

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 4 May 1955	2. LOCATION Keflavic Airport, Iceland		12. CONCLUSIONS ☐ Was Balloon ☐ Probably Balloon ☐ Possibly Balloon ☐ Was Aircraft ☐ Probably Aircraft ☐ Possibly Aircraft ☐ Was Astronomical ☐ Probably Astronomical ☐ Possibly Astronomical ☐ Other <u>UNIDENTIFIED</u> ☐ Insufficient Data for Evaluation ☒ Unknown
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 04/1338Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION ☒ Ground-Visual ☐ Ground-Radar ☐ Air-Visual ☐ Air-Intercept Radar		
5. PHOTOS ☐ Yes ☒ No	6. SOURCE Military		
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION 5-8 seconds	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS ten	9. COURSE unknown	
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Round, oxidized silver in color. All located in one general area, but not in formation. Flew in arc across sky, half way across, one object left small smoke trail, then disappeared. Very erratic motions. Great speed. Did not compare with jet aircraft.			11. COMMENTS UNIDENTIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED

AF 664-507081

COUNTRY Iceland	REPORT NO. IR 1355	CLASSIFICATION AF 664-507081
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AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

SUBJECT FOB	
AREA REPORTED ON KEFLAVIK AIRPORT, ICELAND	FROM (Agency) COMDR, 57TH FTR INTOP SO AND SA N.Y. N.Y.
DATE OF REPORT 9 May 1955	DATE OF INFORMATION 4 May 1955
PREPARED BY (Officer) EDWARD J. MARLOW, 2nd Lt, USAF	SOURCE COMDR 57TH FTR INTOP SOIN
REFERENCES (Control number, directive, previous report, etc., as applicable)	

SUMMARY: (Enter concise summary of report. Give significance in final one sentence paragraph. List inclosures at lower left. Begin text of report on AF Form 112-Part II.)

The afternoon of Wednesday, 4 May 1955 1st Lt Joseph M. Burt A02266394 and I were on the ramp at the terminal, Keflavik Airport, Iceland viewing and taking pictures of a C-99. On returning, we walked toward the new SAC hangar. While still some hundreds of feet from the hangar I spotted some objects at approximately 20 degrees up. I called Lt Burt's attention to them and we tried to identify them as they passed across the sky and disappeared from view at about 30 degrees from the horizon behind cloud cover that extended over the top of the hangar.

I didn't have the presence of mind to count them but estimated approximately 10. No particular rhyme or reason to the formation. Two were out to the right the others were in one general area. A few moved rapidly around in position while others held steady. In position they did not move back and forth or in and out slowly as jet aircraft but very rapid and jerky. Half way through this arc, one in the center of the large group started to leave one trail of what seemed like smoke. This trail disappeared almost immediately. These objects were not clear cut or distinct in shape but there was no definite wing or tail protruding and all were of the same size and round. They gave the appearance of being transparent but were not. Instead I would say they looked like a glob of milk of magnesia that had been heavily cut with water.

I would estimate they were at considerable altitude and travelling at great speed. I did check the time on my watch which was accurate and read 1338.2.

EDWARD J. MARLOW
1st Colonel, USAF
Commander

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Auth: AF 201-1, 2-14 para 6
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IR 1355

AIR INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

FROM (Agency) Comdr, 57th Ftr Integ Sq APO, 61, New York, N Y	REPORT NO. IR-1-55	PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES
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At approximately 1338Z, I was walking across the ramp above the terminal with Lt Colonel Edward J Stealy when he spotted approximately 10 unidentified flying objects flying east at approximately 25 to 30,000 feet. I also saw the objects. They were in a loose formation. They were not drawing contrails, however, one made a smoke trail for about 2 seconds which engulfed the object and stopped before the object disappeared behind clouds. The objects were in view to me about 4 or 5 seconds. They were traveling at a tremendous rate of speed, well over 1,000 knots. These objects were not jet type aircraft, having neither the shape nor speed. They were oval in shape. The size is undeterminable due to its uncertain altitude, however, would make a very rough estimate of 60 to 70 feet. The objects were traveling at a tremendous rate of speed. The time of sighting the objects was 1338Z which was confirmed by Lt Colonel Stealy. I have seen many jet aircraft flying and these objects do not compare to any standard shape or speed. These objects were clearly seen by me. The objects were the color of oxidized silver and did not reflect light.

Joseph W. Kurt
JOSEPH W. KURT
1st Lt, USAF

The following information is submitted in accordance with AFR 200-2.

1. Description of the objects

- a. Round in shape
- b. About the size of a penny
- c. Appeared almost translucent with a white cast
- d. Approximately 10
- e. All in one general area but no apparent rhyme or reason to the formation
- f. None
- g. Half way across the arc one started leaving a smoke trail. In comparison to the penny it would be about the size of a piece of string.
- h. No sound
- i. None

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2. Description of Course of Objects

- a. Noticed them while just normally scanning the sky
- b. 60 degrees up

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- c. Approximately 30 degrees from horizon
 - d. Group moved in straight line out of sight. A few of the objects were jerky in formation others held steady. However, the speed at which they moved within the formation was considerably more rapid than normal jet fighters.
 - e. Disappeared behind cloud cover
 - f. I would estimate approximately 5 to 8 seconds.
 3. Manner of Observation
 - a. Ground visual
 - b. None
 - c. Not applicable
 4. Time and Date of Sighting
 - a. 1338Z
 - b. Day
 5. Location of Observers
 - a. 22°35'50"W 63°58'45"W
 6. Edward J Stealy, Lt Colonel, Comdr, 57th Ftr Intcp Sqn
Joseph W. Burt, 1st Lt, Adjutant, 57th Ftr Intcp Sqn
 7.

<u>Temperature</u>	<u>Low Point</u>	<u>Relative Humidity</u>
47	32	52%
- Winds Aloft - 6000/060-07, 10000/340-05, 16000/230-04, 20000/220-10
30000/200-20

No further sightings or observations have been reported.

Edward J. Stealy
EDWARD J. STEALY
2nd Lt, USAF
Intelligence Officer

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Auth: AFR 201-1, 2-14, para 5
DTD 1 Nov 63
By (HP)

Little Hope Is Held For Nine

310th KC97 Down In North Atlantic

An air-sea search continued Thursday in the stormy North Atlantic for nine missing Smoky Hill AFB fliers.

But a dispatch from Reykjavik, Iceland, said there was little hope for their survival.

The airmen apparently rode their flaming KC-97 down into the choppy sea 90 miles off the coast of Iceland Wednesday after the big 2-story refueling plane developed engine trouble.

The airmen, attached to the 310th Air Refueling Squadron, were on the last leg of a 30-day training mission in the United Kingdom.

Bound For Scotland

The plane left Keflavik, Iceland, shortly before 6 am Wednesday (Salina time) bound for Prestwick, Scotland.

It was flying in formation with other KC-97s after going to Iceland from England where the 310th Bomb wing is an temporary duty.

About 8 am, at a point 90 miles southwest of Iceland, the pilot radioed the flight leader, advising him the plane was having engine trouble and to go on without him. Then the crippled ship trailing flames, circled and dropped out of sight below the overcast.

"Severe Fire"

An Air Force spokesman in Iceland said the plane developed a "severe engine fire."

Air rescue craft were summoned from Iceland by the flight leader.

Flares criss-crossed the area for hours before sighting the wreckage. There were no signs of life, the Air Force reported. A huge oil slick spread over the water.

A B-29 rescue plane hovered over the scene on the chance some of the crew members were able to clear the burning wreckage.

The plane carried survival equipment.



A-1c Courtney Tashler and his wife.

Here Are Missing Crewmen

Here are the names of the nine crewmen missing after the crash of a KC-97 tanker near Iceland.

Six of the airmen are married and have homes in Salina, another lives with his family in Lindbergh. The other two live on the base.

The crew:

1st Lt. Billy Baker, 29, 828 Naval, wife, Norma, one child; mother, Mrs. N. E. Ireland, Blackwell, Okla.

1st Lt. Hugh L. Crowther, 33, wife, Catherine Ann, 2708 Quince, one child; father, Herbert S. Crowther Jr., Montclair, N. J.

2nd Lt. Harold J. Eversly, 33, single; mother, Mrs. Virginia T. Eversly, Rock Island, Ill.

S-Sgt. Robert C. Morrisman, 32, wife, Ellen C., 1205 W. Crawford, four children; mother, Mrs. Walfred Morrisman, Chicago, Ill.

A-1c Marvin B. DeVries, 28, wife, Lydia A., 424 E. Kirwin; home town, Phoenix, Ariz.

A-1c Joseph Lee Pridgen, 28, wife, Margie Ann, 61 Truett Court, (No other address listed.)

A-1c Courtney R. Tashler, 26, wife, Lillian G., 415 Washington, one daughter, (No other address listed.)

A-1c Virgil C. Royant, 24, wife, Norma, 305 N. 2nd, Lindbergh, two children, (No other address listed.)

A-1c Roger Johnson, 23, Newcomer, Wisc., father, Marvin Johnson.



Sgt. Robert C. Morrisman



A-1c Joseph L. Pridgen

Narrow Search

Nine Feared Lost In Tanker Crash

REYKJAVIK, Iceland May 4 (AP) — A U S Air Force flying tanker carrying nine men caught fire in the air and crashed today in the stormy Atlantic Ocean.

Rescue planes reported sighting a big oil slick and what appeared to be wreckage of the plane but said there was no sign of survivors.

U. S. Air Force headquarters in London said the plane belonged to the 310th Air Refueling Squadron normally stationed at Salina Kan. The squadron now is on an overseas tour of duty.

The Air Force said a distress signal from the plane reported the craft caught fire about 90 miles off Iceland's coast. The plane was bound from Keflavik, Iceland, to Prestwick, Scotland.

The Air Force's full air-sea rescue team was ordered into action, an Air Force spokesman said.

1 - 15 MAY 1955 SIGHTINGS

DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVER	EVALUATION
May	Miami, Florida	McKisic	Other (UNRELIABLE RPT)
3	New York City, New York (CASE MISSING)	Civilian	Insufficient Data
4	Keflavik Airport, Iceland	Military	UNIDENTIFIED
4	Fellows, California	Rockhelt	Aircraft
7	Baltimore, Maryland (IN SEPARATE FOLDER) 	Schuerholtz (MISSING) (PHYS S)	Other (VALVE WHEEL)
7	Glenburnie, Maryland	McMahon	Balloon
7	29 Palms, California	Neal	Aircraft
8	Klamath Falls, Oregon	Lovelace	Balloon
8	Long Beach, Mississippi	Boyne	Insufficient Data
9	Ukiah, California	Minkler	Astro (JUPITER)
10	Terryville, Connecticut	Nelson	Aircraft
11	Thurmon, Colorado	Civil Airlines	Aircraft
11	Yonkers, New York	Sequerra	Aircraft
11	Munday, New York	More, Lindsay	Astro (JUPITER)
11	Tinker AFB, Oklahoma	Military	Astro (METEOR)
13	Bear Island, Maine	Murch	Other (AIRCRAFT FLARES)
13	Charleston, Maine	Morlet	Other (AIRCRAFT FLARES)
13	Duluth, Minnesota	Air (RADAR)	Aircraft
13	Old Town, Maine	Thebadeaux	Other (AIRCRAFT FLARES)
13	Hollister, California	Dunkle	Aircraft
14	Fargo, North Dakota	Wilkinson	Aircraft
14	Syracuse, New York	Stamey	Balloon
15	Little Falls, New Jersey	Klaner	Aircraft
15	New York City, New York	Siegmund (PHOTO)	Other (HOAX)

 IN SEPARATE FOLDER