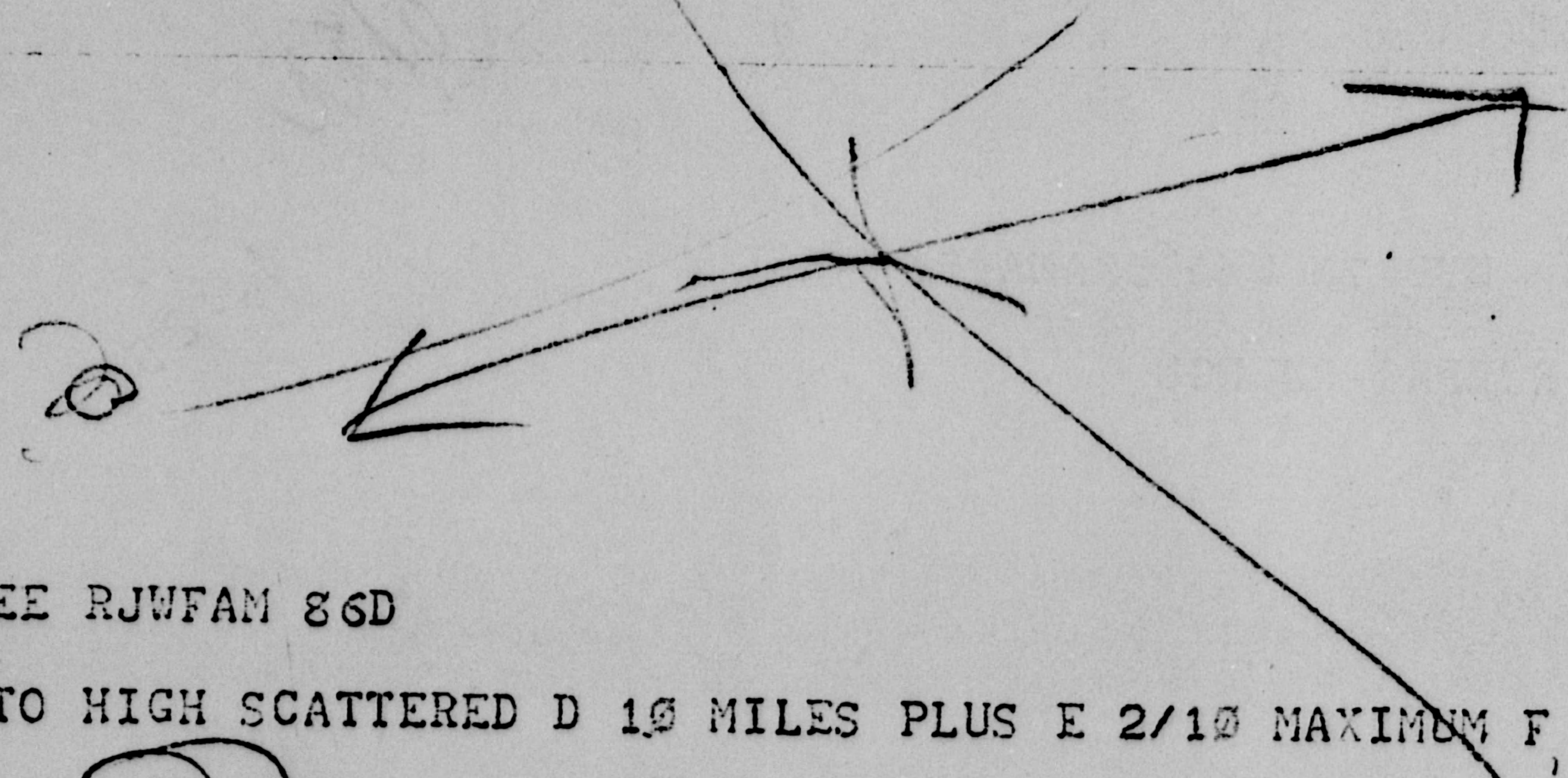
7 WEATHER AND WINDS ALOFT CONDITION AT TIME & PLACE OF SIGHTINGS

A CLEAR TO HIGH SCATTERED B SURFACE-

6,000'-----DEG---KT
10,000'-250DEG 5 KT
16,000'-270DEG 15KT
20,000'-290DEG 16KT
30,000'-300DEG 25KT
50,000'-270DEG 35KT
80,000'-----DEG --KT

*The "10 October Fireball"
See newspaper
press clippings*

PAA



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C CLEAR TO HIGH SCATTERED D 10 MILES PLUS E 2/10 MAXIMUM F NEG

8 WK SAYS COMET SUPPOSED TO BE IN AREA

9 CALLED DUTY OFFICER AT ADC HQ, ENT AFB

10 ON AIRWAYS V200 OVER MYTON ALSO AT COORDINATES IN NBR5 ABOVE

11 OPERATIONS OFFICER, LRYFS-ALL REPORTS SECOND HAND YET THEY COMPARE

VERY WELL. DUE TO AREA OF SIGHTINGS ALTITUDE OF OBJECT MUST HAVE BEEN

HIGH, PROBABLY A METORITE

12 NONE

BT

18/1500Z OCT RJWFAM

*WAS low
Fireball
reported from
New Mexico
10/10/54*

DETACHMENT 4
4773D GROUND OBSERVER SQUADRON
Post Office Box 123
Casper, Wyoming

GOS

10 October 1957

SUBJECT: UFOB

TO: Commander
Air Defense Command
ATTN: DCS/I
Ent Air Force Base
Colorado Springs, Colorado

In accordance with AFR 200-2, Par 7d, subject as above, dated 12 Aug 54, the following report is hereby submitted:

1. Description of object:
 - a. Round in front flaring wider toward tail.
 - b. Quarter.
 - c. Ball, white; Tail, blue like a gas flame with green and yellow mixed.
 - d. One.
 - e. N/A.
 - f. None.
 - g. Tail approximately 8 times the diameter of the ball or body.
 - h. None.
 - i. None.
 2. Description of course of object:
 - a. Flash of light.
 - b. 60°, 100°. *from about one east*
 - c. 30°, 230°.
 - d. Object flew in straight line with occasional bursts of speed.
 - e. One observer reported it disappeared behind a mountain range.
 - f. Approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ second.
- see 10/10/57 report - similarity*

GOS, Det #4, 4773d Grd Obsr Sq, dtd 10 Oct 57, Subj: UFOB

3. Manner of observation:

- a. Ground - visual.
- b. None.
- c. N/A.

4. Time and date of sighting:

- a. 1104Z, 10 Oct 57.
- b. Night.

5. Locations of observers:

- a. One observer was located at MP 4738.

6. Identifying information of all observers:

- a. Mr H D Harris, Age Unk, 529 Park St, Thermopolis, Wyo, policeman.

7. Weather and winds-aloft conditions at time and place of sighting:

- a. Hazy clouds, very thin.

b. SURFACE			Calm		
6,000	230°	Direction	Calm		
10,000	300°	"	6	Knots	Velocity
16,000	290°	"	10	"	"
20,000	290°	"	22	"	"
30,000	290°	"	31	"	"
50,000	290°	"	30	"	"
80,000	290°	"	25	"	"

- c. Ceiling Unrestricted

- d. Visibility 15 miles plus.

- e. Cloud cover 14,000 scattered. High and broken.

- f. Thunderstorms, None.

- g. Other, None.

8. Other activity:

- a. None.

4E4
GOS, Det #4, 4773d Grd Obsr Sq, dtd 10 Oct 57, Subj: UFOB

9. N/A
10. Unknown.
11. Commander, Detachment #4, 4773d Ground Observer Squadron
 - a. In my opinion the cause of this sighting was a meteorite.
12. None.

Copy furnished:
4773d GOS

AT
ALFRED T SCHMITZ
Captain, USAF
Commander

ADODI-B

1st Ind

16 OCT 1957

Headquarters, Air Defense Command, Ent Air Force Base, Colorado

TO: Commander, Air Technical Intelligence Center, ATTN: AFCIN 4E4,
Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio

RJH

10. Capt G...
11 OCT 57 00 23

OCT 11 03 00 '57

RC028

WPED40 YDB036ENE038

OO RJEDWP RJEPHQ

DE RJEDEN 8

O 110235Z

FM COMDR 1006TH AISS ENT AFB COLO

TO RJEPHQ/ACS INTELLIGENCE HEDUSAF WASH DC

RJEDWP/COMDR ATIC WPAFB OHIO

BT

/UNCLAS/ AISOP 163 PD REFERENCE MESSAGE 1902 AACS CITE TEXAS 52NB 47

PD THIS IS PRELIMINARY REPORT OF INVESTIGATION BY THIS ORGANIZATION

MADE AT SITE OBJECT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE STRUCK PD INTERVIEW OF

SEVERAL EYEWITNESSES IN AREA INDICATES THAT OBJECT WAS DEFINATELY

FIREBALL METEOR PD FURTHER, OBJECT PROBABLY DID NOT STRIKE GROUND

CMM INDICATIONS THAT OBJECT DISINTERGRATED BEFORE IMPACT PD COUNTY

SHERIFFS OF DUCHESNE AND UTAH COUNTIES NOTIFIED TO BE ON LOOKOUT

FOR PIECES OF OBJECT, ADN TO CONTACT THIS ORGANIZATION IF ANYTHING

FOUND PD ATTEMPT BEING MADE TO LOCATE AND TALK TO NAVY PILOT OF ACFT

NUMBER 1607 PD RESULTS WILL BE COVERED IN FIANL REPORT PD END OF

PRELIMINARY REPORT.

BT

11/0236Z OCT RJEDEN

1
2 } HE4
3 }
4-4X2a
RLO

P

good!

In talks with
Col. Metter, Chief MSS
by phone yesterday
afternoon, I suggested
that this pilot would
probably be the most
reliable source - and
should be interrogated
GTG.

Details will be
needed on 112.

Note the press releases

Dr. Miley: My office was flooded with
calls yesterday. I tried to refer all
to wash.

14 OCT 57 14 40

17
3} 4E4
3-4XZC
AD

JEDWP H120M WPB0/2 YDD027ENA051

PP RJEDWP RJEPHQ

DE RJEEN 14

P 141724Z

FM COMDR 1006TH AISS ENT AFB COLO

TO RJEPHQ/ACS INTEL HEADQUARTERS USAF WASH DC

RJEDWP/COMDR ATIC WPAFB OHIO

BT

13:51
atic
17

/UNCLAS/AISOP 166 PD REFERENCE MY MESSAGE AISOP 163. THIS IS THE FINAL REPORT ON INVESTIGATION OF OBJECT SEEN FALLING INTO NORTH EASTERN UTAH AREA. CONTACT WITH PILOT OF NAVY AIRCRAFT 1697 PINPOINTED LOCATION HE SAW OBJECT STRIKE GROUND AT 40 DEGREES 08 MINUTES NORTH, 109 DEGRESS 50 MINUTES WEST. INFORMATION PASSED ONTO SHERIFF DUCHESNE COUNTY UTAH AND HE INSTITUTED AIR AND GROUND SERRCH OF AREA WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF SHIGHTING IN UTAH AREA., IN FORMAT AFR 200-2, AS FOLLOWS:
1. A. ROUND B. WASHTUB, HALF DOLLAR, AUTOMOBILE, ETC. C. WHITE WITH RED FLASSHES, BLUE WITH BLUE-WHITE EDGES D. ONE E. NOT

PAGE TWO RJEDEN 14

APPLICABLE F. NONE G. LARGE TAIL SAME COLOR AS OBJECT H. EMITTING
FLASHES, SPARKS, PIECES OF OBJECT, TURNING END OVER END, ETC.

2. A . LIT UP ROOM B. GENERALLY OUT OF AREA BETWEEN NORTH AND
EAST C. GERERALLY OUT OF AREA BETWEEN SOUTH AND WEST SAID OBJECT
DI INTRGRAED F. GENERALLY FORTY FIVE SECONDS. ONE SOURCE SAID TWO
AND ONE HALF MINUTES 3. A. GROUND VISUAL B. NONE C. NOT APPLICABLE

4. A . 10/1100Z TO 11/1106Z OCT 57 B. NIGHT. 5. DUCHESNE AND
UTAH COUNTIES 6. ABOUT TWENTY SOURCES INTERVIEWED IN AREA BY
BTTELEPHONE AND IN PERSON. ALL GAVE GENERAL DESCRIPTION AS
INDICATED ABOVE. SINCE ONLY SOURECE REPORTING OBJECT DID NOT
DISINTERGRATE WAS NAVY PILOT AND SINCE NOTHING WAS FOUND IN AREA,
THIS ORGANIZATION IS OF OPINION THAT OBJECT DEFINITELY WAS
FIREBALL METEOR AND DID DISINTERGRATE BEFORE STRIKING GROUND
NO FURTHER ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED BY THIS ORGANIZATION UNLESS
INFORMATION RECEIVED BY SHERIFF OF AREA THAT PIECES OF OBJECT FOUND.

BT

14/1738Z OCT RJEDEN

*All indications
point to object
being "fireball".
E will now
goy thru a
approaching
meteor shower*