

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 28 Jan 54		2. LOCATION Blackstone, Virginia		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☒ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other _____ ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☐ Unknown	
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local 1715 GMT 28/2215Z		4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☒ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar			
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No		6. SOURCE civilian			
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 31 minutes		8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one		9. COURSE stationary	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Circular, baseball type, bright light stationary at 30 deg elev in N. Pilot DC-47 also saw obj. Thought flight gradually to N object became smaller bright and shining.				11. COMMENTS 1. Speed in accord with wind at altitude. Balloon observation.	

T

WPG054

29 JAN 1954 08 02

29 JAN 1954 04 15z

YMA225N

JEDLS A012

EFD 231

OO JEDWP JEDEN JEPHQ JEPFF JEPQW JEPRS 666

DE JEDLS 4A

O 281930Z

FM COMDR FLTSVCEN OLMSTED AFB MIDDLETOWN PENN

TO JEPHQ/DIR OF INTEL HQ USAF WASHDC

JEDWP/AIRTECHINTELSEN WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO

JEDEN/COMDR ADC ENT AFB COLORADO SPRINGS COLO

JEPFF/COMDR MATS ANDREWS AFB WASHDC

JEPQW/COMDR CONAC MITCHEL AFB NY

J. Atter
3. Atty-2
1 P. file

A2215Z

B DUSK

/5/ LOCATION OF OBSERVERS

A BLACKSTONE ARMY AIR FIELD

/6/ IDENTIFYING INFORMATION OF ALL OBSERVERS

DONCANSON W B AIRWAYS OPERATIONS SPECIALIST CAA INSAC PO BOX 382

BLACKSTONE VA UNKNOWN

[REDACTED] AIRWAYS OPERATIONS SPECIALIST CAA INSAC PO BOX 382

BLACKSTONE VA UNKNOWN

[REDACTED] CPT [REDACTED] AIR FIELD OPERATIONS

[REDACTED] 1ST [REDACTED] AIR FIELD OPERATIONS

PAGE THREE JEDLS 4A

/7/ WEATHER AND WINDS ALOFT CONDITIONS AT TIME AND PLACE OF SIGHTING

A DUSK CLEAR

B SURFACE WINDS 030 DEGREES 5 KNOTS

6000 340 S40

10000 310 25

16000 300 70

20000 300 85

30000 300 135

50000 280 120

80000 270 80

C UNLIMITED

D 15 PLUS

E THIN BROWN AT 20000

UFOB

/1/ DISCRIPTIONS

A CIRCULAR

B BASEBALL

C BRIGHT LIGHT

D ONE

E NEGATIVE

F NEGATIVE

G NEGATIVE

H NEGATIVE

I NEGATIVE

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/2/ DISCRIPTION OF COURSE

A NOTICED OBJECT NO PARTICULAR REASON

B 40 DEGREES IN EASTERLY DIRECTION

C STATIONARY THEN BEFORE DISSAPPEARING MOVED IN AN EASTERLY
DIRECTION

D NEGATIVE

E 31 MINUTES

/3/ MANNER OF OBSERVATION

A GROUND-VISUAL AIR -VISUAL

B NONE

C AIREVE8154 UNKNW ALTITUDE FWYING TOWARDS ANDREWS AFB SPEED 140

KNOWS HOME STATION BROOKLEY AFB

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21st District OSI 24-0 Subj: Sighting of Unidentified Object Near
Blackstone, Va.

OI-INT (11 Feb 54) 1st Ind

Headquarters, 405th Fighter Bomber Wing, Langley AFB, Va.

17 FEB 1954

TO: Director of Intelligence, Headquarters USAF, Washington 25, D. C.

1. The basic letter is forwarded for your information.

2. This report has not been made on an AF Form 112 because of special instructions from the Director, Office of Security Investigation to the 21st District Office of Special Investigations, giving their permission to submit such reports in letter form.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



HERBERT C. PINKERTON
Captain, USAF
Adjutant

Info by
Air Technical Intel Center
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

AFOIN

2nd Ind

23 February 1954

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE, Hq USAF, Washington, 25, D. C.

TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright Patterson Air Force
Base, Dayton, Ohio

Noted and forwarded.



W. K. SMITH
Lt Colonel, USAF
Directorate of Intelligence

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754-2957

Reg A 5-327
Dm-34-1182

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED

File No: 24-0

11 February 1954

21st District OSI (IG), Langley AFB, Hampton, Virginia

SUBJ: Sighting of Unidentified Object Near Blackstone, Virginia

matter [redacted] advised that he was flying a F-94 aircraft over Langley AFB when notified of the unidentified object by the 771st AC & W Squadron. OSBORNE advised that he was given directions by the AC & W Squadron, and requested to investigate the directed areas for the unidentified objects. [redacted] recalled that he had patrolled the areas directed by AC & W, but had failed to observe any unidentified objects. [redacted] further advised from memory that he had first received AC & W notification at approximately 1800 hours on 29 January 1954.

Carl M Bremer
CARL M BREMER
Major, USAF
District Commander

cc: Deputy, CS Intelligence, Hqs. TAC.
Director OSI.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

734-2957

DM-54-1182

UNCLASSIFIED

File No: 24-0

11 February 1954

21st District OSI (IG), Langley AFB, Hampton, Virginia

SUBJ: Sighting of Unidentified Object Near Blackstone, Virginia

since 1 January 1953, [redacted] stated that at 1715 hours on 28 January 1954, while he was at home, he looked into the sky and noticed a bright, white, shapeless object which appeared to be at an altitude of between twelve (12) and fifteen (15) thousand feet. [redacted] said there were a few white clouds in the sky and the sun was still shining. According to [redacted] the object had a constant shine and remained stationary in the sky at about a thirty (30) degree angle above the horizon and due north of Blackstone. [redacted] advised that he watched the object for a couple of minutes and then drove to the CAA Interstate Aviation Communications Station at Blackstone Army Air Field and advised the two (2) CAA employees on duty of the observation. [redacted] stated that all three (3) observed the unknown object in the sky. According to [redacted] at 1721 hours, a C-47 flew over the station. The pilot of the aircraft was notified of the object in the sky and he advised that he also saw the object. The pilot believed, however, that the unknown object was between thirty (30) and forty (40) thousand feet in altitude. The pilot reportedly did not know the nature or identity of the object. [redacted] identified the aircraft as a USAF Air Evacuation Plane, Number 8134, enroute to Andrews Air Force Base. [redacted] further advised that the CAA Office at Blackstone notified Washington Air Route Traffic Control, National Airport, and Military Flight, Middletown, Pennsylvania, of the sighting. [redacted] advised that he returned to his home and last noticed the object at 1740 hours. According to [redacted] the object created no noise, no smoke, no vapor trail and he advised that it appeared to be a flat oval in shape. [redacted] stated that the object was much more prominent than any aircraft, due to its brightness. [redacted] said that he did not have any knowledge of the size of the object nor of its exact shape.

6. On 29 January 1954, [redacted] Chief of the Facility, Blackstone CAA Office, was interviewed at Blackstone Army Air Field. [redacted] advised that he had been working for the CAA since 1936. [redacted] advised that he first saw the object at 1723 hours on 28 January when the CAA employees on the field called him at his home in Blackstone, and brought his attention to the sighting. According to [redacted] the unknown object appeared to have a bright metallic surface. According to [redacted] the unknown object was between forty (40) and forty-five (45) degrees above the horizon and due north in direction. [redacted] estimated that the object was five (5) to ten (10) miles away at an altitude of approximately thirty (30) to forty (40) thousand feet. [redacted] stated that behind the object was a light layer of cirro-stratus clouds. [redacted] advised that these clouds usually occurred at an altitude of thirty-five (35) to forty (40) thousand feet and they thus helped him establish the approximate altitude of the object. [redacted] stated that the unknown object was elongated in shape and was stationary. He had no knowledge whatsoever of the size of the object, and he further advised that there was no noise, no smoke or vapor trail, or disturbance in the air near the object. He stated that the only way he could describe the object was as a bright shining object in the sky. [redacted] stated that he had last seen the object at approximately 1740 hours and he appeared to be withdrawing to due north, becoming smaller. [redacted] averred that he had never in his life seen such a thing or could recall no balloons or planes that

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[REDACTED]
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File No: 24-0

11 February 1954

21st District OSI (IG), Langley AFB, Hampton, Virginia

SUBJ: Sighting of Unidentified Object Near Blackstone, Virginia

appeared so large at such an altitude. [REDACTED] further advised the OSI agents that Roanoke, Virginia had reported three (3) loose weather balloons, on the morning of 28 January 1954. Roanoke had noted that the balloons were drifting in a north, northeasterly direction. [REDACTED] estimated that if the direction of drift continued, the balloons would have passed no closer than one hundred (100) miles (approximately) from Blackstone and that in such an event the object sighted was probably not one of the balloons. [REDACTED], however, stated that the object could have been a balloon, but that he was unable to give any estimate of the nature of the object.

7. Mr. [REDACTED] checked the records of the CAA Office and advised the following weather conditions for the late afternoon of 28 January 1954. Thin, broken clouds at twenty (20) thousand feet were reported at the approximate time of the sighting, with a north, northeasterly surface wind of six (6) miles per hour also recorded. SCHAFFSTALL gave the location of the Blackstone CAA Office as the following: 77 degrees, 55 minutes, no seconds, west longitude; 37 degrees, 4 minutes, 3 seconds, north latitude; elevation, 440 - IAC.

8. On 1 February 1954, Captain MARVIN H. CASTLEBERRY, AO 814651, Operations Officer, 48th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, Langley AFB, was interviewed concerning the unknown object. CASTLEBERRY checked the squadron records and advised that the 771st AC & W Squadron, Cape Charles AFB, Virginia, had notified a pilot of the 48th squadron of an unknown object sighted. Captain CASTLEBERRY identified the pilot as 1st Lt. DONALD R. OSBORNE, AO 1911312, and stated that the notification occurred sometime on Thursday evening, 28 January 1954. Captain CASTLEBERRY advised from the records that the AC & W Squadron had received two (2) reports of unknown objects, from the Ground Observer Corps Filter Center, Richmond, Virginia. The first report, received by AC & W at 1744 hours, stated that an unknown object had been sighted at approximately 78 degrees, 16 minutes, west longitude, and 37 degrees, 43 minutes, north latitude. CASTLEBERRY stated that the AC & W Squadron had received another report from Richmond at 1804 hours, of a sighting at 77 degrees, 15 minutes, west longitude, and 37 degrees, 49 minutes, north latitude. CASTLEBERRY stated that Richmond had not advised the AC & W Squadron of the origin of the reports. CASTLEBERRY surmised, however, that the sightings probably originated at GOC Command Posts. CASTLEBERRY stated that the AC & W Squadron had observed no unidentified objects within a radius of two hundred fifty (250) miles, during this day. CASTLEBERRY stated that no further information was contained in the AC & W report.

9. On 1 February 1954, 1st Lt DONALD R OSBORNE, 48th Fighter Interceptor Squadron, was interviewed concerning his actions in this

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
21ST DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, LANGLEY FIELD, VIRGINIA

File No: 24-0

11 February 1954

SUBJECT: Sighting of Unidentified Object
Near Blackstone, Virginia

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS
DOR DIR 8206.10

TO: Commander
405th Fighter Bomber Wing
Langley Air Force Base
Hampton, Virginia
ATTN: Director of Operations

1. Reference Air Force Letter 200-5, dated 29 April 1952.
2. The following is in written confirmation of a report telephonically transmitted to your office on 30 January 1954 by Lt Colonel DWIGHT J SCOVEL, District Commander.
3. On 29 January 1954, Lt Colonel SCOVEL received a telephonic report from the OSI Detachment Commander, Richmond, Virginia, in which Colonel SCOVEL was advised of a sighting of an unknown object in the sky, in the vicinity of Blackstone, Virginia. Colonel SCOVEL was advised that the sighting occurred sometime on the afternoon of 28 January 1954. Subsequently, Colonel SCOVEL contacted the Adjutant, 405th Fighter Bomber Wing and OSI was thereby directed to initiate an inquiry into this sighting.
4. The following is therefore the result of the inquiry into incident matter conducted by Special Agents ERNEST E HOARD and JAMES W WARD.
5. On 29 January 1954, [REDACTED] East Jeb Stuart Village, Blackstone, Virginia, was interviewed at Blackstone Army Air Field concerning the sighting of the unknown object. [REDACTED] stated that, from August 1948 through July 1952, he had served in the Air Force, with duties as Control Tower Operator at Andrews and Bangor Air Force Bases. [REDACTED] advised that he had been discharged as a S/Sgt, that his Service Number was AF 14281719. [REDACTED] averred that he has been a CAA Airways Operation Specialist at Blackstone Army Air Field

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[REDACTED]

754-2957

Bu-37-1182

/8/ ANY OTHER UNUSUAL ACTIVITY

A NONE

/9/ PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF SIGHTING

A NONE

/10/ INTERCEPTION ACTION

A NONE

/11/ AIR TRAFFIC IN THE AREA OF SIGHTING

AIR REVS154

/12/ PREPARED BY OPERATIONS OFFICER OLMSTED FLIGHT SERVICE CENTER

/13/ NO FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE THIS CENTER

LT [REDACTED]

28/0140Z JAN JEDLS

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JANUARY 1954 SIGHTINGS

DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVER	EVALUATION
1954	Wabash, Indiana (Flying Saucer Magazine)(INFO)..David		
Unknown	Florence, Massachusetts	Coughlin	Insufficient Data
1	Toms River, New Jersey	Military & Civilian	Other (SEARCHLIGHT)
54-56	Shreveport, Louisiana	Baker (PECTO)	Other (BIRDS)
1	Melbourne, Australia	Barker	Other (INCONSISTENT DATA)
2	Athens, Texas (Newsclippings)(INFO)	Strain	
2	Omaha, Nebraska	Chalmers, Perry	Astro (METEOR)
2	Sioux City, Iowa	Miller	Astro (METEOR)
2-4	Seierville, Tennessee (Flying Saucer International)(INFO)	Killer	
3	Blackburn, Australia	Cowden	Other (REFLECTION)
3	Albuquerque, New Mexico	Phillips	Astro (METEOR)
5	Tooma, Australia	Green, Arblaster	A/C
6	Oscoda, Michigan	Military	Insufficient Data
7	Gate City, Virginia	Multi Civilian	Insufficient Data
8	Berlin, Germany	Unknown - Civilian	Astro (METEOR)
8	Millbrook, Alabama	Austin	Balloon
10	North Atlantic (Hydrographic Bulletin)(INFO)..Reid		
10	York, Pennsylvania	Fuden	Astro (METEOR)
10	West Minster, Maryland	Damasiewicz	Astro. (METEOR & JUPITER)
10	Las Vegas, Nevada	Schofield	Balloon
13	NE United States, Canada (Newspaper)(INFO)		
13	Oscoda, Michigan	Military	Astro (METEOR)
14	Melbourne, Australia	Buxtable	Insufficient Data
14	Kelly AFB, Texas	Military (RADAR)	Other (Atmosphere Disturbance)
15	Mallala, South Australia	Frost, Barker	Astro (METEOR)
15	Melbourne, Australia	Unknown - Civilian	Balloon
16	Picayune, Mississippi	Dossett, Summers	A/C
17	Greenshill, Ohio (CRIFO Newsletter)(INFO)..Dinkelacker		
17	Morris, South Australia	Barker	Insufficient Data
18-19	North Atlantic (Hydrographic Bulletin)(INFO)..Greenberg, Patterson		
19	North Atlantic (Hydrographic Bulletin)(INFO)..Geiser, Ryan		
19	Manston AFS, England	Military	Balloon
21	Waco, Texas	Military	Insufficient Data
22	West Point, Kentucky	Schultz	Other (Searchlight or Spotlight Activity)
22	Buena Park, California	Multi Civilian	1. A/C 2. Insufficient Data
23	Naperville, Illinois	Baird	A/C
25	Las Cruces, New Mexico	Schaldach	Astro (METEOR)
28	Seneca Lake, New York	Military	Balloon
28	Blackstone, Virginia	Multi Civilian	Balloon
28	Washington, D.C.	Military	A/C
28	Rangley, Maine	Reich	UNIDENTIFIED
29	Cold Bay, Alaska	Military	Insufficient Data
30	North Pacific (World of Flying Saucers)(INFO)..Kenzel		
30	North Pacific (Hydrographic Bulletin)(INFO)..Ealms, LeCain		