PROJECT 10073 RECORD

1. DATE - TIME GROUP 20 September 52	2. LOCATION At sea on (U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt.)
3. SOURCE Military	10. CONCLUSION BALLOON
4. NUMBER OF OBJECTS 1	
5. LENGTH OF OBSERVATION Not reported	11. BRIEF SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS SEE OASE FILE
6. TYPE OF OBSERVATION Ground Visual	
7. COURSE Not Stated	
8. PHOTOS Negatives ☐ Yes XX No	
9. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE ☐ Yes XX No	

FORM FTD SEP 63 0-329 (TDE) Previous editions of this form may be used.

Metropolitan Sunday Newspapers, Inc.
260 Madison Avenue, New York 16, N.Y. MUrray Hill 9-8200
EDITORIAL BUREAU

October 2, 1952

Major Dewey J. Fournet
AFOIN - 2A2
Headquarters, U.S. Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Major Fournet:

Here are the three Ansco color transparencies, 2¼ x 2¼, shot by Metro Group photographer [redacted] aboard the U.S.S. Franklin D. Roosevelt while covering the NATO maneuvers for us.

Following is a quote from Litwin's letter of yesterday describing the circumstances surrounding the shooting of these pictures:

"On September twentieth, at a few minutes after four p.m., I was standing on the forward flight deck of the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt, biggest carrier in the world. With me, at the time, was Lt. [redacted]r, helicopter pilot. It was a bright day and there were occasional clouds in a very blue sky. As we were talking, I saw this round object about five hundred or a thousand feet in the air, directly above the after end of the ship. I shouted something to [redacted] and ran aft a bit to shoot it with a bit of the ship's 'island' in the picture to establish where. I had time to take a meter reading and three exposures before the rapidly rising thing was out of sight. The weather man man aboard sent a balloon up at three thirty, and says that it rose up and out of sight in the overcast in about fifty seconds. This was not it. The shots were in color.

"The next day there was an item on the teletype as follows: PITREAVIE, SCOTLAND, SEPT 22 (INS) RAF OFFICERS IN THE NATO MANEUVERS OPERATIONS MAINBRACE TODAY*INVESTIGATED A REPORT THAT A FLYING SAUCER WAS SIGHTED. TEN OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN IN AN RAF BOMBER PLANE REPORTED YESTERDAY THAT THEY SAW A SILVER CIRCULAR OBJECT FOLLOWING A BRITISH PURSUIT PLANE OVER YORKSHIRE. THEY SAID THE OBJECT, WITH A ROTARY MOTION ABOUT ITS OWN AXIS, SUDDENLY ACCELERATED AT INCREDIBLE SPEED AND VANISHED BEFORE THEY COULD GET CLOSER. (* Sept.20)

"This took place in the same part of the world and could be part of the same situation. I have [redacted] affidavit, not

DISPOSITION FORM

UNCLASSIFIED

SECURITY [redacted] TION (If any)

FILE NO.

SUBJECT: (Unclassified) Material for Project Blue Book

TO: Chief, Air Technical Intelligence Center, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio

FROM: Dept of the Air Force, Hq USAF - AFOIN

DATE: Maj Fournet/dbv/71379

COMMENT NO. 1

1. Inclosed are reproductions of three color transparencies taken by Mr. [redacted], an American press photographer, in the vicinity of the Naval formation participating in Operation Mainbrace on 20 Sep 52. The attached copy of a letter from Mr. [redacted] of the Metropolitan Sunday Newspapers, Inc. dated 2 Oct 52 (see Incl 2) includes all data on this sighting presently available this office.

2. The original photographs were returned to Mr. [redacted] with a letter expressing our sincere thanks for his cooperation in making the photographs available to us. The photographs were enlarged by Hq USAF from the original 2¼ x 2¼ inch size to the present size; the vertical dimension of the copies correspond to the coverage in the original photographs (enlargement ratio 2.25:5). These are the only copies which were made; nope are filed in Headquarters. An enlarged reversal print of the second transparency is attached (Incl 3); it was made to show that the image is still round. Photographs are for official use only; not for release.

3. A cable to CINCNORTH, with information copy to you, was dispatched 3 Oct 52 requesting information on balloon releases by ships in the Naval formation. Message number is AFOIN 59530.

4. A copy of OPNAV Notice 3820 is attached as Incl 4 for your information and retention.

William A. Adams

WILLIAM A. ADAMS
Colonel, USAF
Chief, Topical Division
Deputy Director for Estimates
Directorate of Intelligence, DCS/O

4 Incls
1. Pkg of 3 photos
2. Cy ltr fr Mr. [redacted] dtd 2 Oct 52
3. Photo
4. Cy OPNAV Notice 3820

DOWNGRADED AT 12 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DIR 5200.10

Mr. [redacted] wants prints returned. OK.

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED [redacted]

DD FORM 1 FEB 50 96 REPLACES AMS FORM 96, 1 OCT 48, WHICH MAY BE USED

16—54501-3 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1952 O - 946975

Metropolitan Sunday Newspapers, Inc.
260 Madison Avenue, New York 16, N. Y. MUrray Hill 9-8200
EDITORIAL BUREAU

stating what it was that we saw, but that he saw it too, at the same time as I was photographing it."

As I said during our telephone conversation today, I would appreciate a quick return of these transparencies and any comment which the Air Force is willing to make about these pictures for publication.

We will look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

[redacted]

Editor

FRA/mv
Enc.

[redacted] ACTION

2. Atia
1. Atia ✓

AIR 335
AFNI DE AIR
RR JEDUP
DE JEPHQ 130C
R 142142Z
FM HQ USAF WASHDC
TO ZEN/USAIRA OSLO NORWAY
INFO JEDUP/CHIEFATIC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO
[redacted] FROM:AFOIN 50356 REF YOUR X 36 DTD 13 OCT 52 AND OUR
AFOIN 50350 TO COMNAVNORTH DTD 5 OCT 52. ASSUME YOUR HAVE ACCEPTED
ACTION ON LATTER. MOST PERTINENT REQUIREMENT IS TO DETERMINE IF ANY
OTHER SHIP IN MAINBRACE NAVAL FORMATION AT CITED TIME RELEASED A
WEATHER BALLOON AROUND THAT TIME. COLOR PHOTOS OF OBJECT TAKEN BY
LITWIN AVAILABLE HERE BUT FINALS ANALYSIS MUST AWAIT ANSWER TO ABOVE
IN RESPONSE REPLY TO AFOIN-2A2
14/2311Z OCT JEPHQ

PARAPHASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER
BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

UNCLASSIFIED

15 Oct 52 [redacted]

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

ACTION

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

3. Atia
4. C. files

cy #1

TRANSMITTAL

RESTRICTED

AFHQ FORM 9—8 FEB 48
REPLACES AAF FORM 80-816 WHICH MAY BE USED

FROM: ATIAA-2 DATE 10/15 HOUR 9 IDENTIFICATION NUMBER T52-17391

INCOMING	X	INTER-OFFICE		3	OUTGOING		COMPLETE FILE COPY		INCOMPLETE FILE COPY		NO FILE COPY	

FROM: HQ USAF WASH DC TO: CO ATIC

REG. NO. AIR 5

DESCRIPTION, DATES, AND SUBJECT: Ine Msg 10/14/52 4 cys recd. 1 p en. Cite AFOIN 50356 Acton & Info.

ENCLOSURES:

None

5

TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)	COPY NO.	REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE)	DATE REC'D	HOUR
1 ATIA	2			
2 ATIAA	1			
3				
4				

RESTRICTED

★ G.P.O. 1950-626118

CSAF ITEM NBR 1 [redacted] TT 222

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED 14 Oct 52

TO ATIAA-5 RUPPELT FR AFOIN-2A2 FOURNET

FOLG MSG RECD FR USAIRA OSLO NORWAY:

"REF YOUR AFOIN 59359. NO OFFICIAL KNOWLEDGE OF CITED INCIDENTS BY ALUSNA, OSLO OR RNAF. RNAF INVESTIGATING 2 OFFICIAL AND NUMEROUS VAGUE REPORTS OF CIGAR SHAPED OBJECT SIGHTED OVER VARIOUS AREAS SOUTHERN NORWAY, SAME TIME PERIOD. FORWARDING REPORT SOONEST."

ACTION

PRESUME AA ACCEPTED ACTION REQUIRED BY OUR AFOIN 59359 ADDRESSED TO COMNAVNORTH DTD 3 OCT 52 WHICH YOU RECD INFO CY OF MSG DISPATCHED TO AA OSLO TODAY, INFO TO YOU, REQUESTING REPLY TO QUERY RE BALLOON RELEASES BY OTHER SHIPS IN FORMATION AT TIME LITVIN TOOK PHOTOS.

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

END OF CSAF ITEM NBR 1 / [redacted]

[redacted] UNCLASSIFIED

NAME	SUSPE. DATE	NUMBER
...if any other ship ...sed a weather balloon	17 Oct 52	664355 ATIA
HQ USAF WASH D.C.	DATE: 14 Oct 52	TYPE: TT
	FILE DESIGNATION	

SUMMARY

ATIDA-1, 15 Oct 52, 0920 hours

DO NOT REMOVE THIS COPY

TO	TO	TO	TO	TO
ATIA	A-2	Robert T		
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
15 Oct 52	15 Oct 52	16 Oct 52		

REPLIED OR INDORSED TO	FILED (Place)	OTHER ACTION
No reply	Retained	

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

CSAF ITEM 1 ([redacted]

[redacted]

TT 2143
13 Nov 52

ACTION

TO ATIAA-5 ROTHSTEIN

FR AFOIN-2A2 FOURNET

HAS INFO SUPPLIED BY COM SECOND FLEET IN MAG

0528312 NOV 52 ENABLED ANY FURTHER EVALUATION

OF COLOR PHOTOS TAKEN BY [redacted] OVER MAINBRACE?

PLS ADVISE SOONEST.

END CSAF ITEM 1 [redacted]

SWC

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted] [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED 60ct52 0855 ACTION

PARAPHASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO CENTER BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

2. Atic
1. Atsia
3. Atic
4. C files

AIR 11
AF DE AIR
RR JEDWP
DE JEPHQ 23C
R 23 2145Z
F HQ USAF AFOIN
TO ZEN/CONNAVNORTH OSLO NORWAY
INFO JEDWP/CHIEF ATIC WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB OHIO
/C[redacted] /SECURITY INFORMATION FROM: AFOIN-2A2
59350 REFERENCE OBSERVATION UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT SHORTLY AFTER 1600 HOURS 20 SEP UT2 BY M4. [redacted] METRO GROUP PHOTOGRAPHER, AND LT R. M[redacted] USN, ABOARD CARRIER USS F. D. ROSSEVELT. REQUEST ADVICE OF ANY OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION AND REPORT ON HIS INCIDENT. ADDITIONALLLY REQUEST A CHECK TO DETERMINE IF ANY OTHER SHIP IN THE FORMATION RELEASED A WEATHER BALLON AROUND THIS TIME. ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MAY OFFER POSSIBLE EXPALANATION IS SOLICTITED. FINALLY REQUEST ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE REGARDING OBSERVATION UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT BY 11 CREW MEMBERS RAFBOMBER OVER YORKSHIRE ON 22 SEPTEMBER. IN RESPONSE REPLY TO AFOIN-2A2.
35/2145Z OCT JEPHQ

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

ACTION cy #1

[redacted] [redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

1.

1. Attn
2. Attn
3. cy
4. G. files

AIR 24

[redacted] ACTION

AFN DE AIR
NR JEDWP
DE JEPHQ 1390
R 251955Z
FM HQ USAF WASHDC
TO ZEN/CONNAVNORTH OSLO NORWAY
INFO JEDWP/CHIEF ATIC WRIGHT PATTERSON AFB OHIO
[redacted]/FROM AFOIN 51025 REFERENCE OBSERVATION
UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT SHORTLY AFTER 1600 HOURS 29 SEP 52 BY
MR [redacted] CMA METRO GROUP PHOTOGRAPHER CMA AND LT [redacted]
[redacted] CMA USN CMA ABOARD CARRIER USS F. D. ROOSEVELT. REQUEST
ADVICE OF ANY OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION AND REPORT ON THIS INCIDENT.
//////////////////
LITWIN DETERMINED FROM WEATHER OFFICER ABOARD ROOSEVELT THAT WEATHER
BALLOON WAS NOT RELEASED AT THAT TIME. REQUEST A CHECK TO DETERMINE
IF ANY OTHER SHIP IN THE FORMATION RELEASED A BALLOON ABOUT TIME
IN QUESTION. ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MAY OFFER POSSIBLE
EXPLANATION IS SOLICITED. IN RESPONSE REPLY TO AFOIN-2A2
25/2000Z OCT JEPHQ

ACTION

[redacted] [redacted]

cy #1

24 Oct 52 [illegible] RELEASE NOT REQUIRED. SEE CRYPTO-CENTER BEFORE DECLASSIFYING

UNCLASSIFIED

Maintenance

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

ROUTING

JOINT MESSAGEFORM

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER NO.

UNCLASSIFIED

SPACE ABOVE FOR COMMUNICATIONS CENTER ONLY

FROM: (Originator)

CG ATIC

TO:

D/I HQ USAF WASH D C

INFO:

DATE-TIME GROUP	[redacted]
1420002 NOV 52	
PRECEDENCE FOR: ROUTINE	ACTION / INFORMATION
☐ BOOK MESSAGE	☐ ORIGINAL MESSAGE
☐ MULTIPLE ADDRESS	CRYPTOPRECAUTION ☐ YES ☐ NO
REFERS TO MESSAGE:	
IDENTIFICATION	CLASSIFICATION

FROM: AFOIN-ATIAA-5 FOR MAJ FOURNET

Cite your TT 243, Item 1, dtd 13 Nov 52. Evaluation is that object probably balloon released shortly before pictures taken.

[redacted]

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

ATIAA _____

ATIA _____

[redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

T52-1286/

[redacted] 1 OF 1 PAGES

DRAFTER'S NAME (and signature, when required)

Lt J. K. ROTHSCHILD/ms

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE

SYMBOL

ATIAA-5

TELEPHONE

65366

OFFICIAL TITLE

ROBERT E. KENNEDY, MAJOR, USAF
AIR ADJUTANT GENERAL

DD FORM 1 OCT 49 173 REPLACES NME FORM 173, 1 MAY 48, WHICH MAY BE USED.

16—58923-8 ☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted] 7118 6 NOV 52

1. ATIA
2. ATIAAS
3. ATI
4 C files

C-1 ROUTINE [redacted] 6 NOV 52 16

FM COM 2ND FLEET NORFOLK VA 0520317

TO CS USAF WASHDC AFOIN-2A-2

INFO CG AMC WPAFB OHIO

ATI

YOUR 312140Z CITE AFOIN 51716. NO OFFICIAL REPORT OF FLYING OBJECT SIGHTING RECEIVED PRIOR THOSE REQUESTED MY 011534Z AND NO INVESTIGATION MADE UNTIL THAT TIME. INFO INDICATES INCIDENT OCC RRED ABOUT 1944OOZ ? SEPT EXACT TIME NOT KNOWN. AEROLOGICAL BALLOON WITH RADAR REFLECTOR LAUNCHED FROM ROOSEVELT SHORTLY BEFORE PICTURES WERE TAKEN. THIS 1500 GRAM BALLOON INFLATES TO DIAM ABOUT 8 FEET AT SEA LEVEL AND EXPANDS WITH ALTITUDE AND IS BELIEVED TO BE THE OBJECT SIGHTED. NO OTHER SHIPS IN FORMATION RELEASED BALOONS AFTERNOON 19 SEPT

06/1953Z NOV

312140Z AFOIN 51716 525-112268-ATI

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

[redacted]

525-112268-A-

#1

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10

UNCLASSIFIED

TRANSMITTAL

RESTRICTED

AMC FORM 9-9 FEB 50
REPLACES AMC FORM 50-52A WHICH MAY BE USED

FROM: ATI-2 DATE 10/23/52 IDENTIFICATION NUMBER T52-13008

INCOMING	X	INTER-OFFICE		C	OUTGOING		COMPLETE FILE COPY		INCOMPL. FILE COPY		NO FILE COPY	

FROM: HQ USAF WASH DC TO: CO WIC

REG. NO. AIR 4

DESCRIPTION, DATES, AND SUBJECT: Inc Msg 10/23/52 4 cys rec'd. 1 p en. Cite AFOIN 51025 Action & Info.

ENCLOSURES:

None

5

TO: (OFFICE SYMBOL)	COPY NO.	REC'D BY (FULL SIGNATURE)	DATE REC'D	HOUR
1 ATI-4				
2 AFOIN	1	Alan Priddy	10/23/52	1175
3				
4				

RESTRICTED

★ G.P.O. 1950-896119

3 ONLY 4X5 PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVES

AND

1 ONLY 8X10 PHOTOGRAPHIC NEGATIVE OR TRANSPARENCY

SIGHTING AT SEA

BY MILITARY PERSONNEL ON THE USS FDR

UNCLASSIFIED

THIS PAGE IS UNCLASSIFIED

17 - 30 SEPTEMBER 1952 SIGHTINGS

DATE	LOCATION	OBSERVER	EVALUATION
17	Robins AFB, Georgia	Multiple	Balloon
17	Killeen, Texas	Military	Insufficient Data
17	Tuscon, Arizona	Hollingsworth	UNIDENTIFIED
18	Little Rock, Arkansas (CARD MISSING)	Disbee (PHOTO)	Other (HOAX)
19-22	Libya (CARD MISSING)	Mallia	
20	Washington, D. C.	Civilian	Astro (METEOR)
20	Kuching, Sarawak	Civilian	Insufficient Data
30	USS Franklin D Roosevelt	Military (PHOTOS)	Balloon
21	Kent, England	Higgins	Insufficient Data
21	Rabat, Fr. Morocco	Civilian	Astro (METEOR)
21	Baltimore, Maryland	Hubbard	Aircraft
22	Centreville, Virginia (CARD MISSING)	Dunn	
22	Fairfax, Virginia	Civilian	Insufficient Data
22	Kirtland AFB, New Mexico	Military	Balloon
23	Chickasaw, Alabama (CARD MISSING)		
23	Wellsville, New York (CARD MISSING)	Redmond	
23	Gander Lake, Newfoundland	Cederlund	UNIDENTIFIED
23	Newport Beach, California	Axtater	Other (BIRDS)
23	Boise, Idaho	Military	Insufficient Data
24	Guantanamo Bay, Cuba	Military	Balloon
24	Robins AFB, Georgia	Multiple	Aircraft
24	Charleston, West Virginia	Military	UNIDENTIFIED
25	Omaha, Nebraska	Howell	Balloon
26	41°N - 35°W (Atlantic)	Military	UNIDENTIFIED
27	Mapleton, Minnesota (CARD MISSING)	Burns	
27	Inyokern, California	Multiple	UNIDENTIFIED
27	Hempstead, Texas	Military	Balloon
28	Goose AFB, Labrador	Military (RADAR)	Other (WEATHER BDN)
28	Tsu Shima, Japan	Military	Astro (STARS/PLANETS)
28	Tsu Shima, Japan	Military (RADAR)	Other (TEMP INVERSION)
29	Cincinnati, Ohio (CARD MISSING)	Stringfield	
29	Bearn, Texas	Multiple	Other (HOAX)
29	Mainz, Germany	Military	Aircraft
29	England	Military	UNIDENTIFIED
29	Hickam AFB T. H.	Roach	Aircraft
30	Denver, Colorado	Hughes	UNIDENTIFIED
30	Atlantic Ocean	Military	Aircraft
29	Southern Pines, North Carolina	Civilians	UNIDENTIFIED

ADDITIONAL REPORTED SIGHTINGS (NOT CASES)

DATE	LOCATION	SOURCE	EVALUATION
16	Grover Park, Washington, D. C.	Ltr, Erskine	
*25	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Ltr, Hynek	
26	Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin	Ltr, Eisemann	
29	Los Angeles, California	Newsclipping	

*See 14 Oct 52 Provincetown, Massachusetts