

PROJECT 10073 RECORD CARD

1. DATE 21 November 1957	2. LOCATION Houlm, Alabama		12. CONCLUSIONS <input type="checkbox"/> Was Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Balloon <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Balloon
3. DATE-TIME GROUP Local _____ GMT 21/0600Z	4. TYPE OF OBSERVATION <input type="checkbox"/> Ground-Visual <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	6. SOURCE Military		<input type="checkbox"/> Was Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Probably Astronomical <input type="checkbox"/> Possibly Astronomical
7. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION not given	8. NUMBER OF OBJECTS one	9. COURSE down	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>false returns</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Insufficient Data for Evaluation <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
10. BRIEF SUMMARY OF SIGHTING Radar picked up target 15 miles long and 10 miles wide. Civil airplanes were unable to pick up target.		11. COMMENTS Lacking any visual observation of so huge an object, it must be considered a false return.	

AC
AC PARAPHRASE NOT REQUIRED EXCEPT WHERE IN CATEGORY B ENCRYPTION - PHYSICAL ALL INTERNAL REFERENCES BY DATE PRIOR TO DECLASSIFICATION AND UNCLASSIFIED REFERENCE IF THE DATE/TIME GROUP IS 000

UNCLASSIFIED

712

NBR 20694 24 NOV 57
AC PRIORITY
FM COMDR 657 ACWRON HOUM ALA TDTG 230335Z BOOK MSG
TO COMDR ATIC WP AFB OHIO



*1) 4E4
2) 4X2C
ABD*

OPS 001L. FOR CIC STEWART AFB NEWBURGH.
EDUCATE M-126, 22 NOVEMBER 57. OBSERVATION TIMES FROM
21 NOVEMBER 57 0600Z TO 0850Z OR 0001 TO 0250 CENTRAL STANDARD
TIME. WILLIAM H STUOD SECOND LT UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
AO 3055619 OF 657 ACFT CONTRCL AND WARNING SQUADRON MADE DUE
OBSERVATION. THE GEO REF OT THIS STATION IF FJO 3340.
STAFF SERGEANT SHENKLEBURG, AIR FORCE SPECIALITY CODE 27350,
STAFF SERGEANT STEWART, AIR FORCE SPECIALITY CODE 27350 AND
AIRMAN FIRST CLASS WRIGHT, AIR FORCE SPECIALITY CODE 27350.
ALL OBSERVED THIS TRACK. SERGEANT SHENKLEBURGS EXPERIENCE 5 YEARS,
SERGEANTS STEWARTS EXPERIENCE 4 YEARS AND AIRMAN WRIGHTS
EXPERIENCE 2 AND 1 HALF YEARS. 11 FROM THIS STATION VISUALLY OBSERVED
THE TARGET. NO KNOWN VISUAL OBSERVATIONS WERE MADE BY ANYONE.
SCOPE PHOTOS WERE TAKEN WITH A PICTURE BEING TAKEN EVERY 15
MINUTES DUE TO TARGETS LOW SPEED. THE FIS WILL BE FORWARDED AT A
LATER DATE. THE TRACK NUMBER WAS QD59. THE TARGET HAD A SPEED.

DOWNWARD...
DECLASSIFIED...

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Classification Cancelled
(or changed to UNCLASSIFIED)
Auth: *Quantanilla* LT COL, USAF
By: *DT/PT (WFO)*
Date: *24 Jan 64*
AFR 205-1 para 1.1.2b

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THE HEIGHT RANGE SCOPE WAS OA-270. NO MAINTENANCE DIFFICULTIES HAD BEEN ENCOUNTERED RECENTLY. A THYRATHRON TYPE MODULATOR IS USED IN BOTH SETS. THE AUTOMATIC FREQUENCY RADAR CONTROL CIRCUIT WAS OPERATING PROPERLY. THIS STATION EXPERIENCES THE USUAL INTERFERENCES ENCOUNTERED IN RADAR AND ALL PERSONNEL ARE FAMILIAR WITH IT. ALL PERSONNEL ARE FAMILIAR WITH AP ON THE EQUIPMENT USED. THERE WAS NO AP EXTENDING THE GROUND CLUTTER AT THE TIME OF THE OBSERVATION. THE TARGET WAS MUCH LARGER THAN NORMAL TRAFFIC RADAR RETURNS. WHEN FIRST OBSERVED IT WAS 10 MILES IN DIAMETER AND AS IT APPROACHED THIS STATION IT ELONGATED, BECOMING 15 MILES LONG AND 10 MILES WIDE. NO OTHER TARGETS WERE OBSERVED NEAR THIS ONE. I INTERROGATED MODETEL ON IDENTIFICATION FRIEND OR FOE LOOKING FOR STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND AIRCRAFT WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. PLANNED POSITION INDICATOR TYPE SCOPES WERE USED GIVING A STRONG SIGNAL AT FIRST. TO BETTER OBSERVE THE TARGET I OFF CENTERED AND EXPANDED OUT A UPA-3 TO A RANGE OF 50 MILES. THE SIGNAL WAS LIGHT YELLOW IN ITS ENTIRE AREA WITH GROUPS OF SMALL INTENSE SPOTS. THE SIGNAL BECAME WEAKER WHEN IT REACHED LAND AND IN THE END BEFORE IT FADED IN THE GROUND CLUTTER THE SIGNAL WAS NOTHING BUT A GROUP OF SMALL INTENSE SPOTS. A SCAN RATE OF 5 REVOLUTIONS PER MINUTE WAS USED. THE FREQUENCY OF THE SEARCH WAS 1296 MEGACYCLES AND THE RANGE INDICATOR 2735 MEGACYCLES. REMARKS: THE REASONS FOR MY CONCERN ON THIS TRACK WERE (1) IT SEEMED UNLIKELY THAT THIS WAS WEATHER MOVING SO FAST AND ALL

DOWNGRADED AT 10 YEAR INTERVALS; UNCLASSIFIED

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STATIONS WERE FOLLOWING CLEAR WEATHER, (2) THE POSSIBILITY OF CHAFF WAS CONSIDERED BUT THE HEIGHT RANGE INDICATOR INDICATION WAS 10, 000 FEET LONG AND 10 MILES WIDE MAKING IT SEEM UNLIKELY TO BE CHAFF. FURTHERMORE, CHAFF SURELY WOULD HAVE DISPERSED MORE IN THE DISTANCE IT TRAVELLED UNDER OBSERVATION.

AN OTHER UNUSUAL FACT WAS THAT IT STEADILY DECREASED IN ALTITUDE ENDING UP AT ABOUT 3000 FEET BEFORE IT FADED. IT ALSO SLOWED TO 30 KNOTS UPON REACHING LAND. 3 HOURS AFTER THE TRACK HAD FADED IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE CURVATURE OF EARTH CORRECTION ON DUE HEIGHT RANGE INDICATOR WAS NOT FUNCTIONING PROPERLY. THIS MAKES OUR ALTITUDES IN ERROR. THE ERROR INCREASED WITH RANGE. BY EXPERIMENTATION I FOUND THE ERROR TO BE 15, 000 FEET AT THE RANGE OF INITIAL PLOT. THEREFORE, THE INITIAL RANGE MUST HAVE BEEN 31, 000 FEET INSTEAD OF 16, 000 FEET. THE ALTITUDES CLOSER IN THE STATION ARE SUFFICIENTLY ACCURATE



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DOWNGRADABLE AT 1 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AT 12 YEARS.
DOWNGRADING SYMBOL

Inclosures removed
(no classification)

Request for Analysis - Electronic UFS Reports
AFCIN-4E4 25 NOV 57

AFCIN-4E L

Attn. Col. Hoffman

1. Request that the attached radar reports, together with scope plots and photographs be reviewed, and an analysis be made by comment attached on separate sheets.
2. Radar UFS report on T-74s carries a "Priority" classification. The other (Plots and Photos) has resulted in queries from the 4 quarters, USAF regarding our findings.
3. With regard to the latter report - a bearing plot indicates that the "UFS blips" appeared within a 1 to 2 miles radius of the radar unit intermittently for three hours, yet it appears that no attempt was made to visually identify, or check on the cause of signals.
4. This office should like to bring to your attention, that in contrast to previous periods where only an occasional radar UFS would be received, a large number are now being submitted. These will be submitted after a screening and unsuccessful analysis by this office.
5. In accordance with suggestions made in conferences with the Bryant last July, flight unit. know to be an ad-hoc should be submitted with subject reports, if significant conclusions are to be made. Current report indicates that this is being completed with.

Incls: TT 454 737-31737-1
2. 11. 11 14 Nov 57 w/8 photos + reports

[Signature]

Multi
DISPOSITION FORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION (if any)

UNCLASSIFIED

FILE NO.

SUBJECT

UFO Report T57-31737

TO AFCIN-4E4

FROM AFCIN-4E1

DATE 17 Dec 57

COMMENT NO. 1

ATTN: Capt. Gregory

AFCIN-4E1a/V. D. Bryant/jc
72131/Bldg 263-D/Rm 8

1. The subject report, submitted by 657 ACWRON, Houm, Alabama, refers to a target "15 miles long and 10 miles wide". Lacking any visual observation of so huge a target, and inability of airborne radars to pick up the target (while searching the area for it) at 35 miles, it must be considered as obviously a false return on the radar. Just what caused this false return is not known, and while the weather may not move fast, the results of such weather changes frequently do move at very high rates of speed, due to reflections, and the angles at which the signals are reflected. Returns such as the one under discussion usually are due to phenomena brought about by some weather condition. The fact that no aircraft were scrambled for such an unusual target indicates there must have been compelling doubts in the minds of the operating personnel as to the authenticity of the subject targets.

1 Incl.

Inc Msg dtd 24 Nov 57

CITE: OPS 001L, T57-31737

Cys 1 of 2

Gordon C. Hoffman
GORDON C. HOFFMAN
Colonel, USAF
AFCIN-4E1

Classification Cancelled

(or changed to UNCLAS)

Auth: *Gordon C. Hoffman, Lt Col, USAF*

By: *JDS (USO)*

Date: *24 Jan 69*

APR 265-1 para 1-1026

DOWNGRADED AT 5 YEAR INTERVALS:
DECLASSIFIED AT 2 YEARS:
DOD DIR 8220.10

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